



Agenda Item No: 4a

## Minutes of St George Neighbourhood Partnership

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 2014 at 7.00pm

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### Members of the Partnership

<b>A</b>	<b>Councillor Ron Stone</b>	<b>St George West ward</b>
<b>P</b>	<b>Councillor Sue Milestone</b>	<b>St George West ward</b>
<b>P</b>	<b>Councillor Fabian Breckels</b>	<b>St George East ward</b>
<b>P</b>	<b>Councillor Steve Pearce</b>	<b>St George East ward</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>Laura Gosling</b>	<b>Resident St George East</b>
<b>P</b>	<b>Philip Bird</b>	<b>Resident St George West</b>
<b>P</b>	<b>Pete Franklin</b>	<b>Resident St George West</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>Judith Price</b>	<b>Resident St George East</b>
<b>P</b>	<b>Rob Acton-Campbell</b>	<b>Friends of Troopers Hill Chair of Neighbourhood Partnership</b>
<b>P</b>	<b>Richard Curtis</b>	<b>Church Road Action Group</b>
<b>P</b>	<b>Susan Acton-Campbell</b>	<b>St George West Community First Panel</b>
<b>P</b>	<b>Grenville Johnson</b>	<b>Kensington Rd Residents Association &amp; NW</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>Fiona Russell</b>	<b>Meadow Vale Community</b>

		<b>Assoc</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>Alex Wingrove</b>	<b>Youth Representative</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>Kieran Coles</b>	<b>Youth Representative</b>
<b>P</b>	<b>Diane Jones</b>	<b>Friends of St George Park</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>Ann Preston</b>	<b>Resident St George West</b>
<b>P</b>	<b>Bryan Tozer</b>	<b>Local Business Representative</b>
<b>P</b>	<b>Geoff Reeson</b>	<b>Friends of Dundry Park</b>
<b>P</b>	<b>Denise James</b>	<b>St George in Bloom</b>

**Officers:**

<b>P</b>	<b>Abdulrazak Dahir</b>	<b>BCC, Area Co-ordinator</b>
<b>P</b>	<b>Ruth Quantock</b>	<b>BCC, Democratic Services</b>
<b>P</b>	<b>PC Pete Crawford</b>	<b>Avon and Somerset Police</b>
<b>P</b>	<b>Emma Williams</b>	<b>Bristol 2015 European Green Capital</b>

**Other Attendees :**

<b>P</b>	<b>Jo Curtis</b>	<b>Church Road Action Group</b>
<b>P</b>	<b>James Gibson</b>	<b>Youth Mayor</b>
<b>P</b>	<b>Ron Humphrey</b>	<b>Local resident</b>
<b>P</b>	<b>Marie Burke</b>	<b>Chair, Friends of St George Park</b>
<b>P</b>	<b>Mark Hanna</b>	<b>Local Resident</b>
<b>P</b>	<b>Paul Fudgell</b>	<b>Local Resident</b>

<b>P</b>	<b>Chris Deane</b>	<b>Friends of Dunderidge Park</b>
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## **1. Chairing Arrangements**

Rob Acton-Campbell was the Neighbourhood Partnership Chair. Cllr Fabian Breckels was the Neighbourhood Committee Chair for decisions required under agenda items 5 Wellbeing report and 7 Environment Subgroup report.

## **2. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Stone , Alex Wingrove, Kieran Coles, Judith Price, Police Sergeant Darren Warr and Laura Gosling.

James Gibson, Youth Mayor introduced himself to the NP and explained that he had been voted in by the council's Youth Select Committee as an adviser to the Mayor on youth issues. James is a resident of St George and is keen to fill the gap in youth provision which has been identified in this area.

## **3. Minutes of the last Meeting**

**RESOLVED - that the minutes of the meeting held on 30 September be confirmed as a correct record subject to the amendment of a minor typo and signed by the Chair.**

### **Matters arising**

- Its your neighbourhood scheme. It was noted that Kensington Road Residents Association had also recently been awarded the RHS 'It's Your Neighbourhood' National certificate of distinction. Congratulations were extended to all concerned.
- 4.09/2014. It was agreed that Jimmy Taylor BCC Targeted Youth Support be asked to attend the next meeting to give an update. **Action Abdulrazak Dahir**
- Equalities. It was noted that Cllr Milestone and Grenville Johnson had already expressed an interest in being 'Equalities Champions' on the NP. The council's Equalities and Community Cohesion team, would be organising equalities training for all 14 NPs in the new year, following

which the 'Equalities Champions' could be nominated and formally appointed by St George NP.

