## Agenda Item No 5

**MY NEIGHBOURHOOD**

**Ashley, Easton and Lawrence Hill Neighbourhood Partnership**

*Monday 7th March 2016 at The Salvation Army, Bristol Citadel, 6 Ashley Road, Bristol BS6 5NL*

### Present:

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| 29.06.15  | Richard Curtis (Church Road Action Group)  
Deputy Chair of NP  
Paul Bradburn (Old Market Community Association)  
Del Hibbert (Full Circle)  
Abdullahi Farah (Somali Resource Centre)  
Linda Bell/Steve Woods (St Werburgh's Community Centre)  
Vacancy (Easton and Lawrence Hill)  
Abdul Ahmed (Somali Forum)  
Vacancy (SPU/Ashley)  
Elaine Flint, Wellspring Healthy Living Centre  
Eric Aidoo (Ashley Churches Together)  
Noelle Rumball. Member of the Traffic and Transport Group and Member of the WellBeing Group | Jane Brewerton (Traders, Stokes Croft)  
Sonny Richards (Retailer, Lawrence Hill)  
Lesley Nel (Registered Social Landlord)  
Olly Cosgrove/Deborah Yeates/Mark Aston/Mark Birkenhead (A and S Police)  
Aisha Thomas (City Academy)  
Vacancy (NHS Bristol)  
Mohammed El Sharif (Health Representative) | Jeremy Livitt (Democratic Services)  
Kurt James (Neighbourhood Co-ordinator)  
Neil Burwell (Community Safety Officer)  
Jon Toy, Stakeholder Liaison – Arena Project  
Stacy Yelland (Observer – "Up Your Street")  
Margaret Castle  
Mark Aston  
Liz Jones  
Lisa Hashemi – Observer  
Noelle Rumball – Observer  
Yosuke Maeda - Observer  
Alex Mills – Observer  
Mike Davies  
John Haipin  
Malcolm Hamilton  
Patrick Williams  
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39. Welcome and Introductions (Agenda Item 1)

All parties at the meeting introduced themselves.

40. Apologies for Absence (Agenda Item 2)

Apologies for absence were received from Richard and Jo Curtis, Lesley Nel, Matthew Collison and Gemma Murphy.

41. Minutes of the Neighbourhood Partnership Meeting Held on Monday 5th October 2015 (Agenda Item 3)

Resolved - that the minutes of the above meeting be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

42. Declarations of Interest (Agenda Item 4)

None

43. Public Forum (Agenda Item 5)

Each Public Forum statement received was circulated to all NP members in advance and was available in the Minute Book.

Statement Number 1 – Provision for Affordable Housing In Planning Applications (on behalf of Chocbox 2.0 Community Association) – Lori Streich

NP members discussed concerns in the statement concerning 2 recent Planning Applications for sites within the NP Area (Former Elizabeth Shaw Chocolate Factory site in Easton and the Brooks Planning Group site in St Werburghs), neither of which had any provision for affordable housing. Members noted the difficulties faced by Development Control Committees in adhering to Planning Policy guidance and the risk that officers frequently advised them about concerning the possibility of any refusal being overturned by a Planning Inspector on appeal.
NP Members expressed concern at the continuing lack of Council housing within the city. It was noted that a Grassroots campaign is required to put pressure on developers to show their viability reports for any scheme;

NP Members noted that, whilst Bristol City Council had set a target of 30% of affordable housing for each development, this was purely an aim and was not enforceable through the Planning Regulations. It was agreed that an investigation is carried out into what happens in similar situations in other cities.

**Action:** Lori Striech/Noelle Rumball to investigate and report back – Kurt James to add to the Agenda for next meeting at 6.30pm on Monday 27th June 2016.

**Resolved (unanimously):** that the AELH NP expresses its view that no major development should be approved without a commitment to affordable housing. **Action:** Kurt James to advise relevant Planning Officers (Zoe Willcox/Gary Collins) accordingly.

**Statement Number 2 – Devolution – A Significant Change For The City – Councillor Anna McMullen**

The NP noted the potential significant change for the city’s governance arrangements which could take place over a very short timescale. Whilst no final details were available, it was likely that the bid involving the 4 Unitary Authorities of the former Avon County Council area would include areas of greater power and finance in housing delivery, transport, infrastructure + education and skills. It would also include access to a £1 Billion investment fund but this would be borrowed and repaid on the basis of economic growth generated. As a result, Bristol could end up with 3 mayors – a Lord Mayor, an elected city Mayor and an elected regional Mayor.

NP members were concerned that, due to the timescales, there would be no opportunity to debate the issue at Full Council or through the Scrutiny process. It was noted that there had been no change to the proposals since a Press Release made in September 2015.

Elaine Flint pointed out that there was a great deal of work currently taking place concerning devolution of health budgets – for example, at Manchester.

