



St George Neighbourhood Partnership (SGNP) Report

Date: Tuesday 17th September 2013

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Part 1: Mayors visit to St George NP area

- 1- George Ferguson, Bristol's first elected mayor, came to visit the St George NP area on Thursday 8th August. He was accompanied by all elected members, the NP chair and Area co-ordinator.
- 2- In total 14 sites were visited, which involved wide range of local community initiatives and activities wide range of local residents from the Neighbourhood Partnerships are involved in. Major projects and challenges the NP face were also highlighted, for example Crews Hole/Beaufort Rd and the redevelopment of Meadowvale Community Centre.
- 3- Number of actions was identified during the visit, some of which will be taken forward with the mayor's involvement. A list showing the sites visited and an action listing is shown in appendix A.

Part 2: Traffic and Transport subgroup update

- 4- The Traffic and Transport subgroup is schedule to meet on Tuesday 3rd September 2013, 7pm at the Beehive Centre.
- 5- The group will consider the 20mph citywide proposal, 2013/14 Footway resurfacing proposals (for more information see agenda item 5 Footway Report) and the Crews Hole/Beaufort Rd experimental scheme (for more information see agenda item 10 Devolved service report).

Part 3: Environment subgroup update

- 6- The Environment Sub-group met at Meadow Vale on Thursday 22 August. There was a general discussion about the recent visit by Mayor George Ferguson, that had included several green spaces. Friends of St George Park had been disappointed that the short time available did not allow them longer to discuss the issues at the park with him.
- 7- Spending of Section 106 money were discussed and the sub group recommended spending to improve entrances to both Plummers Hill and Meadow Vale. Designs are being drawn up and will be included in a separate report for decision by the Neighbourhood Committee at the December NP meeting.

- 8- The view of the meeting was that it would not be appropriate to use S106 money to repair existing paths such as those across Plummers Hill even though they are in a poor state.
- 9- The options for the Meadow Vale Community Centre presented to the last NP meeting were briefly discussed. It was the group's view that if a new centre was to be constructed near the nursery school as option 4; then the land at the existing centre should become part of the park so that there would be no net loss of green space.
- 10- Removal of the existing teen shelter at Meadow Vale was discussed, but no consensus view was reached.
- 11- There was discussion about the existing and proposed notice boards and the fact that the many different keys made it difficult for notices to be kept up to date. It needs to be clear who is responsible for each board. The green baize needs replacing in the existing notice boards at Troopers Hill Field and Dundridge, Denise James is going to investigate whether it can be replaced with steel sheet as elsewhere.
- 12- The planters in Kingsway Precinct were praised at the Forum and it was agreed that Clean & Green funding should be used to provide winter bedding. Denise James is to talk to the shop owners about further improvements to the square and the possibility of forming a Traders Association. It was suggested that one or two trees could be planted and Denise is to seek advice on suitable species.
- 13- Given the increased resources available for tree planting plans to be drawn up as part of the Council's Tree Pips project. The group suggests that Dundridge Park and Furber Road should be the highest priority for tree planting plans after St George Park and Plummers Hill. There would be a need for a park group to be re-formed at Dundridge who could be consulted about the detail of such a plan.
- 14- The opening hours of the St George Park toilets were again discussed and it was emphasised that it was essential that they should be open on Sundays and that the opening times should be displayed. It was also suggested that there should be signs directing people to the toilets from the road as well as from within the park.
- 15- Suggestions were made for work that could be done by Community Payback which Denise James was to take forward.

Part 4: Update from the St George Webteam

- 16- The website, twitter and facebook continues to be key components of the external communications for the Partnership.
- 17- The twitter account - @StGeorgeNP - now has 146 'followers' who receive our 'Tweets' direct. An increasing number of other people with Twitter accounts are re-tweeting (i.e. forwarding) our tweets to their followers. George Ferguson (12,833 followers) issued a few tweets about St George following his visit to the NP area.
- 18- Facebook - 133 people have 'liked' our Facebook page, and so follow our messages via their facebook account.
- 19- The website remains the key communications tool. The calendar of NP meetings for 2012/2013 are on the website (www.stgeorgenp.org.uk/meetings) provide a handy list of the various SubGroup meetings etc. The webpages are also being used to circulate agendas for some SubGroup meetings and reports after the meetings.
- 20- During August an average of 44 pages of the website were accessed each day. The monthly totals are shown below.

Months and Years

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
2012				227	116	175	193	376	577	575	1,436	753	4,428
2013	620	918	1,032	1,629	1,657	1,288	1,392	1,378					9,956

Average per Day

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Overall
2012				8	4	6	6	12	19	19	48	24	16
2013	20	33	33	54	53	43	45	44					41

- 21- We are aware that the NP page on the BCC website has recently been changed and is now at www.bristol.gov.uk/page/st-george-neighbourhood-partnership It is a pity, however, that the main NP website is not given more prominence on the BCC webpages as our own website includes much more information than the BCC one.

