



Minutes of St George Neighbourhood Partnership 7.00 pm, 12 October 2016

Ward Councillors

Councillor Fabian Breckels, St George Troopers Hill;
Councillor Steve Pearce, St George Central;
Councillor Nicola Beech, St George Central;
Councillor Asher Craig, St George West;

Partners/representatives of people who live and work in the Neighbourhood Partnership (NP) area

Rob Acton-Campbell, Chair of NP and Friends of Troopers Hill
Tamsin Harcourt, resident, St George Central ward
Chris Deane, resident, St George Troopers Hill ward
Mike Kimber, resident, St George Troopers Hill ward
Diane Jones, resident, St George West ward
Nigel Williams, resident, St George West ward
Grenville Johnson, Kensington Road residents association and Neighbourhood Watch
Fiona Russell, Meadow Vale Community Association
Geoff Reeson, Friends of Dundry Park
Susan Acton-Campbell, Champion of Wellbeing sub-group

Officers /others in attendance:

Abdulrazak Dahir, NP Co-ordinator, BCC
Gill Calloway, Neighbourhood Officer, BCC
Ian Hird, Democratic Services, BCC
Rachel Beatty, Commissioning Manager, Early Intervention and Targeted Services, BCC
Tina Bond, Creative Youth Networks - Bristol Youth Links East Delivery Manager
Sandy Hore-Ruthven, Chief Executive – Creative Youth Networks
4 young people from Meadow Vale estate also attended the meeting.

1. Welcome and introductions

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Richard Curtis, Jo Curtis, Philip Bird, Mary Taylor, Linda Callazo, Veronica Dvorackova, and Inspector Deborah Yeates.

3. Declarations of interest

Cllr Beech declared an interest in relation to section 4 of agenda item 8 (NP activities / business report – proposal from Meadow Vale Steering Group) relating to her role as a member of the Meadow Vale Steering Group. Cllr Beech did not participate in the taking of the Neighbourhood Committee decision on this matter.

4. Minutes of previous meeting

RESOLVED -

That the minutes of the meeting of the St George NP held on 22 June 2016 be confirmed as a correct record, subject to the following amendment:

- **Minute no. 9 (AGM report): amend part 1 b. of the resolution to read:
“Each sub-group champion should *automatically* be a member of the partnership, i.e. as new sub-groups/champions emerge, they will automatically join the partnership.”**

5. Action tracker

The NP reviewed the action tracker, and noted the following:

Page 15 – Bristol Walking Alliance: A meeting was to be arranged aimed at linking the Bristol Walking Alliance activities in with the NP’s activities (on the basis that this issue/activity is wider than the remit of the Traffic and Transport Sub-Group).

Page 16 - Remembrance Sunday ceremony: This year’s ceremony would now be held in Queen Square. This news was generally welcomed by partners.

Page 16 - Informal NP meeting: This would be held at 7.00 pm on Monday 24 October 2016 at St George library. Cllr Craig advised that at its recent meeting on 3 October, the Neighbourhood Scrutiny Commission had received a positioning statement / presentation regarding neighbourhood partnerships. She would arrange for a copy of this presentation to be circulated ahead of the 24 October informal meeting.

Page 17 – Mental health: Cllr Craig confirmed that she would arrange for information to be circulated about the new approach being adopted by the police.

6. Correction to minutes of meeting held on 25 May 2016

The NP agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 25 May 2016 should be amended as follows:

Minute no. 5 (NP activities – business) – to be amended to reflect the fact that the Neighbourhood Committee had resolved to allocate £25,000 of Section 106 funding to Meadow Vale park as match funding for improvements to the play area (as recommended by the Environment sub-group).

7. Chair's business

On behalf of the NP, the Chair extended congratulations to Grenville Johnson and all those involved regarding the success achieved by St George in Bloom in Bristol at the RHS Britain in Bloom South West awards event held at the Somerset county cricket ground on 6 October.

Grenville Johnson thanked local community groups, the NP and officers for their ongoing support for St George in Bloom, and advised that the following awards had been received:

- St. George in Bloom received GOLD in the Pennant town / city category for the third consecutive year.