**Resolved –** that officers bring a report to brief NP members at a meeting to take place at a date from mid-May 2016 onwards (ie just after the Bristol City Council elections). **Action:** Kurt James.
Councillor Rob Telford explained that 2 events had been set up to discuss local concerns about parking in St Werburghs – Thursday 17\textsuperscript{th} March (3.30pm at St Bart's Church) and Thursday 24\textsuperscript{th} March (6pm at the St Andrews Bowling Club). There was a concern about very bad parking in St Werburghs (ie caravans in residential streets) which could be aggravated by the displacement of traffic from the Residents Parking Scheme in neighbouring St Paul’s. In addition, the bus service was very poor. It was also noted that this issue was scheduled to be discussed at the St Werburghs Neighbourhood Forum at 6.30pm on Thursday 10\textsuperscript{th} March. There had also been an impact on traders due to the parking difficulties. Local residents were encouraged to give their views on this issue.

Resolved – that this statement be noted.

44. Highways Schemes of Approval (Agenda Item 6)

The Neighbourhood Co-ordinator introduced this report including the Highways update dated 7\textsuperscript{th} March 2016, the Highways Minor Lines and Signs budget + a Minor Works Budget, as well as agreeing the Highway schemes to be funded by the Section 106 budget.

The NP noted that it was proposed that Applications 21 and 22 in the report (Former FPS Site, Waterloo Road, Old Market and 1/24 to 30 West Street, Old Market) be removed from the list of applications for approval since it was not clear why there had been such a significant increase in cost. The Traffic and Transport Sub-Group who had made the recommendations in the report had indicated that they would be speaking to the relevant Highways officer to understand why the cost had increased by such a large amount.

Councillor Hickman referred to the decision last year to fund the Devon Road scheme which was not in the list of schemes in the report but had been agreed for approval.

Councillor Telford confirmed that details of the Minor Road scheme at Sevier Street had been fixed with the contractor and was scheduled to start in 2 weeks. In addition, an agreement had also been made with the contractor to start other minor works- it was anticipated that this would happen within a month.

Resolved:

(1) that the Highways update as of 7\textsuperscript{th} March 2016 be noted;
(2) that the Neighbourhood Committee approve (unanimously) that the following Section 106 agreements be released:

39 Cooperage Road, Pile Marsh
Drill Hall, Jacob Street, Old Market
Seymours Club, Barton Vale, the Dings

(3) that the Neighbourhood Committee approve (unanimously) to fund a Minor Lines and Signs budget of £2,250 + the Minor Works budget, be agreed;
(4) that the Neighbourhood Committee agrees to fund a Minor Works budget of £3,000 from the Local Traffic Scheme budget.;
(5) that the Area Co-ordinator investigate with the appropriate Highways officer the latest situation concerning the Devon Road scheme and report back to the NP.

Action: Kurt James

45. Environment Sub-Group Recommendations (Agenda Item 7)

The NP considered a report setting out the recommendations from the Environment, Parks and Open Spaces Project, requesting approval of Section 106 funding to support the delivery of projects and to note a proposed tree planting scheme.

The Neighbourhood Co-ordinator advised the NP that the Gaunts Ham Park and Bellevue Park Play schemes had been match funded. As a result of this, the Gaunts Ham Park allocation would now be at £60,000 and the Bellevue Park Play Schemes allocation had received an extra £8,000.

Hugh Holden expressed concern that, since the St Werburghs minor works scheme had been approved prior to the decision to divert some traffic along a number of side streets in the area and the building of St Werburghs Primary School, there had been a funnelling of the traffic into particular areas which was causing congestion.

Resolved:

(1) that the Neighbourhood Partnership noted the Environment, Parks and Open Spaces Project recommendations contained in the report, and that the Neighbourhood Committee approve (unanimously) the removal and upgrade of the current MUGA in Gaunts Ham Park at a provisional cost of £30,000, an additional award of £8,000 to Friends of Bellevue Park for play equipment (making £16,000 in total) and the funding of 11 new benches for Mina Road Park at £9,000;
(2) that the Neighbourhood Committee approves (unanimously) to commit £46,875 of Section 106 funding to support the delivery of environment, parks and open spaces projects contained in the report;
(3) that the Neighbourhood Partnership notes the proposed tree planting scheme for AELH.;
(4) that Councillors Gus Hoyt and Rob Telford in conjunction with Hugh Holden and Lori Streich investigate the concerns raised by Hugh Holden concerning the impact of St Werburghs Minor Works Scheme
outlined above and report back to the next meeting on Monday 27\textsuperscript{th} June 2016.

Action: Kurt James/Neil Burwell

46 Well Being Budget – Small Grants (Agenda Item 8)

The NP considered a report seeking approval for a number of small grant applications recommended by the Wellbeing Grants Panel.

