



AGENDA ITEM 6

St George Neighbourhood Partnership Wednesday 16th December 2015

Report of: Subgroup Champions, Neighbourhood Partnership Co-ordinator.

Title: NP Activities- Business Report

Recommendation:

- 1- **Citywide NP Event**
- 2- **Operation Subgroup:** NP to note progress and agree recommendation from subgroup.
- 3- **Environment:** NC to approve proposals to allocate Section 106 Money & NP to decide Tree Bristol Proposals.
- 4- **Traffic and Transport:** NP to note progress.
- 5- **Wellbeing:** NC is asked to consider the Wellbeing subgroup recommendation.
- 6- **Summary of Wellbeing Applications:** Supported projects in the last two years.
- 7- **Citywide NP Code of Conduct.**
- 8- **Consultation:** Proposed new approach to grant funding.
- 9- **Consultation:** Joint Spatial Plan and Joint Transport Study.

Part 1: Citywide NP Event

- 1- Over 80 people participated the 2nd Citywide NP Conference, energetic discussions took place covering many subjects, such as Community Plans, Communications, the Community Charter, etc. There was a lively debate about the role of young people in NPs. The general consensus was to develop a youth inclusion model led by young people.
- 2- The resident led working group responsible for organising the event is scheduled to meet mid-December. They will consider the evaluation surveys and will produce a full report, which will be shared with all the NPs.

At the event several volunteers received training in how to speak on the radio and spoke live on Ujima and BCFM community radios. Each NP will have a chance to take part in a breakfast show between now and Christmas and we have contacted all those who did the training to set this up. Those NPs which did not have anyone take the training have also been offered a slot via their NP Co-ordinator.

Part 2: Operation subgroup

- 1- The Operation subgroup met on Thursday 5th November 2015. The group discussed the NP Plan, received a Code of Conduct update, as shown below in Part 7 of this report and considered the membership forms.
- 2- The St George NP was one of the first NPs to adopt the NP Plan, Dec 2014. The group agreed to review it annually and proposed to do it between December 2015 and Feb 2016. Each subgroup will be expected to consider their relevant section of the Plan and the Operation subgroup will consider sections which do not have a subgroup.
- 3- Membership forms for use at the AGM were discussed. In addition to having forms for resident and group member, one was suggested for businesses too. Samples of the forms are shown in appendices A to C. The NP members are hereby asked to approve the forms.
- 4- Once approved the forms will be uploaded on to the NP website.
- 5- The NP Chair & Vice Chair forms have been slightly amended and if approved will also be available from the NP website. Please see appendix D, the NP members are hereby asked to approve the redesigned form.

- 6- The process relies on NP members to be proactive and ensure they complete the necessary forms and return them to Democratic Services Officer at least 3 weeks before the AGM/ NP meeting.
- 7- Finally the group considered the Action Tracker, for an update see agenda item 4b.

Part 3: Environment

- 8- The Environment Sub-Group met on 19th November 2015, a full report is available at www.stgeorgenp.org.uk/subgroups/environment.
- 9- Subgroup members were pleased to welcome a representative of Street Goat to discuss their exciting project for Stibbs Hill allotments, see www.crowdfunder.co.uk/street-goat.
- 10- Discussions took place on issues at various green spaces with updates on proposed works and the fish removal proposals for St George Park. The group were informed that a full report will be presented to the NP members, see agenda item 5.
- 11- The subgroup agreed to recommend to the Neighbourhood Committee that £1,100 from S106 should be allocated to part fund a bench in memory of Becky Watts at Plummer's Hill (this is the cost of purchase & installation of a standard bench). The cost of the bespoke bench is £2,000. Subsequent advice from the S106 officer suggested this should come from the Neighbourhood Budget instead of S106 funds.
- 12- Finally the Environment subgroup discussed the Discover East Bristol project (formerly known as the East Bristol Green Map). The group were informed that there was approximately £1,990 of underspend remaining from the Green Capital Budget. The money will need to be spent before end of December 2015. Members were asked to send their ideas to the NP Co-ordinator. Some of the suggested ideas included repairs to Dundridge Park footpath, signage for Meadowvale and Colebrook Rd Park, Wildlife audit report for Colebrook Park and Meadowvale enhancements.
- 13- A £2,226.73 quote for flagpole to fly the St George in Bloom Flag was deemed too high for the Discover East Bristol project. It was subsequently suggested that the Neighbourhood Committee be asked if they would support this from the Neighbourhood Budget.
- 14- The NC is hereby asked to approve the amount stated in the table shown below.