- The following local community groups also received RHS 'It's your Neighbourhood' awards:
 - Bristol East Allotments group received an "Outstanding" award.
 - St Aidan's Allotments in St. George received an "Outstanding" award.
 - Friends of Troopers Hill received an "Outstanding" award.
 - Kensington Road Residents Association received an "Outstanding" award.
 - Air Balloon Hill Primary School received an "Outstanding" award.
 - Friends of Kingsway Youth "Hope for the future" received a "Thriving" award.
 - In addition, Air Balloon Hill Primary School in St. George received the Clem Preece Memorial cup for an outstanding effort by a school in promoting South West in Bloom, and Friends of Troopers Hill received the Sutton Seeds cup for an outstanding area of nature conservation.

Other members of the NP expressed their appreciation of the efforts of Grenville Johnson and all others involved. Representatives from St George in Bloom would also be attending the national RHS Britain in Bloom awards ceremony on 14 October as St George in Bloom had been selected as a 2016 national RHS Britain in Bloom finalist.

8. Public forum

The NP received and noted a public forum statement regarding consultation on changes to bus services. It was noted that services 6 and 7 were important services for the area. The Traffic and Transport sub-group had responded to the First subsidised bus route consultation.

9. Bristol Youth Links update

The NP considered an update report on the progress achieved by the Creative Youth Network (CYN) in the area.

Tina Bond and Rachel Beatty highlighted the following points:

- a. CYN's services (under the relevant part of the Youth Links contract) broadly covered the St George and Greater Fishponds NP areas.
- b. Engagement work included new work at Meadow Vale community centre, where a new youth group had been established.
- c. Much of the work involved a series of "one to one" development sessions with young people following referral (referrals originated mainly from the early help team or social workers). These targeted sessions were aimed at building individual confidence and self-esteem.
- d. Quarterly feedback was sought from the young people concerned about their experiences.
- e. CYN activities were monitored robustly. They met their key targets, taking into account the area demographic, and there was good evidence to demonstrate the effectiveness of their youth engagement work.
- f. The current Youth Links contract was due to finish in 2018. The re-commissioning process would be starting soon, and the views of the NP would be very much welcomed as part of the consultation that would take place.

- g. CYN were involved with a bid for new Lottery funds to support investment in youth work. This could potentially result in £35-50k becoming available for this NP area, so the NP's views would be welcomed on where such investment could best be targeted.

Main points raised/noted in discussion:

- a. The development of the youth group at Meadow Vale community centre was welcomed.
- b. It was suggested (noting that CYN did not have any resource for outreach work) that leaflets could be produced, for distribution to young people in St George's Park via play rangers, to give them the opportunity to be aware of CYN activity.
- c. It was noted that there was a citywide specialist service that may be able to assist in tackling issues around drug and alcohol misuse after dark in St George's Park.

Three young people then spoke to partners, and drew attention in particular to ongoing issues about vehicles being driven too fast and dangerously on Meadow Vale, and about the need for more/improved local youth facilities.

In discussion, it was suggested that local people should consider taking up a community speed watch initiative. Susan Acton-Campbell advised she would be happy to be a contact point to assist local people in finding out further information about how to do this.

Cllr Craig asked the young people to send her an email setting out the full story of their experiences, as per the presentations they had given at today's meeting – she would then take these matters up with the Mayor, Marvin Rees and the Council's Chief Executive.

RESOLVED –

That the report and the above information/comments be noted.

10. NP activities - business report

The activities / business report was considered as follows:

Part 1 - Citywide NP event:

The update on the citywide event held on 20 July was noted. The Chair and members of the partnership also congratulated Cllr Craig on her recent appointment as Cabinet member for Neighbourhoods.

Part 2 - NP equalities review 2016:

The update on the equalities monitoring review was noted. The outcomes of the review effectively set a benchmark against which future reviews could be assessed, and it would be important to take the key findings into account in taking forward the NP engagement plan.

The key findings included:

- Engagement with disabled people: the percentage of disabled people engaged with was lower than the NP census proportion.
- Engagement with black and minority ethnic people: the percentage of engagement with these groups was lower than the NP census proportion.
- Gender engagement: males were engaged in line with the NP census proportion but female engagement fell below the NP census proportion.