Part 5: NP Review Update

- 22- Following the completion of the Neighbourhood Partnership Review in April 2013 and the analysis of the review findings which were taken to the June round of Neighbourhood Partnership meetings, the Neighbourhood Partnership team started the practical work of crafting the change proposals for strengthening Neighbourhood Partnerships and enhancing their ability to get things done.
- 23- We had originally planned to have some early conversations about this work with representatives of NPs during the summer, but as you will be aware, there is a great deal of work happening within the Council around how we manage the significant budget pressures moving forward and how the Council will work in the future, therefore this work has been delayed.
- 24- As it is important that any changes proposed to how the Neighbourhood Partnerships work will fit with the new organisational direction and structure, we have had to suspend our original timetable for completing our work until we know more about what the organisation will look like in the future.
- 25- It is our hope that we will be better placed to bring our change proposals to a wider audience in mid to late October.

Part 6: Neighbourhood Working Group (NWG) Evaluation

- 26- The St George NP area benefited from being part of the Neighbourhood Working pilot area since October 2012. The Neighbourhood Working Pilot officially finished at the end of March 2013.
- 27- During the pilot stage the NWG focused on addressing priorities previously identified via the Neighbourhood Forum process, which required multi-agency disciplines these are Dangerous walls and public rights of way, Dog fouling, Parking on pavements and ASB / littering by fishermen in St George Park.
- 28- Initial feedback from the pilot was good. As part of the evaluation a ward based satisfaction study was completed. This provided encouraging results: Community safety & engagement showed overall satisfaction up by 7.9% over the six months of the pilot and dissatisfaction down by -1.3%. With regards to environmental issues, overall satisfaction went up by 6.3% and dissatisfaction reduced by -2.3%.
- 29- Lessons learnt and the NWG has now been rolled out across the city.

The services involved in the NWG have also been extended to include highways, planning, licensing and trading standards and are committed to delivering against neighbourhood working priorities. In addition to this, a core team of PCSOs are also being tasked against neighbourhood working priorities. Where the need arises, other services and partners are being approached to join neighbourhood working to expand the skills and support available to tackle neighbourhood priorities.

Part 7: Bristol NHS Representative: Kate Francis Public Health Representative.

- 30- The current St George NP Terms of Reference require representation from Bristol NHS along with other public agencies, like the police and Fire & Rescue Services.
- 31- Significant organisational changes were introduced in the way public health is delivered across the country. Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) and Strategic Health Authorities (SHAs) ceased to exist on 31 March 2013 following the introduction of the Health and Social Care Act 2012. Their responsibilities were taken over by Local Authorities and a range of new organisations, including the formations of newly Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs).
- 32- Clinical Commissioning Groups (CCGs) are made up of local GPs, nurses and other professionals and are responsible for commissioning services for local communities. In Bristol there are three localities in our Clinical Commissioning Group, namely South Bristol, Inner City and East Bristol (ICE) and North and West Bristol.
- 33- The NP review will take into account above stated changes in the way public health is managed and will consider who the new Public Health representative should be.
- 34- In the interim, Kate Francis who is the Practice Manager for Air Balloon Surgery, kindly agreed to take part in the NP meetings to represent public health.
- 35- Kate has a well established links with the ICE and is the deputy ICE rep for the Public Health Representative Group which meets regularly with Barbara Coleman and BCC Public Health workers.

Part 8: Neighbourhood Forum Update

- 36- The Neighbourhood Forum in August at the Beehive Centre was attended by approximately 30 residents in addition to members of the Partnership.
- 37- David Osborne gave a short talk about the Bristol LETS, encouraging St George residents to join. More information on www.bristollets.org.uk.
- 38- Mike of Bristol City Council's Transport Planning team made a brief presentation of the 20mph roll out. People were invited to identify any roads they felt should be excluded from the 20mph scheme during the workshops session.
- 39- Feedback came from people asking for all roads to be made 20mph and others pointing out roads where they thought there was a good reason to keep 30mph. There is another opportunity to give feedback and find out more on Saturday 28th September at St George Library.
- 40- The police were pleased to share news of the sentencing of the man who had attacked a number of women in St George.
- 41- Crime figures had again fallen compared to last year but despite this Bristol's quality of life survey still show people are concerned about their safety outside their neighbourhood after dark. Feedback was asked for about the things that make people feel unsafe and how this should be addressed.
- 42- Bristol City Council's Community Safety Officer, Georgie Bryant, has written a summary of those figures and invites your feedback. The summary and her contact details are in [Appendix xx].
- 43- As usual there will be a report back to the next Neighbourhood Forum (at Summerhill Methodist Church, 7pm Tuesday 12th November) on the issues raised at the workshop sessions. The report from this forum can be seen on the website at: www.stgeorgenp.org.uk/you-said-we-did-august-2013/

Part 9: Citywide 20mph Roll Out Update

- 44- The proposed 20 mph citywide project is being rolled out in six phases. Greater Fishponds and St George Neighbourhood Partnerships form the phase 4 area. The first step in the project is to undertake an informal consultation to gain the views of the local residents in the area and to find out which roads they would want exempt from the project. In the cabinet report it was agreed that all roads would be proposed as 20 mph unless a reason was

given as to why they should be exempt. All 40 and 50 mph roads and dual carriageways are automatically excluded from the project.