2015/16 Neighbourhood Budget	£11,084.57
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NP Plan Priority Ref: Environment	Activity/Description of works	Amount £	Running Balance £
P1 Activity 1	Funds will be used to contribute funding for carved bench, costing £2,000. When this report was being prepared, it was not clear if the remaining £900 would be found/is available.	£1,100	£9,984.57
P2 Activity 6	Funds will be used to pay for flagpole to fly St George in Bloom flag.	£2,226.73	£7,757.84
Remaining Neighbourhood Budget			£7,757.84

15- It was also agreed to ask the NC to allocate £440 for urban meadows & £1,100 for bulbs from the 2015/16 Environment fund. The balance (£1,060) should be allocated to replanting the planters at St George Park and Maldowers Lane for 2016, providing plants to St George in Bloom for other planters and responding to adhoc planting requests to support St George in Bloom. It was noted that the Clean & Green funds for 2015/16 had now all been allocated. The Neighbourhood Committee is hereby asked to approve the release of the amounts shown below from the Environment Budget.

<u>2015/16 Environment Budget</u>			£2,600
NP Plan Priority Ref: Environment	Activity/Description of works	Amount £	Running Balance £
P2 Activity 6	2016/17 Urban Meadows for Dundridge Park and Netham House	£440	£2,160
	2016/17 Bulbs for various locations	£1,100	£1,060
	2016/17 Planters for Maldowers and St George Park & Adhoc planting requests	£1,060	0.00
Remaining Environment Budget			£0.00

Equalities Impact Assessment:

16- Plummer's Hill Bench: Equalities impact assessment has not been made available for this project. This will be requested and circulated to NP members before the funds are released.

- 17- Bulbs and Planters: Again Equalities Impact Assessment has not been made for these works. This will be requested and circulated to NP members before the funds are released.

Part 4: Traffic & Transport:

- 18- The Traffic and Transport subgroup met on Tuesday 24th November 2015. The group received a presentation from one of the parents of Two Mile Hill School. Main concerns expressed related to the junction of Two Mile Hill and New Queen Street.
- 19- Gill Calloway, Neighbourhood Officer for St George NP, explained her previous role with the Safer Route to Schools team. She agreed to facilitate the Traffic & Transport subgroup, which will be a great advantage given her extensive knowledge in traffic related issues.
- 20- The group were provided with a verbal update on live schemes and were informed the funded feasibility studies have not been completed. For more information see agenda item 7.

Part 5: Wellbeing Grant:

- 21- The Wellbeing subgroup met on Monday 9th November 2015. The group assessed three Wellbeing applications received since July 2015, in total asking for £4,361.49. The group's recommendation is summarised in the table shown below "Funding Appraisal Top Sheet".
- 22- At present the total amount of Wellbeing grant available for the remainder of 2015/16 financial year is £9,804.92, if the NC approves the Wellbeing Subgroup's recommendation of £4,126.49 the Neighbourhood Partnership will have £5,678.43 remaining for the rest of this financial year.

