



**ST GEORGE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP
7.00 PM ON 13TH MARCH 2012
AT SUMMERHILL METHODIST CHURCH HALL,
5 AIR BALLOON ROAD, ST. GEORGE, BRISTOL BS5 8LB**

PRESENT:

MEMBERS OF THE PARTNERSHIP

P	Councillor Ron Stone	St George West
A	Councillor Peter Hammond	St George West
P	Councillor Fabian Breckels	St George East
P	Councillor Alex Pearce	St George East
P	Philip Bird	Resident St George West
P	Jonathan Usher	Resident St George West
P	Judith Price	Resident St George East
P	Michael Deadman	Resident St George East
P	Margaret Gray	Bristol Equalities Representative
P	Susan Acton-Campbell	Friends of Troopers Hill
P	Grenville Johnson	Kensington Rd Residents Association & NW
A	Ann Radnedge	Chair, Meadow Vale Community Assoc
P	Richard Curtis	Church Rd Action Group
A	James Billinghamurst	Littleescapes

OFFICERS:

P	Abdulrazak Dahir	BCC, Area Co-ordinator
P	Ruth Kenrick	BCC, Democratic Services
A	Police Inspector Graham Fox	Avon & Somerset Police
P	Denise James	Clean and Green
P	Police Sergeant Darren Warr	Avon & Somerset Police
P	Rose Richards	Service Manager Youth, play and Outdoor Education
P	Jennifer Mackley	Green Space Strategy Co-ordinator
P	Shaun Taylor	Area Manager, Highways and Traffic, Transport Service
P	Andrew Spicer	Senior Traffic Engineer, Transport and Traffic Services

OTHER ATTENDEES:

P	Robert Acton- Campbell	Friends of Troopers Hill and Environment Champion
P	F Salter	Resident
P	Margaret Clements	Friends of St George's Park (FOSGP)
P	A Mead	Resident
P	Len Hynam	Resident
P	Michelle Watkins	FOSGP
P	Marie Burke	Park Keeper St George's Park
P	Sandy Hore-Ruthven	Creative Youth Network
P	Sally Shenton	FOSGP

1. CHAIRING ARRANGEMENTS

Grenville Johnson was Chair of the Neighbourhood Partnership (NP) (agenda items 1-5 and 10-12)

Cllr Ron Stone was Chair of the Neighbourhood Committee (NC) (agenda items 6-9)

2. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

All were welcomed and introductions made. The Chairman of the Neighbourhood Partnership read out a thank you note received from a resident of St George who was very appreciative of the work of this partnership to deliver improvements to the local area. It was agreed that an acknowledgement would be sent on behalf of the Partnership. **Action AD.**

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr Peter Hammond, Inspector Graham Fox and Ann Radnedge.

4. MINUTES OF PARTNERSHIP MEETING HELD ON 6TH DECEMBER 2011

P9 Minute 5, second bullet point – The word 'place' should follow the word 'takes' in the first sentence.

- In the second sentence the word 'detach' should read detached.

P10 Minute 6, first bullet point – It was agreed that this sentence would be clarified and re-worded as it was unclear what it meant.

P14 Minute 11, second bullet point – It was clarified that a small subgroup of the Wellbeing Subgroup would make up the Community First Panel for St George West. It was also clarified that the Terms of Reference for the Wellbeing subgroup would not be affected so the reference to an amendment being required should be deleted from the minutes.

P15 Minute 11, fourth bullet point – It was confirmed that the minutes of the last meeting of the Operations subgroup had been sent to AD to circulate to members of the NP for their information, however they had not been circulated. **Action AD to circulate minutes.**

The Neighbourhood Partnership Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 6th December 2012 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chair, subject to the amendments noted above. Action RK

5. BRISTOL YOUTH LINKS

The NP received a verbal report of Rose Richards, Service Manager, Youth, Play and Outdoor Education (agenda item no. 5) relating to Bristol Youth Links.

Rose Richards explained that existing Bristol Youth Services were delivered by over 60 separate contracts which was a large number to manage. These services were also insufficiently integrated, unable to share information and avoid duplication. The BYL Project Board therefore propose to implement a radical approach to commissioning all BYL services for 2012 in order to secure improved services that support children and young people to achieve excellent outcomes and that are good value for money.

Rose Richards explained that the draft commissioning plan includes an outline specification of what will be required from providers to successfully secure funding to deliver BYL Services. The specification is based on needs analysis of the local area and NPs were being invited to be involved in this process. An event for neighbourhood partnerships will be taking place on Saturday 14th April at Bristol Cathedral Choir School from 1-4pm and the Greater Fishponds and St George East & West partnership are welcome to send appropriate representatives. A limited number of representatives from each NP will be required which will be organised by the Area Co-ordinator.

