



MY NEIGHBOURHOOD

Greater Fishponds Neighbourhood Partnership
Thursday 6th October 2016

Report of: Subgroup Chairs, Neighbourhood Co-ordinator.

Title: NP Activities- Business Report

Recommendation:

- 1- **Citywide NP Event:** NP members to note update.
- 2- **NP Equalities Review 2016:** NP members to note update.
- 3- **Wellbeing Grant Applications:** NC is asked to approve Wellbeing Grant applications received since July 2016.
- 4- **Traffic & Transport update:** NP members to note progress.
- 5- **Environment Subgroup:** NP members to note progress and NC to approve subgroup recommendations to allocate S106, Environment and Neighbourhood Budgets.
- 6- **Proposed Community Asset Transfer:** Comment on proposed Community Asset Transfer for Hillfields Community Hub, formerly known as Hillfields Youth Centre.

Part 1: Citywide NP Event:

- 1- On a hot and sunny 20th July, 47 NP members came to the Central library for the 4th Citywide NP event. The evening started with an introduction by Marg Hickman (then Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods). Roger Gimson from Bishopston, Cotham and Redland followed with an introduction to the Bristol Walking Alliance. Deana Parry from Southmead then spoke about the work they had been doing in Southmead to make parks more accessible and Lindsay Hay informed the group about the guide to investing in parks that her team is putting together.
- 2- The next topic of conversation was about NPs themselves. This took the biggest chunk of the evening, looking back at the last review and what had been achieved, and then in smaller groups 4 conversations took place exploring Communications, Engagement, the Cuts and NP structures, full report is available from Hayley Ash.

Part 2: NP Equalities Review 2016:

- 3- Equalities monitoring is an essential tool used to help identify if NPs are representatives of their neighbourhood; are addressing issues affecting different communities and are fair and equitable.
- 4- Between the periods of April 2016 to June 2016, the first quarter of this year the Neighbourhood Management team piloted new way of collecting this data. This involved completing Equalities Monitoring forms for all NP activities including online and face to face.
- 5- The exercise captured for the first time a snapshot to provide a baseline of participation on NP work. The full report across the city is available from [equalities monitoring report](#)
- 6- During this period 1,531 equalities surveys were completed across the city and NP Officers carried out 6,146 face to face engagement.
- 7- For Greater Fishponds NP we had a monitoring return of 5.4% (51 out of 943) (average return was 23.9%). The main results of that quarters monitoring are:

- I. Disabled People engagement: The percentage of disabled people engaged was lower than the Ward Census proportion.
 - II. Age – under 50 engagement: More people under the age of 50 were engaged, which is higher than the Census proportion.
 - III. Black, Asian, Minority Ethnic engagement: percentage of BME engagement was lower than the Ward Census proportion.
 - IV. Gender engagement: males were engaged at lower levels than the Census proportion and females were engaged at higher levels than the Census proportion
 - V. Sexual Orientation: there was no breakdown of sexual orientation by NP area because of low numbers. 5.09% of monitoring returns across the city were from Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender community. There are no Census statistics available for sexual orientation. The estimate for the City is 6%.
- 8- Obviously a three-month monitoring provides a variable level of the overall picture of engagement. It's affected by specific pieces of work taking part in the neighbourhood at that time and by how efficient the completion of monitoring is and who chose to complete it.
- 9- With only 5.4% returned rate, GFNP has one of the lowest completed monitoring returns. This is something we should aim to improve next year.
- 10- However, this exercise provides the first concrete information which the NP can use to set a baseline on its engagement and plan work to bring engagement closer to the real population groupings in our NP area as evidenced by the 2011 Census.

Part 3: Wellbeing Grant Applications:

- 11- The Wellbeing Grant panel met on Monday 5th September 2016.
- 12- At present the total amount of Wellbeing Grant available for 2016/17 financial year is £19,056.53.

13- In total three Wellbeing applications were assessed by the panel with the total value of £4,751. Two of the applications were submitted late. The group's recommendation is summarised in the table shown below "Funding Appraisal Top Sheet".

14- The NC is asked to approve recommendations from the Wellbeing Panel summarised in the table shown below.

Greater Fishponds NP Wellbeing Sub-group: Funding appraisal Top sheet 05/09/16				
Name of organisation	What's the funding for? Brief summary of project	Amount requested	Amount recommended	Conditions
Holy Trinity Church Stapleton	This project is aiming to provide 2 hot course meal a month for senior citizens once a month. The meals are cooked by volunteers who also provide transportation where necessary. The project is also combatting social isolation by providing a good social environment where elderly community can interact socially. The funding will be used to pay for hall hire.	£250	£250	Value for money. Conditions are: The money to pay for rent and to advertise widely.
Stoke Park Children Centre	The group would like to run ESOL Classes for parents who English is not their first language. Many of the participants face isolation, language barriers, domestic abuse and lack confidence. Funding will be used to pay for tutors and room hire.	£2,001	£0	Reapply with more information. E.g. where is it taking place, which NP priority is the project addressing and what proportion of the participants are from the GFNP area.
Fishponds Business Forum	The Fishponds Lights Project 2016 is building the success achieved in 2015. This project is aiming to enhance shopping district of the NP area. Funding will be used to pay for Fishponds Park Lights, Straits Parade/High Street Lights, supporting 2 new charity shops along Lodge Causeway, supporting 4 existing charity shops along Fishponds Rd and contribute 3-4 key sites in the area.	£2,500	£0	NP Co-ordinator expressed concern of the group's governance. Making them unqualified to receive funding.