St George NP Wellbeing Sub-group: Funding appraisal Top sheet 16/12/15

Name of organisation	Declarations of interest	What's the funding for? Brief summary of project	Amount requested	Amount recommended	Conditions
St Aidan's Church	N/A	Printing and stationery to support and publicise the St George Community Fair to be held in March 2016, showcasing many local community groups. The group initial application was for £520, but withdrew £235 for refreshments and electricity.	£275	£275	We would appreciate your group sharing publicity for the Neighbourhood Partnership, particular for Forums and Wellbeing grants, whether by displaying our posters or sharing on social media or on your website.
St George Park Community Garden under the umbrella of Friends of St George Park		Provide timber and fixing for raising the sides of the existing beds on the bandstand in St George Park so enable more members of the community to participate in gardening and picking produce. It is also hoped it will reduce trampling from dogs.	£915	£915	Develop equal opportunity policies, with help from the Neighbourhood team, prior to the project being carried out. We would appreciate your group sharing publicity for the Neighbourhood Partnership, particular for Forums and Wellbeing grants, whether by displaying our posters or sharing on social media or on your website.
Speedwell Friends	N/A	This group would like to use an allotment for a project to support socially isolated people to develop a sense of belonging and pride in their neighbourhood. As well as planting the project includes outdoor cooking sessions, harvesting seeds and designing seed packets with growing instructions in different languages. Using a professional facilitator to start the project it is hoped volunteers will be trained to continue the project after its first 20 sessions. Costs include the time of the professional, a greenhouse, field kitchen materials, gardening tools and seeds.	£2,900	£2,900	1. The allotment must be held in the name of the group 2. A record to be kept of participants' Neighbourhood Partnership areas 3. Documents listed in 5 (Health and Safety Policy, Risk Assessment, Safeguarding policies and public liability insurance to be supplied. 4. We would appreciate the Speedwell Friends sharing publicity about the Neighbourhood Partnership, particularly about Forums and Wellbeing grants via any noticeboards to which they have access and via any social media presence.

- 23- The following table sets out the principal benefits to Equalities groups and groups with protected characteristics as described in Section D of the application form.

PROJECT	CONTRIBUTION TO EQUALITIES
Supporting the St George Community Fair	This event is open to all, with direct involvement of many equalities groups showcasing their activities. All members of equalities groups will be made welcome with many members of equalities groups having been directly contacted.
St George Park Community Garden	The project is open to all, it is well supported by women, older people and has black and minority ethnic members. Even those who are not gardeners can benefit from the produce or looking at the planting. This particular project will directly benefit equalities group with access issues.
Companion planting	All participants in the equalities groups will be made welcome and fully supported.

- 24- As part of the Wellbeing Subgroup members Judith Price, Philip Bird, Lorraine Millard, Pete Franklin and Susan Acton Campbell assessed the Wellbeing Grant application.
- 25- Subgroup members are very grateful for the support Denise James has given to the Wellbeing sub-group. She has recently resigned, so the Wellbeing sub-group currently has five vacancies. Anyone with a strong interest in St George would be very welcome to join.

Part 6: Summary of Wellbeing applications granted in the last two years

- 26- In total 40 Wellbeing applications were approved for the periods of 2013/14 and 2014/15. The total amount Wellbeing Grant paid to groups for the two year period is £49,189.89
- 27- Average Wellbeing application for 2013/14 was £954.02. During 2014/15 this increased to £1,505.47, this is mainly due to the introduction of NP funded projects. For example in 2014/15 the NP funded three community notice boards and allocated separate Environment Budget from the Wellbeing Budget. There were also 2 applications from the Redfest during this year.

- 28- With £8,532.91 St George Preschool were the highest recipients of Wellbeing Grants, followed closely by Redfest who received £8,220. With £5,850 the St George NP funded schemes is third. In fourth place Meadowvale Community Association who has been awarded £2,769.25 followed by St Aidan's Church £2,036.20
- 29- With 4 applications St Aidan's Church submitted the highest number of applications during this period, followed by Meadowvale CA & Redfest with 3 applications each. See appendix E for full listings of all the grants awarded during this period.