Neighbourhood Partnerships would also have the opportunity to meet prospective providers at a market stall evening event to be arranged at the end of May, date to be confirmed in due course.

The following responses were provided to questions raised by NP members:-

- For activities funded by the council there was an expectation that young people would be involved in shaping and informing the service provision. This also formed a key element of the tender specification and quality assurance will be retained by the council's in-house team.
- Youth services had previously been delivered to 13 – 19 year olds but this has now been extended under the commissioning plan to include services for 8 –12 year olds. Where appropriate to offer these services to younger age groups, they would be interlinked where possible.

Sandy Hore-Ruthven Chief Executive of Creative Youth Network introduced himself to the NP. The Creative Youth Network offers young people the opportunity to transform themselves through the arts and CYN will be bidding to deliver some of the services contained within the commissioning plan. Sandy Hore-Ruthven indicated that he looked forward to future dialogue with the NP about the needs of young people in the local area.

The Chairman of the Neighbourhood Partnership thanked Rose Richards for her useful update and for giving up her time to attend the meeting.

In view of the public interest in agenda item 8, it was agreed that this item would be taken next on the agenda followed by item 9 as they were likely to need more time for debate.

6. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

7. PARKS AND GREEN SPACE STRATEGY SURPLUS LAND DECISION

The Chairman of the Neighbourhood Committee explained the background to the report and indicated that he had Chaired the cross party working group which had recommended to Council that Neighbourhood Committees should make the final decision on land declared as surplus within their relevant NP area. He pointed out, however that the final report to be considered by the NP included a

proviso that all sites within the NP area had to be declared as surplus in order for the NP to receive a maximum of 70% of the value of the land, if sold. He indicated that as far as he was concerned this was not the intention of the cross party working group and that the NP should receive a 70% return on each individual site, if sold. He indicated that if the Neighbourhood Committee decided to declare any of the land listed as surplus, it would be with a caveat that the Executive Member/Cabinet re-consider the incentive scheme.

The Neighbourhood Partnership received a report of Jennifer Mackley, Green Space Strategy Co-ordinator (agenda item no. 8) which asked the Neighbourhood Committee to decide whether or not the sites listed were surplus to requirements for use as green space for recreation and could therefore be sold to raise money to re-invest in remaining parks and green space citywide and locally. The facts had been presented, however there were no officer recommendations within the report.

The following responses were provided by Members and Jennifer Mackley to questions raised on the general process

- In Feb 2008 the Council adopted a green space strategy with aspirations to raise the quality of Bristol's parks. However, as parks was not a budget priority of the Council the strategy adopted the principle of selling some surplus land to fund on-going investment into parks.
- If the sites are not declared surplus and are still required for recreational purposes, it is expected they will be designated as 'Important Open Space' in the Site Allocations and Development Management, Development Plan document. If this document is agreed by Council the policy will prevent the land being developed for the next 20 years.

Jennifer Mackley circulated an update on the legal implications of the report and asked the Neighbourhood Committee to take this into account when making its decision.

The four sites were considered consecutively and in each case Jennifer Mackley read out a summary of the comments received in response to public consultation as part of the Area Green Space Plan consultation which took place from June – October 2010.

1) Part of Furber Road Open Space

The following main issues were noted during the debate:-

- The number of responses to the consultation had been low, with the majority of views to retain the site.

- Residents in this area were not within easy access of St George's Park.

The general consensus of the Neighbourhood Partnership was that the site should be retained.

Cllr Breckels proposed that the site be retained which was seconded by Cllr Stone.

Upon a vote being taken the Neighbourhood Committee Resolved that the part of Furber Road Open Space identified was not surplus to requirements for use as green space for recreation and should therefore be retained by the council.

2) Gladstone Street Children's Playground

The following main issues were noted during the debate:-

- The site was constrained and unsuitable for future development
- The site was currently under used. With its close proximity to the new dementia home, it was suggested that the space could be retained for use as a seating area. It was noted that St George and Netham Park had been prioritised for future investment within the St George NP Green Investment Plan, so any future investment in this space would take a low priority. In response it was suggested that other funding streams could be explored and perhaps local residents could be encouraged to take ownership of a project for the site.

The general consensus of the Neighbourhood Partnership was that the site should be retained.

