



MY NEIGHBOURHOOD

**St George Neighbourhood Partnership
Wednesday 29th March 2017**

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

Title: NP Activities- Business Report

Recommendation:

- 1- **Operation Subgroup:** NP to note progress.
- 2- **Environment:** NP to note progress and NC to approve Parks S106 and CIL proposals from Friends of Dundridge Park Group and Environment subgroup respectively.
- 3- **Traffic and Transport:** NP to note progress.

Part 1: Operation subgroup

- 1- Operation subgroup met on Tuesday 14th February 2017.
- 2- The subgroup meeting was used as an opportunity to continue the work Transitional Working Group began. Full draft notes from the meeting is available from the St George NP website www.stgeorgenp.org.uk/a-new-start/
- 3- Key outcome from the group discussions is presented in the 'draft proposal from Working Group on way forward'. For more information see agenda item 7- Future of Neighbourhood Partnership.

Part 2: Environment subgroup

- 4- The Environment sub-group met on 9th February, draft notes of the meeting can be seen at www.stgeorgenp.org.uk/wp-content/uploads/2012/04/St-George-Environment-Sub-Notes-Feb-17.pdf
- 5- The meeting agreed to support a proposal for the use of devolved CIL to fund 'ParkWork' to bring improvements to green spaces in St George and give an opportunity for more volunteering. There was also support for additional S106 money to support Dundridge Park Group's project in Conham Woodland. More details of these are in the requests for funding below.
- 6- The meeting also discussed and expressed support for St George Park Lake and the Friends of St George Park Group's proposals for Slimbridge Wildlife Trust consultants to update their earlier report on the lake.
- 7- The group finally discussed its role in the future and all agreed that it was worthwhile for the Environment Sub-Group to continue to meet, both as a networking opportunity for park groups and to agree on requests for S106 & CIL funding for parks & green spaces in St George.

Request for Parks Devolved S106:

- 8- The Environment Subgroup recommends that the Neighbourhood Committee allocate £1,600 of devolved S106 towards improvements to the 'deer path' through Conham Woodland.
- 9- Last year Friends of Dundridge Park were awarded £16,700 by Ibstock Cory to improve the pond and the surrounding area in Conham Woodland for both people and wildlife. Part of this project included work to the deer path which runs from the park down to Conham Vale. The group received help with this grant application from the NP funded fundraiser.
- 10- Since the work was originally priced it has become clear that significantly more work is required to the path than originally thought and indeed there has been further recent subsidence.

11- The group has reached agreements with both Tesco and Cory to allocate surplus from the two projects that they funded last year in the park to the woodland path, this amounts to an additional £9.5k. However, a further £1,600 is required to ensure that all the work identified as required can be completed.

12- The NC is hereby asked to consider request from the Friends of Dundry Park Group (FDPG) as summarised in the table shown below.

Total S106 for St George available			£34,207.89
2016/17 St George NP: S106 Ref: 10/00121 / 89 Two Mile Hill Road, Kingswood / ZCD...988			£1,657.54
NP Plan Priority Ref: Communication	Activity/Description of works	Amount £	Running Balance £
P1 Activity 2: Improve access to all Parks and open space entrances focusing on Colebrook Park; Dundry Park and wheelchair and access improvements to Troopers Hill and Field.	FDPG would like £1,600 to contribute improvements to the 'deer path' through Conham Woodland.	£1,600	£57.54
Remaining S106 77 & 97 Nags Head Hill			£57.54
Remaining St George NP Parks S106 Budget approximately			£32,607.89

Request for Devolved CIL Monies:

13- The Environment sub-group recommend using £10,000 of CIL devolved to the St George area to fund a project to bring improvements to St George green spaces while also encouraging more volunteering in the area.

- 14- The funding would be used to allow ParkWork to carry out regular work sessions in the area. This is a scheme that has been running successfully the Central, Clifton and Harbourside area where CIL has also been used to provide funding. ParkWork have also been carrying out regular sessions at Eastville Park. Tasks have included improvements to paths, scrub clearance, shrub pruning, hedge planting and bench repairs.
- 15- ParkWork is a Bristol Parks Forum programme run through Bristol City Council that gives those on the route to employment work experience, horticultural skills and training through volunteering in parks. It is a highly successful programme and over the last 18 months 20 participants have gained full time employment or gone into full time education. The benefit can also be seen in Bristol's Parks where areas that would get neglected under the normal parks operations regime get some attention. Photos of some of the work undertaken by ParkWork can be seen at www.facebook.com/ParkWorkBristol/
- 16- As well as their own volunteers the sessions are advertised to attract new volunteers from the general public to work with ParkWork and the Friends group at the site. Overtime, these local volunteers can then start to work independently of ParkWork. In the Central, Clifton and Harbourside area ParkWork have been based on Brandon Hill. 10 new volunteers were attracted to volunteer with the Friends of Brandon Hill over the first 4 months that the opportunity was advertised.
- 17- In St George we envisage ParkWork working in the area for 1 day each week. There would be regular advertised sessions (probably monthly) at St George Park, Troopers Hill and Dundridge Park. At other times ParkWork would visit other green spaces in St George. Tasks would be identified by park groups, members of the public, Bristol Parks or Councillors. There could be a regular meeting point advertised for this.
- 18- This project has the full support of Bristol Parks and Teija Ahjokoski has been working with Joe to identify possible tasks.
- 19- ParkWork have their supervisor, Joe McKenna, their own tools and a minibus for transport. The funds are to cover ParkWork costs and could also be used to buy some materials. Members of the Environment sub-group would form a steering group to manage the project and keep track of spending.

20- The NC is hereby asked to consider Environment Subgroup recommendation as summarised in the table shown below.

Total CIL for St George available			£35,547.88
NP Plan Priority Ref: Communication	Activity/Description of works	Amount £	Running Balance £
Priority 1: The NP area has quality Parks & Green Spaces accessible to all.	ParkWork will carry out regular work sessions for parks and green spaces in the NP area for 1 day each week. Volunteers will be recruited to help carry out task, including improvements to paths, scrub clearance, shrub pruning, hedge planting and bench repairs. The funding will be used to pay cover ParkWorks costs and material.	£10,000	£25,547.88
Remaining St George Devolved CIL money			£25,547.88

Part 4: Traffic & Transport:

21- The Traffic and Transport subgroup met on Tuesday 28th February 2017.

22- The group received an update on live schemes. Discussions focused on Beaufort Rd Experimental Traffic Regulation Orders scheme and Lyppiatt Rd. It was generally recognised Beaufort Rd scheme will follow the Troopers Hill Traffic Calming Scheme, which is hoped will be done by the summer 2017.

23- The group also discussed its role going forward post the St George NP winding up. It was noted that Traffic and Transport related issues are one of the main local resident concerns. It was agreed to continue the Traffic and Transport subgroup in some form or another. The group would also like to see structure/s likely to supersede the St George NP and how best they could fit in.