- Library Consultation. The Chair explained that the council wants to reach a set of proposals for future library provision through a well informed and evidenced public consultation. The NP will continue to receive information regarding the formal consultation process as it emerges.
- The Chair indicated that following public consultation the Local Government Boundary Commission for England (LGBCE) has recently published its draft recommendations for changes to the ward boundaries. From 9 December to 15 February the LGBCE will run a second stage of the consultation, to ask people to comment on the draft proposals. Some sessions are to be organised and the dates will be emailed to St George NP in due course.

**Action Abdulrazak Dahir**

### **Action Tracker**

An updated action tracker was circulated and considered by the NP. It was noted that the date for the Mayor to next visit St George would be 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2015

The update on various issues around youth provision were noted. It was agreed that Jimmy Taylor BCC Targeted Youth Support be asked to attend the next meeting to give an update. **Action Abdulrazak Dahir**

It was agreed that the actions marked 'complete' were indeed complete and could therefore come off the action sheet before the next meeting. **Action Ruth Quantock**

## **4. Declarations of Interest**

Relevant interests were declared at the start of the issue being discussed (see minute 6 below).

## **5. Wellbeing Report**

The Neighbourhood Partnership considered a report of the NP Co-ordinator (agenda item no. 5) which set out the Wellbeing budget and spend to date.

The Neighbourhood Partnership also considered the recommendations of the Wellbeing sub-group Panel in respect of applications received since the last meeting. It was noted that the applications exceeded the funding available.

Following a full discussion of the applications on a one by one basis the **Neighbourhood Partnership RESOLVED that:-**

- 1) the 2014/2015 financial report be noted;**
- 2) the amount committed by the Neighbourhood Committee but not yet paid be noted;**
- 3) the recommendations of the Wellbeing sub-group be noted;**

**The Neighbourhood Committee (NC) RESOLVED that the Wellbeing applications be approved as annotated in Appendix 1 (including any conditions recommended by the Wellbeing Group)**

The Committee agreed with the Wellbeing sub-group's recommendation not to fund the application from St George Table Tennis Club but asked that the organisation be encouraged to apply again and provide the answers to a number of questions that had been raised by Wellbeing sub-group. It was noted that the deadline for the next round of applications was 12<sup>th</sup> January 2015.

The Neighbourhood Committee thanked the Wellbeing sub-group for their valuable contribution which streamlined the process. It was noted that Jo Curtis had recently stepped down from this sub-group and she was thanked for her commitment over a number of years. There are now 3 vacancies, if anyone would be interested in joining please contact the NP Co-ordinator.

It was noted that discussions were ongoing between the Wellbeing sub-group and Hayley Ash Neighbourhood Area Manager regarding the proposed changes to the administration process city-wide relating to the Wellbeing fund. One of the sub-group's main concerns was that under the new proposals organisations that had been granted funding would be unable to apply again for the same project eg funding for an annual event year on year.

## 6. Green Capital Fund

The Neighbourhood Partnership considered a report of Susan Acton-Campbell, Wellbeing Champion, (agenda item no. 6) which set out the funding available for this round (£10k) and the recommendations of the Wellbeing sub-group in respect of the applications received. It was noted that the total amount of funding requested far exceeded the amount available from the Green Capital Fund. There was also an indication as to whether the project met the criteria to be funded from either Wellbeing or Green Capital to further inform the NP decision.

S A-C explained that as agreed at the previous meeting any unallocated green capital funding would be used to fund a 'Green Map Project' in partnership with Fishponds NP. It was also noted that since the meeting of the Wellbeing sub-group a further £10k Green Capital funding has been made available to St George NP. Under the circumstances, the NP was in a position to review the recommended allocation in light of this additional funding or agree to open up a second round of applications for Green Capital funding, however the deadline would be 12<sup>th</sup> January so a very short timescale.

Diane Jones, Richard Curtis, Geoff Reeson, Cllrs Breckels and Pearce declared an interest in the application from Friends of St George Park and did not take part in the voting.

Susan Acton-Campbell, Rob Acton-Campbell, Diane Jones and Geoff Reeson, Cllrs Breckels and Pearce declared an interest in the application from Friends of Troopers Hill (walks will involve Friends of St George Park and Friends of Dundridge Park) and did not take part in the voting.

Following lengthy discussion of the applications on a one by one basis the **Neighbourhood Partnership RESOLVED that:-**

- 1) the amount of Green Capital Funding available be noted;**
- 2) the Wellbeing sub-group appraisal be noted;**
- 3) the availability of £10k additional Green Capital funding be noted;**
- 4) the recommendations from the Wellbeing sub-group for Green Capital expenditure be approved as set out in Appendix 2 (including any conditions recommended by the Wellbeing sub-group)**

## **5) the balance of unspent Green Capital funding from the current round £838.50 be used for the Green Mapping project**

A discussion ensued about whether to open up a second round of applications for the additional 10k Green Capital funding to everyone or in view of the tight timescale involved restrict it to re-application from the 2 applicants that had been unsuccessful due to the lack of information provided about the projects.