Cllr Stone proposed that the site be retained and that the NP work with the local community to look at opportunities to develop the site which was seconded by Cllr Breckels

Upon a vote being taken the Neighbourhood Committee Resolved that Gladstone Street Children's Play Ground was not surplus to requirements for use as green space for recreation and should therefore be retained by the council. It was also agreed that the NP would work with the local community to look at opportunities to develop this site.

3) Part of Plummer's Hill

The following main issues were noted during the debate:-

- The majority of the responses to the consultation were against any future sale of the land as this open space was valued and regularly used. Councillors on the NP felt that they should support the views of the local residents.
- The area has had issues with anti-social behaviour in the past and any future investment/development could be under threat of vandalism.

The general consensus of the Neighbourhood Partnership was that the site should be retained.

Cllr Stone proposed that the site be retained and this was seconded by Cllr Breckels.

Upon a vote being taken the Neighbourhood Committee Resolved that the part of Plummer's Hill identified was not surplus to requirements for use as green space for recreation and should therefore be retained by the council.

4) Terrell Gardens

The following main issues were noted during the debate:

- The land in question was small and restricted so difficult to see how any sizeable development would fit in to the area.
- Views of the NP mirrored the responses of the local residents which were split between potentially selling off the site or retaining it.

Councillor Stone proposed that as the site was so small and had no particular recreational use it was surplus to requirements, however this was not seconded.

Councillor Pearce proposed that the site be retained and this was seconded by Cllr Breckels.

Upon a vote being taken the Neighbourhood Committee Resolved that Terrell Gardens was not surplus to requirements for use as green space for recreation and should therefore be retained by the council.

The Chairman of the Neighbourhood Partnership thanked Jennifer Mackley for her professional support during the discussion of this report.

8. DEVOLVED TRANSPORT SCHEMES 2012/13

Jonathan Usher declared an interest in this item as he was on secondment to the Highways and Traffic, Transport Service and did not take part in the discussion.

The Neighbourhood Partnership received a report of Shaun Taylor, Area Manager, Highways and Traffic (agenda item no. 9) agreeing the 2012/13 work programmes for:

- i) Footway resurfacing
- ii) Carriageway surface dressing; and
- iii) Prioritisation of the Section 106 (monies from development) transport specific schemes.

Local Traffic Schemes

The Neighbourhood Committee supported the recommendations of the St George Traffic and Transport Subgroup and agreed to defer the consideration of the 2012/13 work programme for local traffic schemes until the outcome of the feasibility schemes funded from the 2011/12 devolved budget were known. A report would be presented to the NP in due course.

It was noted that approval of the Minor Signs and Lines budget was missing from the subgroup recommendation. This was that £1,500 be delegated to officers to use their discretion to respond to local priorities.

The Neighbourhood Committee Resolved:

- 1) to defer the consideration of the 2012/13 work programme for local traffic schemes to a future meeting**
- 2) that £1500 be approved for minor lines and signs within the NP area under officers discretion**

Footway resurfacing - £42000 to spend

Following discussion the NP felt that Kingsway took priority over the other schemes listed. It was recognised that the cost of the scheme (£46,000) was more than was available to spend however it was felt that the majority of the scheme could be implemented with the hope that the

shortfall could be made up somewhere during the course of the process or topped up by next years allocation.

The Neighbourhood Committee Resolved that the following schemes be agreed for 2012/13:

F2 – Kingsway, St George East £46,000

Carriageway Surface Dressing

A resident queried why Cherry Orchard Lane had not been prioritised as it was in a very poor condition. The lane was unsuitable for Heavy Goods vehicles and yet the sign had been removed which encouraged them to continue to use this route. Officers agreed to make an inspection and look at re-instating the sign if it was possible.

The Neighbourhood Committee Resolved that the following schemes be agreed for 2012/13:

- 1. C1 – Bell Hill Road (Battenburg Rd to Queen St, George West (£10,000)**
- 2. C2 - Nags Head Hill (Troopers Hill Road to Kingsway), St George West (£10,000)**

The general comment was made that it was unfair to expect the NP to choose between schemes that all needed to be done and where the priority as far as residents were concerned would be dependant on where the schemes were in relation to where they lived. The report was very detailed and of a technical nature which made it difficult to make a decision without having professional knowledge. Officers agreed to take these comments on board, however indicated that some work was already in progress to review the process for next year.

Section 106

The Neighbourhood Committee supported the recommendations of the St George Traffic and Transport Subgroup.

In response to a question regarding the amount of funding taken up by feasibility studies into proposed schemes, officers confirmed that some elements were mandatory and had to be undertaken.