The full report was available for inspection.

Part 3 - Operation sub-group update:

The update report was noted. As a point of clarification, it was also noted that the St George in Bloom group had received a financial donation from the St George Town Team, and had received support from the Aviva Insurance community outreach team.

Part 4 – Meadow Vale steering group proposal:

The update on the progress made by the steering group was noted.

The NP and Neighbourhood Committee considered a funding proposal from the steering group.

Cllr Beech declared an interest in this particular proposal relating to her role as a member of the Meadow Vale Steering Group, and did not participate in the taking of this decision.

The Neighbourhood Committee

RESOLVED:

That a contribution of £3,308 be approved from the neighbourhood budget towards the cost of hiring professional support (architect) to pull together the requirements for a full planning application to develop Meadow Vale community centre.

Part 5 - Environment sub-group update:

The update report was noted.

The NP and Neighbourhood Committee considered a proposal from the sub-group to ring-fence £15,000 of the remaining Section 106 funding for improving provision at Colebrook Road green space.

Main points raised/noted:

1. An additional document was circulated setting out summary details of Section 106 spending by park in the NP area, from December 2011 to May 2016. Whilst noting this information, the committee agreed it would be useful for a full, detailed document on this spend to be prepared and circulated.
2. A separate meeting would be arranged, involving Cllr Craig (as Cabinet member for Neighbourhoods), to discuss future investment/improvements that might be progressed at St George's Park.
3. Grenville Johnson advised that he had been collating suggestions for a permanent, local memorial for the late, former councillor Ron Stone. These suggestions would be shared at the next Operation Sub-Group. At a future point, a decision was likely to be needed about ring-fencing a sum to meet the anticipated memorial costs as the proposal (once agreed) began to be progressed.

Action: The Chair to provide details of Section 106 expenditure to committee members.

Action: The NP Co-ordinator / Cllr Craig to organise and facilitate a separate meeting between Friends of St George's Park and Cllr Craig.

The Neighbourhood Committee

RESOLVED:

That £15,000 of the remaining Section 106 funding be ring-fenced for improving Colebrook Road green space, either as match funding for play equipment or for other uses to improve provision at Colebrook Road green space.

Part 6 - Traffic and transport sub-group update:

The update report was noted.

The NP and Neighbourhood Committee considered a proposal from the sub-group to allocate £12,500 to the Lyppiatt Road local traffic scheme (i.e. the priority scheme for this NP for 2016-17).

Main points raised/noted:

1. At their recent meeting held on 3 October, the Ashley, Easton and Lawrence Hill NP had agreed to fund 50% of this scheme, estimated to cost £25,000.
2. Whilst indicating support for the proposal, Neighbourhood Committee members noted that whilst they were being asked to agree a financial allocation for the scheme, the final detail was subject to consultation and further development in light of the consultation. The impact of the current, proposed residential development in Lyppiatt Road also needed to be taken into account in terms of the timing of works to be carried out on this scheme.

Noting and taking account of the above, the Neighbourhood Committee

RESOLVED:

That £12,500 be allocated to the Lyppiatt Road local traffic scheme (to progress the feasibility design scheme).

Part 7 - Wellbeing grants

The NP and Neighbourhood Committee considered the recommendations from the Wellbeing sub-group.

Main points raised/noted:

1. In relation to the application from Playing Out CIC, the aim was to work towards sustainability with these schemes supported by local parents / volunteers in the NP area. It would be useful to circulate a map showing the areas that currently had Playing Out schemes. It was also important to look to encourage/facilitate the development of these schemes, working with parents/volunteers in those parts of the NP area that had not yet seen the development of these schemes.
2. In discussion on the application from The Lamplighters, it was noted that Meadow Vale Community Association would be advised of the contact details of a local community artist, who could potentially assist with a workshop event.
3. It was suggested that consideration should be given to developing a Christmas lights proposal for 2017. It was noted it would be essential to secure support (and organisational assistance) from local traders in taking forward this idea.