- 15- 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. Protected characteristics the Equalities Act 2010 covers are age, disability, gender reassignment, marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex and sexual orientation.

PROJECT	CONTRIBUTION TO EQUALITIES
Holy Trinity Church Stapleton	This project is specifically targeting vulnerable elderly community members, who are one of the protected characteristics covered by the 2010 Equalities Act. The project may also work with people of faith and sex which the act also covers. Volunteers are providing transport to ensure they take part in the project.
Stoke Park Children Centre	This project is targeting people who English isn't their first language, who may well be experiencing many issues. They may well belong to number of Protected characteristics the 2010 Act covers, including race, religion and sex to name a few. The project is seeking to ensure the service is easily accessible.
Fishponds Business Forum	This is an inclusive project, which will benefit all community members irrespective of their age, race, gender, disability, faith or sexual orientation. The project will have a positive impact on community cohesion by inviting all residents from the NP area to come together for the lighting ceremony.

- 16- If the NC approves the Wellbeing subgroup's recommendation of £250 the NP will have £18,806.53 for the rest of 2016/17 financial year.
- 17- Subgroup members find it difficult to assess some applications due to lack of clarity what sometimes constitutes revenue cost and what doesn't, for example for the past two years the NP funded Holly Trinity Church's application for room hire. However this project advances number of the NP priorities, including under the Families, Young & Older People theme, Priority 1, Activity 2 "Help community groups seeking funding for community activities including fun days, luncheon clubs, and community based projects"; under the Community Cohesion & Development, P1, Activity 3: "Support and empower local residents wanting to make their neighbourhoods a better place". The project also has other addition benefits for example enhancing the wellbeing of vulnerable community members, tackling isolation.

- 18- To provide better clarity to the Wellbeing subgroup members it is recommended that room hire is exempted from revenue cost referred to in the guidance notes.
- 19- As part of the Wellbeing Subgroup members Mo Lewis, George Sloan and Richard Irwin assessed the Wellbeing applications.

Part 4: Traffic and Transport Update:

- 20- The Traffic and Transport subgroup met on Wednesday 7th Sept 2016.
- 21- Main item for discussion was the potential impact of the development of the former Blackberry Hill Hospital site. The group received an update from Jo Davis, Senior Director Bilfinger GVA and Katie Stock, TPA Consultants. They were also informed that the developers organised two days of public consultation at the Fishponds Library, Robinson House, Hockey's Lane on Wednesday 15th Sept and Thursday 16th Sept 2016.
- 22- The group were given an update on the current live scheme, which Senior Traffic Engineer is currently working on and were pleased to hear that most of the Local Traffic schemes backlog has now been cleared. Only Forest Rd scheme remains from previously funded schemes, which will be re-advertised shortly.

Part 5: Environment Subgroup

- 23- The Environment Subgroup met on Wednesday 31st August 2016.
- 24- Paul Masri-Stone explained to the group about the Litter Picker Volunteers he is involved in and their areas of work. He explained that they work in collaboration with other volunteers like the Stapleton Womble in order to be able to influence fast food outlets in the area and Bristol Waste Company (BWC). The subgroup members requested to invite BWC to the NP meeting in order for them to explain their service and how local residents could influence it. See agenda item 5.

25- Trendlewood estate was allocated £1,000 from the Environment Budget to carryout environment enhancement. Sadly no one from the estate came forward to help develop the project. Given the aim was to carry out the enhancement during the 2016/17 summer, the Environment Subgroup recommends clawing back the funding so it could be utilised on other projects. It is hereby recommended that this money is released for other projects.

26- The group discussed improving pedestrian signage in the NP area and agreed to start with ordering Discover East Bristol interpretation maps for key locations in the NP area. Following locations were recommended:

- i. Oldbury court main entrance where the paths from the pedestrian entrance and the car park footpath converge.
- ii. South Gloucester end of the railway path.
- iii. Point where Ridgeway and Railway Path converge
- iv. Point where railway path enters Fishponds from Easton.
- v. Barton Fields Charlton Road end.
- vi. It has been recommended that we change the central panel for the board due to go up in Eastville park at the Stapleton Road entrance to the Discover East Bristol Map.

