

Bristol City Council
Minutes of the Area Committee 4

27 July 2020 at 6.00 pm



Members Present:-

Councillors: Nicola Beech, Fabian Breckels, Asher Craig, Mike Davies, Kye Dudd, Margaret Hickman, Hibaq Jama, Carole Johnson, Steve Pearce, Ruth Pickersgill (Chair), Afzal Shah and Paul Smith

Officers in Attendance:-

Keith Houghton (Community Resources Manager) and John Atkinson (Tree Bristol Education Lead), Sam Wilcock (Democratic Services Officer)

1. Election of Chair

RESOLVED – that Councillor Ruth Pickersgill be elected Chair for the meeting.

2. Welcome and Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor English.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

RESOLVED – that the Minutes of the previous Meeting held on 3rd October 2019 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

4. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

5. Public Forum

Members considered the public forum question and statement submitted in advance of the meeting.

Ref No	Name
PQ01	Joanna Booth



PS01	Mark Ashdown – Bristol Tree Forum
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Ms Booth had been sent an answer to her question which had also been circulated to members of the Committee and published on the website. Mark Ashdown was in attendance and presented his statement.

Members noted the question and statement submitted.

6. Community Resources Manager Update and Decision Report

The Community Resources Manager introduced the report and drew attention to the following:

- Members would receive an update by the end of August on progress on previously approved Section 106 (S106) and Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) transport, parks and community projects;
- A decision had been taken to pause 2020 CIL and S106 decisions with the exception of S106 monies specified for tree planting and replacement so works could start in the 20/21 planting season;

The Community Resources Manager continued to present the report and drew attention to the following:

- There was currently a CIL fund total of £368,329.05, which was broken down as a deficit of - £5,557.10 for general expenditure and a surplus from the Old Market ND Plan area;
- There was a total of £447,301.94 uncommitted Section 106 agreement monies of which £257,534.58 was specifically assigned to tree planting or replacement as outlined in the report to the meeting;
- Members were asked to consider the proposed tree planting and replacement scheme using the £81,877.47 available to plant 94 trees across the wards of Area Committee 4 and, if approved, to further consider if the residue of £292.13 should be added to the maintenance budget or keep in the existing S106 tree planting budget;
- There were a further six planting locations proposed which were within the boundary of Area Committee 3 and seven planting locations within the boundary of Area Committee 5;
- There were two time-limited S106 allocations (Nelson Street and Bridewell Street) at risk if not allocated;

In response to questions from Councillors, the Tree Bristol Officer clarified the following points:

- Future proposals would include a map and the common, rather than Latin, names of the trees;
- A new tree plot required a consultation process, service checks, equality requirements for pavement widths, highways quality assurances and installation;
- Planters were suited to specific trees often with a shorter life and there was often significantly more maintenance required;



- Current post-Covid work in the City Centre presented an opportunity to engineer more new pits however the process continued to be lengthy and costly;
- There had been difficulties identifying known and safe tree pit sites for the City Centre area around the developments in Nelson Street and Bridewell Street;
- It was clarified that use of S106 Tree Planting contributions did not include general 'greening' measures, 'commemorative plaques' attached to existing trees or 'Smart Trees' (although the legal definition of that could be checked) but did include Tree Planters;
- Officers continued to work on a resolution for issues with the three large trees causing issues for residents off Fernwood/ Dundridge Park. The seven new trees proposed were suitable for their location;
- The Urban Tree Challenge Fund had awarded a grant for trees in the Area Committee area and plans would be shared with Ward Councillors.

The following comments were made by Councillors:

- The pedestrianisation of the Old City could be an opportunity to use planters within the City Centre where new tree pits were difficult to establish. Officers and Councillors would set up a 'walkabout' and if resources allowed, proposals could be presented in October;
- Smart Trees were being considered by the Commercialisation Team within the Council, however an identified obstacle was the cost of ongoing maintenance;
- It would be helpful for future reports to contain some physical information about the trees such as their potential height;
- Councillors identified that tree planters could be increasingly utilised for tree planting around the City Centre and therefore a healthy maintenance budget was to be supported;

In relation to future meetings, the Community Resources Manager undertook to talk to Chairs of the six Area Committees with a view to considering a similar timetable to the one agreed in the previous year with Councillors engaging with communities about proposals prior to a decision in the autumn. It was agreed that if any Members had a view on the timescale they should contact the Chair directly.

RESOLVED that

- (1) the proposed updating of progress on previously-approved projects in the light of Covid-19 impacts be noted;**
- (2) the decision to pause 2020 CIL and S106 decisions with the exception of S106 monies specified for tree planting and replacement be noted;**
- (3) the CIL and S106 monies available at 30th June 2020 and the 2 S106 contributions which are at risk as outside their 'committed by' date be noted;**
- (4) the funding for the S106 Tree Proposal submitted from the following S106 allocations be approved as follows:**

Permission / Site / S106 Code	Current Contribution Value	£ requested	£ remaining	Date to be Spent / Committed by	Purpose of Contribution



13/00452 - Former Magistrates Court, Nelson Street, City Centre	£42,145.58	£27,547.56	£14,598.02	12 Sep 19	The provision of Compensatory Tree Planting either on-street or in public open space within a one mile radius of Nelson Street
17/04267 - Fmr Ambulance Station, Marybush Lane, City Centre	£30,067.36	£30,067.36	£0.00	16 Jan 24	The provision and maintenance of off-site replacement Tree Planting
11/03698 - Former Lord Rodney PH, 47 Two Mile Hill Road, St. George	£767.60	£767.60	£0.00	No Limit	The provision of replacement tree planting in the vicinity of 47 Two Mile Hill Road
15/05293 - Newfoundland Road Car Park, St. Agnes	£15,308.55	£13,008.57	£2,299.98	No Limit	The provision and maintenance of tree planting either on-street or in public open space within a one mile radius of the Newfoundland Road Car Park site
18/01917 - land at 163A Church Road, Redfield	£5,422.04	£5,422.04	£0.00	No Limit	The provision and maintenance of tree planting either on-street or in public open space within a one mile radius of 163A Church Road
19/02593 - 21 St. Thomas Street, Redcliffe	£13,610.00	£5,356.47	£8,253.53	No Limit	The provision and maintenance of tree planting either on-street or in public open space within a one mile radius of 21 St. Thomas Street

(5) the legal information concerning the Public Sector Equality duty in reaching all its decisions be noted.



- (6) The Area Committee approved full funding to deliver this project, in particular approved planting in adjacent Area Committee 3&5 areas with available AC4 S106 monies**
- (7) The Committee asked that the Tree Bristol Officer bring back proposals to use the 'at risk' S106 tree planting sums from Nelson Street and Bridewell Street to an autumn AC meeting, date to be confirmed**

Meeting ended at 7.00 pm

CHAIR _____