Action: Playing Out project to encourage people from the Speedwell area to take up the project offer.
Action: Fiona Russell to contact Lamplighters about the Meadow Vale Community Centre involvement in the project.

Noting and taking into account the above, the Neighbourhood Committee

RESOLVED:

1. That £2,000 be awarded to Playing Out CIC to fund paying for a local project worker to support existing local Playing Out schemes, support a primary school to start a new scheme, network with local groups to spread the Playing Out idea and encourage take up, and to provide road closure kits to new Playing Out streets. The aim is to work towards sustainability with Playing Out purely supported by volunteers in the NP area.

Condition(s): Publicity to be shared with webteam@stgeorgenp.org.uk when a reach across St George is needed.

2. That £2,671 be awarded to Meadow Vale Community Association to fund improving the look and facilities of the community centre, to make it easier to hire out and to enable many activities to be carried out there.

Condition(s): When the work is done, advertising for hire of the community centre to be done locally and comprehensively, including on local community noticeboards.

3. That £1,865 be awarded to The Lamplighters to fund working with local schools and community groups to create lanterns on the theme of “The World in Lights” culminating in a lantern procession on 2 December, from Redfield Educate Together Primary Academy to and along Church Road and back.

Condition(s): Publicity to be shared with webteam@stgeorgenp.org.uk

Part 8 – Update report on fundraising consultant

The update report was noted

The NP and Neighbourhood Committee considered a request to allocate £295.55 as top-up funding to the £10,000 allocated to the fund raising consultant.

An additional document was circulated, providing a summary of the successful fund raising activity undertaken by the fund raising consultant, Viv Brinson, on behalf of Meadow Vale Community Association and Friends of Dundry Park. Partners expressed their appreciation of the expertise and highly effective work that had been carried out by Viv in securing funds to support local projects and schemes. A fund raising workshop had been planned to capture good practice from this experience, but did not materialise. It was noted that Voscur was contracted to support and build the capacity of local community groups.

It was suggested it would be beneficial to have a fund raising session, amalgamating the Wellbeing funding process and learning from the experiences of Meadow Vale, and Friends of Dundry Park and Troopers Hill.

Action: The NP Co-ordinator and Wellbeing sub-group champion to organise this session.

Noting and taking account of the above, the Neighbourhood Committee

RESOLVED:

That £295.55 be allocated as top-up funding to the £10,000 allocated to the fundraising consultant.

11. NP engagement plan

The NP considered a report setting out a draft engagement plan.

An updated version of the draft engagement plan was circulated.

It was noted that the engagement plan was “work in progress” and that partners should send comments to Gill Calloway, Neighbourhood Officer. The draft plan would also be submitted to the Communications sub-group for discussion and consideration.

In light of the above, it was agreed that detailed consideration and discussion of the draft engagement plan should be deferred to the next NP meeting.

12. NP Plan update report

The NP noted the latest update report on the NP plan.

It was also noted that the police had provided additional information, highlighting the need to remind people to lock doors to their property (including garages and sheds) to help prevent “opportunistic” burglary taking place.

13. Other business - for information

- Jo Webster-Green was stepping down from her involvement in NP activities. On behalf of the NP, the Chair expressed thanks and appreciation of Jo’s contribution.
- Chris Deane raised a concern about a case where it was alleged the Council had not installed a path in accordance with the required, agreed specification. It was agreed that Chris should document the concerns in writing and send this document to Cllr Craig. Cllr Craig would then be able to investigate the matter in her capacity as Cabinet member for Neighbourhoods.
- Susan Acton-Campbell advised that all partners would be very welcome to attend the official celebration event for the opening of the new play area on Troopers Hill field on Saturday 22 October.
- Diane Jones encouraged anyone interested to contact her if they were interested in being involved with a Friends group for St George library.
- Cllr Craig briefly outlined details about the Mayor’s Clean Streets campaign. A proposal would also be discussed at the Environment sub-group about encouraging volunteer litter picking groups, to tackle identified litter “hot spots.”
- Cllr Beech advised that enforcement action was now being considered to tackle the ongoing fly-tipping / waste problems at 121-123 Bell Hill Road.

Meeting ended at 9.10 pm

CHAIR _____