Part 7: Citywide NP Code of Conduct

- 30- Lindsay Hay, Area Neighbourhood Manager, wrote to Rob Acton-Campbell in October to let him know, as Chair of the St George Neighbourhood Partnership, that the Neighbourhood Partnership Members' Code of Conduct had been revised.
- 31- The main revision related to the Complaints and Grievance Process. The version adopted by St George NP in April 2015 stated that 'all complaints and their resolution should be reported at a subsequent NP meeting'. This clause had had been included in error and has since been removed.
- 32- It was considered particularly misleading with respect to complaints against Councillors which are governed by a separate complaints procedure by which information that is made available to the public is carefully regulated.
- 33- The amended version of the NP code of Conduct is now available on the Bristol City Council website and supersedes all earlier versions. Area Management Services apologise for any difficulty that may have arisen as a result of this error. The NP is asked to formally agree that its code of conduct will in future be the most recent version of the NP code of Conduct as published on the Bristol City Council website.
- 34- The Complaints and Grievance Process still provides guidance to NP members on how to address complaints relating to other NP members (excluding the NC) and how to deal with the code of conduct breaches.

- 35- There is one incident relating to breach of the code of conduct, which is currently being investigated. The outcome of this investigation will be reported at the NP meeting.
- 36- Complaints against council officers, councillors and council services please report via the Complaints & Feedback website <https://www.bristol.gov.uk/complaints-and-feedback> or email complaints.feedback@bristol.gov.uk

Part 8: Consulting on a proposed new approach to grant funding

- 37- The Council currently invests over £18m in the voluntary and community sector (VCS) each year through grants, rate relief and reduced rents and leases on council-owned buildings.
- 38- People from the council and the VCS have agreed that we need to focus the council's grant investment on tackling disadvantage in the city and we believe that by having a clear focus and by working better together, we can use this money more strategically and have a far bigger impact. We have worked together to design a new approach to grant funding. This will align up to £5m of revenue grant funding to make it work better for the people who need it most.
- 39- We are consulting on the proposed new approach from 16th November until 15th February. Our consultation will be with local voluntary and community sector organisations and other interested parties. Information and links to the consultation will be available from the council's consultation finder: <https://bristol.citizenspace.com/>

Part 9: Joint Spatial Plan and Joint Transport Study.

- 40- The four local authorities in the West of England are seeking the views of local communities in drawing up a plan to steer new housing and jobs growth over the next 20 years. The Joint Spatial Plan being prepared by Bath and North East Somerset, Bristol City, North Somerset and South Gloucestershire Councils will identify:
- the amount and broad locations of new homes and employment land to be planned for up to 2036;
 - the transport and other essential infrastructure that will be required to support housing and jobs growth.

- 41- To begin the process of involvement the Councils are consulting on the Joint Spatial Plan Issues and Options document.
- 42- To inform the Joint Spatial Plan and future transport strategies for the area, the Councils are also preparing a Joint Transport Study. This will identify the key transport issues affecting the West of England over the next 20 years and the transport solutions needed to address them. Comments are being sought on the Councils' initial ideas.
- 43- The closing date for comments on this stage of consultation is 29 January 2016. There is information on the consultations at www.jointplanningwofe.org.uk and copies of documents will be available in local libraries.
- 44- An event for Bristol's Neighbourhood Partnerships to find out more and discuss the consultations is being planned for January 2016 – other events are being set up in those parts of the city which are likely to experience the most impact from new housing and employment expansion.

Ward of residence (please tick, if known)

St George West St George Troopers Hill St George Central

Name of resident:

Contact Details including email and postal address

Name of Nominator if different (Please ensure you check with them before you nominate someone else)

Contact Details

Reasons why you/resident is suitable for this post (No more than 100 words) e.g. lived in St George for x number of years, has been a chair/vice chair for community organisations etc.