Jon Rogers indicated that he was a member of Full Circle, one of the applications which had not been agreed.

Resolved – that the Neighbourhood Committee approves (unanimously) the following applications for the amounts indicated:

- **Babbasa** - £1,000 (Part Funded)
- **Baggator** - £483.23 (Part Funded)
- **Barton Hill Amateur Boxing Club** - £750 (Part Funded)
- **St Jude ‘s Carers, Parents, Children** - £1,140 (Fully Funded)
- **St Luke’s Crypt** - £1,876.77 (Fully Funded)

Action: Kurt James

47 Community Safety Update (Agenda Item 9)

The NP received a verbal update from Deborah Yeates on Community Safety. She made the following points:

1. Rosa Parks Lane had paid for: (a) cut backs through community payback (a scheme which was looking to build and fund a long-term relationship between school and payback once a new business manager was in place) (b) tree canopies to be lifted; (c) running 1 community tagging removal and clearing event, attended by 6 residents and (d) running and designing 2 events, attended by 43 people to select design options for the lane;
2. Sustrans will be working with residents and St Barnabas School to look at options for (a) more lighting (b) art to celebrate Rosa Parks through selection by a resident’s panel (c) landscaping – a resident had offered to landscape for free and install a wildflower area (d) options for entrances to Rosa Parks Lane;
3. Update briefings were also provided on Grosvenor Road, Dalrymple Park, Street pockets and various Summer Events;
4. Operation Blueline to tackle drug use across all Bristol had taken place. There had been a multi-agency meeting looking at enforcement and intervention safeguarding;
5. An internet resource was being developed to enable social media to talk about crime hotspots via an open forum. An NP welcomed this and referred to recent work in this area carried out by Kent County Council;
6. Days of Action had been planned and would include enforcement and arrests;
(7) St Agnes Park – drug dealing remained a problem. Whilst there was a camera on site, further information-gathering was required.

In response to NP members’ questions, the NP was advised that:

(8) Details of the summer event for Sustrans would be circulated to all relevant parties before the summer holidays;
(9) Whilst the concerns from local residents were noted that the tree canopies in Rosa Parks Lane had been rushed and without proper consultation, the work had taken place outside the nesting season and had needed to be carried out quickly to stop continuing issues with drug use;
(10) A PCSO was attached to the City Academy and was working with feeder schools to get engagement on community safety issues;
(11) Work was being carried out with the street community concerning drinking, rough sleeping and begging
(12) An existing vacancy for a beat officer in St Werburghs would soon be filled. A new operating model had been introduced in St Werburghs for PCSO’s and the visibility off officers would soon be altered to reflect this
(13) Work would shortly be taking place to address the difficulties of pavement parking for wheelchairs and the need for enforcement under the Equalities Act;
(14) It was noted that certain charities were giving out tents to the homeless in the area;
(15) Regular quarterly meetings between traders and residents and the Police had been stopped. Deborah Yeates indicated that she would investigate the reasons for this. **Action: Deborah Yeates**
(16) A strategy meeting to discuss the issue of drug dealing was in the process of being set up – Deborah Yeates indicated that she would discuss with Joyce Clarke and Del Hibbert whether there were any community groups that could be invited to this meeting. **Action: Deborah Yeates**

Resolved – that the verbal report be noted.

48 Update On Housing Sub-Group and Knightstone Housing Association (Agenda Item 10)

The Chair read out an e-mail from Matthew Collinson indicating that he was unable to attend today’s meeting but confirming that this group had met twice and would be meeting again within the next 3 to 4 weeks.

Resolved – that the verbal update be noted.

The Chair also referred to an e-mail from Lesley Nel who had given her apologies and had given the following report:

(1) Knightstone has suffered cuts as a result of the government’s new policies to Housing, development, and benefits, as a result the Individual and
Community Empowerment Team has lost 7 members of staff to redundancy effective from January 1st 2016.

(2) Further cuts have been made to our Community Grants schemes: criteria for the new system is still under appraisal, and is likely to be limited to small grants (Under £1,000), and these will be sustainment grants for community groups representing our residents, in areas we have worked in. More details will be announced on our website in April.

(3) Our position on the redevelopment of post-industrial sites – Carriageworks, Elizabeth Shaw Chocolate Factory, and the Brooks Dye Works is that we are saddened that developers are seeking to build with no or little affordable housing in their proposal, given the high needs of the people in the area – that people of disadvantaged backgrounds will not have the same opportunities as those in higher economic backgrounds. Bristol prides itself in its diversity and this move to proposals going to planning application without opportunities for all, is not conclusive to equality and diversity.

Resolved – that the verbal update be noted.