Opening up to everyone – upon a vote being taken this proposal was lost

Re-application from 2 unsuccessful applicants – upon a vote being taken this proposal was carried (1 abstention).

**The Neighbourhood Partnership RESOLVED that the 2 unsuccessful applicants (Summerhill Infants and Protect a Pup) be invited to re-apply for Green Capital funding and in doing so provide the answers to outstanding questions raised by the Wellbeing sub-group and any additional information requested by 12<sup>th</sup> January 2015. The Wellbeing sub-group will then make recommendations to the NP meeting in March 2015.**

## **7. Environment Sub-group report**

The Neighbourhood Partnership considered a report of Rob Acton-Campbell on behalf of the Environment Group (agenda item no. 7) which set out progress since the last meeting.

The following key issues were noted during discussion of the Environment report:

- Spending of the environment fund (£2595 allocated from the Wellbeing element of the unified budget). It was queried why there wasn't much supporting information to inform this decision compared to the rigorous appraisal process adopted for Wellbeing and Green Capital Funding. In response, it was clarified that this funding was only available for use by Bristol Parks and it had previously been agreed by the NP that the Environment sub-group would make recommendations for its use to the Neighbourhood Committee based on the priorities within the NP Plan.
- Management of fishing at St George Park. The current permit scheme for fishing at St George Park and Eastville Park lakes

runs until the end of Feb 2015. A decision needs to be taken before then as to whether the schemes should continue for another 12 months. A view was sought from St George NP, however it was noted that the final decision will be taken by Tracey Morgan, Service Director for Environment and Leisure.

- A number of options were presented based on Appendix 1 from John Atkinson and Appendix 2 from Diane Jones, Friends of St George Park.
- Diane Jones and Marie Burke spoke on behalf of Friends of St George Park which concluded that monitoring has failed to demonstrate that the fishing permit scheme has brought improvements to the negative impacts of fishing on wildlife and on the enjoyment of the lake by other park users. The high density of fish has also resulted in there being no aquatic vegetation within or around the lake and probably minimal invertebrate diversity. The lake is essentially 'dead' and devoid of ecological sustainability.

Following discussion a further option was proposed: -

Option D) Total ban on fishing and the stock (fish) be removed.

Upon a vote being taken this was unanimously carried.

#### **The Neighbourhood Partnership RESOLVED:-**

- 1. That general progress be noted.**
- 2. That the unanimous view of the NP with regard to the management of fishing at St George is that there be a total ban on fishing and that the fish be removed.**
- 3. The Neighbourhood Committee RESOLVED that the spending proposals outlined in Option A of the report from the Environment Fund (overspend of £135 from Clean & Green fund) be approved.**

## **9. Neighbourhood Working update**

The Neighbourhood Partnership considered a report from the Neighbourhood Officer (agenda item 8) which provided progress against the 11 Neighbourhood Targets since the last meeting of the NP.



**The Neighbourhood Partnership Resolved to note the report and agreed that actions and officer recommendations outlined in the report will be incorporated into the Neighbourhood Partnership Plan.**

## **10. Neighbourhood Partnership Plan (NP Plan) report**

The Neighbourhood Partnership considered a report of the Neighbourhood Co-ordinator (agenda item 9) which outlined the development and consultation of the draft NP Plan which was circulated for approval.

In September 2014 Bristol City Council Cabinet removed the ring fencing from previously devolved Local Traffic, Wellbeing and Clean & Green budgets to create an annual 'Neighbourhood Budget' which gives NPs greater flexibility and control over their resources. In order to utilise and manage the Neighbourhood Budget effectively the development of an NP Plan which consolidates existing plans will prioritise how resources are best deployed within the NP area.

It was noted that the 3 year NP Plan is not set in stone and is a living document that can be reviewed to reflect the changing needs and priorities of the NP area.

The Chair explained that the Plan contained 10 main themes which could be championed by the relevant sub-groups or individuals who have a specific interest or knowledge of these areas. It was anticipated that the Development sub-group would be reformed to cover Housing, Planning and Major Projects and a new sub-group would be created to cover Community Engagement (CommsSub). Grenville Johnson volunteered to be the Champion for Community Safety in view of his strong links with Neighbourhood Watch, which was agreed and welcomed by the NP.