Once completed please send it to the Democratic Services Officer for the St George NP ruth.quantock@bristol.gov.uk

St George
Neighbourhood Partnership
Community group nomination
form

Name of Group:

Name of nominee as group representative

Contact Details & role in group

Name of nominator (this must be someone else in the group who can confirm that the nominee has been selected to represent the group and has agreed to be nominated)

Contact details & role in group

Please describe your group and the work it does in the St George Neighbourhood Partnership area (No more than 100 words)

Once completed please send this form to the Democratic Services Officer for the St George NP ruth.quantock@bristol.gov.uk

St George
Neighbourhood Partnership
Community group nomination
form

Name of Group:

Name of nominee as group representative

Contact Details & role in group

Name of nominator (this must be someone else in the group who can confirm that the nominee has been selected to represent the group and has agreed to be nominated)

Contact details & role in group

Please describe your group and the work it does in the St George Neighbourhood Partnership area (No more than 100 words)

Once completed please send this form to the Democratic Services Officer for the St George NP ruth.quantock@bristol.gov.uk

St George
Neighbourhood Partnership
Nomination form

Position (Chair, Vice Chair)

Name of Candidate

Contact Details

Name of Nominator if different (If you are nominating someone else, please ensure you check with them before you nominate them)

Contact Details

Reasons why the candidate is suitable for this post (No more than 100 words) e.g. lived in St George for x number of years, has been a chair/vice chair for other organisations etc

Once completed please send it to the Democratic Services Officer for the St George NP ruth.quantock@bristol.gov.uk

No.	Group' Full name	Total Number of applications	Groups	Amount of money received 2013/14	Amount of money received 2014/15	Total
1	Age UK Bristol	1	Age UK	£0.00	£390.00	£390.00
2	Bristol East Allotment Association	1	BEAA	£0.00	£500.00	£500.00
3	Bristol Playbus	1	Bristol Playbus	£0.00	£1,200.00	£1,200.00
4	Church Rd Action Group	2	CRAG	£1,260.00	£625.00	£1,885.00
5	Crofts End Church	1	Crofts End Church	£750.00	£0.00	£750.00
6	Friend of Dundridge Park	1	FoDP	£0.00	£635.97	£635.97
7	Friends of Kingsway Youth	2	FoKW	£0.00	£1,175.00	£1,175.00
8	Friends of Troopers Hill	1	FoTH	£650.00	£0.00	£650.00
9	Kensington Rd Residents Association	2	KRRA	£540.00	£540.00	£1,080.00
10	Life Cycle UK	1	Life Cycle	£0.00	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
11	Mavis Friendship Group	1	Mavis Club	£0.00	£480.00	£480.00
12	Meadow Vale Community Association	3	MVCA	£700.00	£2,069.25	£2,769.25
13	Playing Out CIC	1	Playing Out	£0.00	£1,200.00	£1,200.00
14	Redfest	3	Redfest	£2,640.00	£5,580.00	£8,220.00
15	St Aidans Church	4	St Aidans	£1,279.00	£1,162.20	£2,441.20
16	St George Pre-School	2	St George Preschool	£3,330.91	£5,202.00	£8,532.91
17	Wesley Memorial Methodist Church	2	WMMC	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	£2,000.00
18	32nd Bristol Scouts	1	32nd Scouts	£1,064.00	£0.00	£1,064.00
19	Speedwell Childrens' Centre	1	SCC	£1,244.50	£0.00	£1,244.50
20	WASP	1	WASP	£520.00	£0.00	£520.00
21	Bristol & Anchor Almshouse Charity with Linkage	1	The Beehive	£972.06	£0.00	£972.06
22	St George in Bloom	1	St George in Bloom	£1,430.00	£0.00	£1,430.00
23	159th Brunel Scouts	1	159th Scouts	£1,400.00	£0.00	£1,400.00
24	Friends of St George Park	1	FoSP	£0.00	£500.00	£500.00
25	Gurdwara Nirman Sewak Jatha Heritage	1	Gurdwara	£0.00	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
26	Hillside Court (Housing 21)	1	Housing 21	£300.00	£0.00	£300.00
27	NP Partnership	2	NP	£0.00	£5,850.00	£5,850.00
Total		40		£19,080.47	£30,109.42	£49,189.89
Average application value				£954.02	£1,505.47	

St George Wellbeing Applications 2013/14 - 2014/15