49 Neighbourhood Partnership Co-ordinator Report (Agenda Item 11)

The NP Co-ordinator introduced this report during which the following points were made:

(1) The Old Market Quarter Neighbourhood Development Plan Referendum had been approved on 25th February 2016 with an 88% Yes vote and was the first area in Bristol to go through. Councillors Maureen Hickman and Hibaq Jama were thanked for their support on this project – there would be a major increase in Planning Gain as a result (from 15% to 25%). Final approval would be made at Full Council on 15th March 2016;

(2) Introduction To Project Replicate - this scheme would provide an electric bus service and would be of tangible benefit to residents. This was a lengthy project which was currently at the Inception stage – a Project Manager would be appointed and would integrate into the local community. At this point, the project’s later operation would be outlined. It was important for residents to be assured that those groups participating (such as the Knowle West Media Centre) were aware of the needs of the local community and would be working together on this, preferably through combined work between Neighbourhood Forums. The Chair confirmed that this was a resident-led project;

(3) Easton Safer Streets Project Update – A verbal update on this work was provided by a representative of Sustrans. As part of Cycle Ambition, Bristol City Council was carrying out some work in Easton with which Sustrans had been commissioned to help and as a result of which the views of residents would be fed back to BCC. It was noted that the budget for this project was fairly modest (£140,000). Participants were able to provide feedback on the Bristol City Council website – after 4 events, these had already reached 300 comments. In response to Members’ questions concerning engagement with the Somali community and the need for the area to be widened to include other key areas of the NP (ie Junction 3 and
other parts of Ashley), the Sustrans representative indicated that she would liaise as appropriate with different NP members ie Councillor Hibaq Jama and Pete Bullard.

(4) Major Applications Update – A separate NP meeting would need to be set up to discuss major applications. **Action: Kurt James to set up an NP meeting within the next month.**

(5) Neighbourhood Plan Update – An NP member expressed concern that, at the junction of Newfoundland Road and Lower Ashley Road, Planning Officers had overridden the advice of Tree Officers concerning the cutting down of trees. It was confirmed that Legacy funding was only available for Stapleton Road;

(6) Changes to Neighbourhood Partnership Boundaries and Allocation of Section 106 and CIL to NP - the Neighbourhood Co-ordinator confirmed that, when the boundaries changed, Section 106 and CIL will be allocated within existing boundaries but future allocations will be made within the new boundaries. The Chair noted the forthcoming Council elections and thanked the NP Councillors for the work they had carried out on the NP’s behalf.

Resolved:

(1) That the proposed Neighbourhood Partnership dates for 2016/17 be noted (Monday 27th June 2016, Monday 3rd October 2016, Monday 28th November 2016 and Monday 6th March 2017

(2) That the Neighbourhood Forum updates be noted;

(3) That the Old Market Quarter neighbourhood Development Plan Referendum Update be noted;

(4) That introduction to Project Replicate be noted;

(5) That the Easton Safer Streets Project Update be noted;

(6) That the Major Applications Update be noted;

(7) That the Imagine St Pauls Update be noted;

(8) That the Neighbourhood Plan Update be noted;

(9) That the Section 106 and CIL Update be noted;

(10) That the consultation on a proposed new approach to grant funding be noted.

**Action: Kurt James (See Paragraph (4) above)**

**50 Any Other Business (Agenda Item 12)**

(1) Membership – Following a request by an NP Member, it was agreed that the Neighbourhood Co-ordinator should investigate the possibility of some of the outstanding NP vacancies being filled **Action: Kurt James**

(2) Bagatur – A meeting was taking place at Bagatur on Tuesday 8th March involving residents against Dirty Energy between 7pm to 9pm against an application from Pluto’s Limited;

(3) Chocolate Box 2.0 Community Association - Planning Application On former Elizabeth Shaw Site – **Action: Kurt James to advise NP members when this application is going to Committee**
(4) Jill Calloway – An NP member commended Jill Calloway for the work she had carried out in running the Traffic and Transport Group

(5) Malcolm X Centre – It was noted that the Board of this organisation was changing

(6) St Agnes Lodge – NP members requested that John Bos be contacted to explain what was happening concerning this site. Action: Kurt James

(7) Young Cricketers in Easton – It was noted that this organisation had raised £325,000;

(8) Traffic by Millpond School – An NP member expressed concern that there could be a serious incident at this location and requested that officers investigate traffic measures for it. Action: Kurt James

(9) Benefits – An NP member expressed concern that landlords were bearing the brunt of criticism for eviction of individuals from properties who were unable to pay following the recent Housing Benefit changes.

51 Date of Next Meeting (Agenda Item 16)

Members noted that the next meeting was scheduled for 6.30pm to 8.30pm on Monday 27th June 2016 at Unitarian Hall, Brunswick Square, Bristol BS2 8PE.

The meeting ended at 8.30pm.

CHAIR