27- The Neighbourhood Committee is hereby asked to approve Environment Subgroup recommendation as summarised below.

<u>2016/17 Environment Budget available 2016/17 (Subject to Above Decision (SAD))</u>			<u>£1,032</u>
<u>2016/17 Neighbourhood Budget available 2016/17</u>			<u>£41,124.75</u>
NP Plan Priority:	Activity/Description of works	Amount £	Running Balance £
Environment Ref: P1 Activity 2 Reduce ambiguous signage. Traffic & Transport: P2 New Activity 2: Create where	Install 5 Discover East Bristol interpretation Maps for above stated locations, 5 @ £550.	£2,750	£39,406.75
	Set a-side up to £250 to transfer map on to central panel of Community Notice Board.	£250	£39,156.75

necessary signage to improve none vehicle travelling mode to different parks and local public facilities			
Remaining Environment Budget			£0.00
Remaining Neighbourhood Budget			£39,156.75

- 28- Following last year's street tree replacement programme Bristol University sponsored. The group discussed and prioritised the replacement of up to 21 street tree stumps using S106 received from Gleeson House development site. A subgroup member volunteered to audit suitable location within 1 mile radius from the development site. Once this becomes available, it will be circulated to all the NP members.
- 29- The Neighbourhood Committee is hereby asked to approve Environment Subgroup recommendation as summarised below.

<u>2016/17 Neighbourhood Section 106 Parks Specific 2016/17</u>			£24,891.28
NP Plan Priority:	Activity/Description of works	Amount £	Running Balance £
Environment Ref: P3 Activity 3: Improve habitats: Secure funding to deliver Tree Plans. New Activity: Seek opportunities for replacing and planting additional street trees.	To contribute the planting of up to 21 trees in areas 1 mile radius from Gleeson House, Goffton Drive development, 21 @ £295. This will be financed from Gleeson House development ref N0-12/05495 / Gleeson House, Goffenton Drive, Fishponds / ...SB20. More information about the locations will be made available.	£6,195	£18,696.28
Remaining Section 106 Parks Specific			£18,696.28

30- The group also discussed proposal to contribute the planting of 20 trees in Eastville Park during the 2016/17 planting season. TreeBristol managed to fundraise from private sponsorship funding to plant 5 trees, however require funding for further 15 trees. Appendix 1 shows quote received for planting the remaining 15 trees.

31- The Neighbourhood Committee is hereby asked to approve Environment Subgroup recommendation as summarised below.

2016/17 Neighbourhood Budget available 2016/17 (SAD)			£39,156.75
NP Plan Priority:	Activity/Description of works	Amount £	Running Balance £
Environment Ref: P3 Activity 4 develop & deliver tree planting schemes in Eastville Park and Frome Valley and Hillfields.	To contribute the planting of 20 trees in Eastville Park, 15 @ £765.	£11,475	£27,681.75
Remaining Neighbourhood Budget			£27,681.75

Part 6: Proposed Community Asset Transfer for Former Hillfields Youth Centre.

32- New Lease of Hillfields Youth Centre, Thicket Ave, Fishponds, Bristol BS16 4EH to Hillfields Young Mothers Group and Hillfields Community Trust. (HYMG/HCT)

33- BACKGROUND:

- i. The Hillfields Youth Centre is a two - storey purpose built youth centre facility which was managed by Bristol City Council until 2014.
- ii. Hillfields Young Mothers Group has managed the lettings at the centre on a temporary lease since 2014.
- iii. During December 2015 the council invited expressions of interest from voluntary/community organisations in managing the property; the proposal by the HYMG/HCT was selected, and they have since submitted a

detailed business plan proposing development of a community hub.

34- PROPOSAL:

- i. The council proposes to grant a new 15 year Lease to the HYMG/HCT.
- ii. The Lease will be subject to a Service Agreement, which will set out a range of services that HYMG/HCT will deliver each year from the property; this will include a requirement to make the building available for hire by other community groups.
- iii. The rent will be reduced to a peppercorn for as long as the Service Agreement is complied with.
- iv. HYMG/HCT will be responsible for the upkeep of the property and for all outgoings associated with managing and operating it, including all repairs, maintenance and insurance;

35- PROCESS:

- i. The Greater Fishponds Neighbourhood Partnership is asked to make any comments on the proposals, either in support or against, and to briefly set out the grounds for its views.
- ii. Officers in the Asset Strategy Team will then prepare a report for the Service Director Property, who will make a final decision on the proposed CAT as soon as possible.
- iii. It is hoped that the Lease can be agreed during January 2017.

36- For further information please contact:

- i. John Bos: 0117 903 6440 or john.bos@bristol.gov.uk
- ii. For more details about the CAT process followed for this property, please visit:
<https://www.bristol.gov.uk/schools-learning-early-years/community-asset-transfer>