It was noted that the criteria for assessing Wellbeing applications would need to be revised to reflect the new priorities in the NP Plan. The Wellbeing sub-group will be looking at the process at its next meeting and would bring proposals back to the NP in March 2015.

The Chair thanked everyone for their contribution and in particular to Abdulrazak Dahir for co-ordinating the development of the Plan and pulling everything together into the one document.

**The Neighbourhood Partnership RESOLVED that:-**

**1) the Cabinet decision to remove ring fencing from devolved budgets be noted.**

**2) the recommendations from the Traffic & Transport sub-group priorities be approved.**

**3) the recommendations from the Environment sub-group be approved.**

**4) the recommendations from the Operation Subgroup be approved**

**5) the draft NP Plan 2015/16 – 2017/18 be approved**

## **11. General NP Update Report**

The Neighbourhood Partnership considered a report of NP members (agenda item 10) which provided an update on a number of general issues and progress of the partnership since the last meeting of the NP.

The following key issues were noted during the discussion: -

- Membership. In the unlikely event of there being more than four applicants for resident reps for either Ward, it was commented that formal elections would be preferable to drawing lots. In response it was suggested and agreed that if there were more than four applicants then they should be asked to agree four representatives amongst themselves (as suggested for youth representatives) with the drawing of lots used only if agreement could not be reached.
- Neighbourhood Arts programme. Emma Williams gave an update on the Bristol 2015 project for the European Green Capital year that will take a creative look at some of Bristol's local issues around sustainability.
  - NP members commented that it was really important to involve the local schools in the projects and also use local expertise to build capacity and develop a legacy rather than bringing in professionals from outside of the area.
- St George Webteam. The NP website, Facebook and Twitter remain key communications tools. Thanks were extended to Philip Bird for his lead in this area of work.

- City Wide NP event. This will take place on Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> February 10 – 4.00 pm. Anyone interested in attending should contact the NP co-ordinator for further information and the link to book a ticket.

**The Neighbourhood Partnership Resolved that:**

- 1) the report be noted
- 2) the membership of the Partnership for 2015/16 to be in accordance with the recommendations set out in the report subject to the change in selection of resident members as noted above

**10. Devolved Services Update**

The Neighbourhood Partnership considered a report of NP Co-ordinator (agenda item 11) which provided an update on the progress of schemes under the devolved services budget.

**The Neighbourhood Partnership RESOLVED that the report be noted.**

**11. Public Forum**

None received.

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2015 – Beehive Centre, 19a Stretford Road, St George, BS5 7AW**

(The meeting ended at 9.10 pm)

CHAIR

Appendix 1

N0	Name of Group	Brief Description	Amount Requested £	Recommended
1	Mavis Friendship Club	This group has been operating since 2011. The group provides door to door minibus pick up service for their users. The group is aiming to reduce loneliness and isolation, lack of mobility and ill health. The money will be used to pay for transport cost.	£2,000	£480 subject to conditions <b>Agreed by NC</b>
2	St Aidans Church	St Aidans Church organises the St George Community Fair, which has become local popular annual event. The purpose of the event is to bring service providers and users. The money will be used to pay for printing and promotional materials.	£220	£220 subject to conditions <b>Agreed by NC</b>
3	Age UK	Age UK is looking to develop Footcare Service from Air Balloon Surgery. The money will be spent on Project administration, marketing and publicity, access cost for translation, community consultation and contribution to overhead costs.	£1,667	£390 subject to conditions <b>Agreed by NC</b>
4	St George Table Tennis Club	This project moved from Longwell Green into St Aidans Church. The group accommodated all section of the community. The money will be used to purchase table tennis tables and provide Youth Coaching	£3,800	0.00 <b>Agreed by NC</b>

## Appendix 2

Applicant	Project	Green Capital Applied for	Green Capital Recommended	Eligible for Wellbeing?
Friends of St George Park	Pathway to Nature	2,871.00	2,871.00	Y
Friends of Troopers Hill	Exploring St George's Green Spaces	2,023.00	2,023.00	Y
Soil Association	The Big Picnic	2,100.00	2,100.00	Y
Redfest	Redfest	900.00	900	Y
Summerhill Infants	Allotment and Grow Your Own	5,000.00	0	N
The Haven	The Haven Regeneration	1,535.00	767.5	Y
AEOB House People Ltd	Battens Lane House Community Vertical Garden	5,300.00	500	Y
Protect a pup	St George Be Dog Aware	4,868.88	0	Y
<b>TOTAL</b>		24,597.88	9,161.50	
<b>TOTAL LEFT FOR GREEN MAPPING PROJECT</b>		-14,597.88	<b>838.50</b>	