- 45- The informal consultation process involves presentations at the Neighbourhood Forum meetings giving people a chance to understand the proposal and ask questions. The following discussion tables give people the chance to list the roads they would want exempt from the project and why. Officers will also attend the Traffic and Transport subgroups for each area to discuss the roads in more detail. Public displays have also been organised at all the local libraries and advertised through the NP mailing lists, posters in local shops, advertising online and press release in the local press. These give the public a further chance to discuss the proposals and join in the consultation process. Once the informal consultation process has finished, a draft proposal will be completed and taken to the Traffic and Transport Subgroups for discussion. The informal consultation will take place from August to December 2013.
- 46- Officers will attend the NP meetings in December to present the proposal for the area that will form part of the Speed Limit Order process. Once this has been agreed, the Speed Limit Order process will commence and involves a formal consultation process which is planned for April 2014 with a proposed implementation of August 2014.

Put together by
Abdulrazak Dahir on behalf on NP members.

Mayors Visit to St George Neighbourhood Partnership area 8th August 2013

Area Co-ordinator: Abdulrazak Dahir

Key Actions and Considerations

Ward: St George West

Key issue	Local detail	Action/consideration
St George Park, lack of disable parking bays	- 2 disable parking bays, Lake View Rd entrance.	Neighbourhood Committee request. AD to ensure this is included in the Senior Traffic Management's Minor Signing and aligning work.
St George Park, lack of toilets.	- Lack of toilets	Agreed for the mayor to consider this as part of a citywide issue. Mayor supported the idea of combining with a café to give possibility of taking maintenance cost away from BCC.
St George Park, harm to wildlife.	- Discarded fishing lines causing harm to wildlife. The community is divided in this issue.	City-wide proposal for new bylaws to help with this issue. This is already being progressed

Key issue	Local detail	Action/consideration
32 nd Bristol 1 st Whitehall Scout premises lease due to be renewed subject to CAT process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The group have been advised that they will need to go through the BCC Community Asset Transfer if they wish to renew their lease. This also includes renewing annually their Service Level Agreement. - The group would like to renew the lease on the bases of existing terms, without needing to go through the CAT process. Otherwise for BCC to cover all the costs associated with CAT process including appointing new Custodian Trustee and legal fees. 	<p>Philip Bird to provide an electronic copy of the briefing.</p> <p>Mayor agreed to consult relevant officer.</p>
<p>Meadow Vale Community Centre & Speedwell Nursery. Issues are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Lack of community provision - People are immobile, car ownership very low - No supermarkets nearby. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consultants were commissioned to do an option appraisal, with recommendations. - It was suggested to perhaps invite big supermarkets to take part in the development for Meadow Vale. 	<p>The mayor supported exploring the supermarket suggestion.</p> <p>The Mayor was impressed by the design of the Nursery.</p>

Other Places Visited, St George West

Troopers Hill Field

Air Balloon Surgery

Sikh Gurduwara

Kensington Road

The Beehive Centre and Alms Houses

Ward: St George East

Key issue	Local detail	Action/consideration
Kingsway Youth Centre is threatened with closure.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Despite investing large portion of the NP Wellbeing Budget at Kingsway Youth Centre. Creative Youth Network, who is the lead organisation for the Bristol East Consortium for Bristol Youth Links is threatening to close the centre. - Rose Richards have agreed to continue for a little while until the CYN proposal can be demonstrated. 	The mayor suggested getting the business community to support young people by providing funding and mentor in supporting young people to run their own activities.
Kingsway Precinct note environment enhancement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The NP invested devolved environment improvements to enhance the precinct. There is very little business involvement. 	NP to link with businesses. The Mayor suggested outside seating for the café.

<p>Dundridge Park trees: 3 trees residents want felling.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There is resistance from the parks department to fell 3 trees, which were planted in appropriately at the beginning. 	<p>The mayor agreed the three trees had been inappropriately sited – presumably at the time of the planting of the avenue and were overbearing to the adjacent houses. He agreed that their replacement would need to be part of a wider tree plan for Dundridge Park which might include considerable additional planting and tie in with the schools tree project.</p> <p>Action: NP to develop tree plan for Dundridge Park.</p>
<p>Crews Hole Rd – traffic problems, cycle route</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Residents want traffic levels reduced - BCC want to enhance cycle route along River Avon to Keynsham 	<p>Mayor agreed that making road one-way seemed the only option to allow introduction of a cycle lane.</p> <p>Mayor noted dangerous road crossing.</p>

Other Places Visited St George East

Troopers Hill Local Nature Reserve