The Neighbourhood Committee Resolved that the following schemes be agreed for 2012/13:

S1 - Pile Marsh

S2 – Weavers Mill, Blackswarth Road, Crews Hole

S3 – Former Blackswarth Road Prefab Site, St George

S5 – Crews Hole Road, St George

(S5 should be linked to S2 and focus on road safety issues including traffic speeds, street lighting and pedestrian improvements. If at all possible, cycling improvements should also be made.)

9. WELLBEING REPORT

The Neighbourhood Partnership received a report from the Area Co-ordinator (agenda item no. 7) which set out the financial position to date.

The following main issues were noted during the discussion that took place:

- Bristol Sikh Sangat FC – it was clarified that the football tournament to be held at the City Academy would be open to all members of the community (not just Sikhs) so fully inclusive.
- Sunday Night @ George's, Crofts End Church – It was noted that the venue was right on the border of Greater Fishponds so it was anticipated that this NP would make a contribution, however it was felt that most users would be from St George West. As part of the monitoring process audiences will be asked for their post codes to inform any future funding of the community facilities at Croft End Church.
- Church Road Lamp Post hanging baskets – it was suggested that in view of the predicted water shortage the plants to be used should be chosen carefully. In response it was confirmed that BCC Parks department would be working with the action group to create self watering hanging baskets so the situation would be managed.

The Neighbourhood Committee Resolved:

- 1. that the financial report be noted;**
- 2. that the Wellbeing Panel Summary Appraisal Sheets be noted;**
- 3. that £500 be awarded to Bristol Sikh Sangat FC from the contingency fund; and**
- 4. that the following applications be approved for funding when the NP receives the allocation for 2012/13 in April 2012**

- Crofts End Church - £420 (unless Greater Fishponds NP can not contribute then £600)
- Church Road Lamp Post Hanging Baskets - £450

10. NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP ACTION PLAN

The Neighbourhood Partnership received a report from the Area Co-ordinator (agenda item no. 10).

The Neighbourhood Partnership Resolved that the St George NP action plan be noted.

11. ST. GEORGE NEIGHBOURHOOD PARTNERSHIP (SGNP) REPORT

The Neighbourhood Partnership received a report from NP members (agenda item no. 11) which provided an update on a number of issues since the last meeting.

The following main issues were noted during the discussion that took place:

- Joint Wellbeing Review Meeting – This meeting had been open to all NP members and had been well attended. The purpose of the meeting was to review the Wellbeing process and new NP members indicated that they had found the meeting useful.
- Operations Sub-group TOR – It was noted that the links included in the TOR needed to be updated. **Action AD.** The suggestion had been made by the Service Director Neighbourhood and Communities that all four Councillors be on this subgroup, however the NP agreed that this was over representation and not necessary.
- Environment Sub-group recommendations – It was clarified that the NP did not have the authority to put in place a Bye-Law for St George Park however if it supported the recommendations of the Environment Sub-group it would add weight to the case to be considered by the council. It was noted that due to the legal process involved, it will take several months for any bylaw to be put in place. However, there were a number of measures proposed to manage the situation in the interim period including increased signage, security checks for a trial period and proactive engagement with the fishermen.
- Development Sub-group – Unfortunately, this group cannot currently commit the time necessary to continue to run the group effectively and it was agreed that it be suspended until either new

volunteers join the group or they have more time available. Some excellent work had been undertaken to date (Appendix D of the report) and the NP wished to put on record its thanks to this sub-group.

- Celebrating Age Festival - Information about this festival for people of 50+ would be sent to Beehive and Link Age. **Action AD.**
- Parking Services – The NP still had a number of questions which had not been answered in the briefing note (Appendix E of the report) and it was agreed that an officer from Parking Services would be invited to the next meeting. **Action AD.**
- Meadowvale Shrine – AD pointed out that there was an error in the report relating to the percentage of respondents who would like the shrine moved. The percentage was 60% and not 70% as stated.

The Neighbourhood Partnership Resolved that:-

- 1) the recommendations of the joint Operation and Wellbeing sub-group be approved (Appendix A of the report)**
- 2) the TOR of the Operations Sub-group' be approved (Appendix B of the report)**
- 3) the recommendations of the Environment Sub-group be endorsed (Appendix C)**
- 4) the report be noted**

12. PUBLIC FORUM BUSINESS (Items not associated with an agenda item)

None

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting would be held on Tuesday 26th June 2012 at 7.00 pm at Summerhill Methodist Church, 5 Air Balloon Road, Bristol BS5 8LB.

(The meeting ended at 9.45 pm)

CHAIR