

**BRISLINGTON COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP (BCP)
OPEN MEETING
MONDAY 12 APRIL 2010**

Minutes of the meeting, held at Wicklea Youth Centre

Present

David Waters, Chair, BCP
Councillor Barbara Lewis, Brislington East ward councillor
Councillor Peter Main, Brislington West ward councillor
Councillor Jackie Norman, Brislington West ward councillor
Angela Piccini, Secretary BCP
Steve Pearce, Treasurer, BCP
Louise Bale, BCP
Steve Johnson
Barbara Cuff
Dave Jones, Avon & Somerset Police
Andy Phillips
Jan Capel
Liz Venn
Julian Thomas
M Turner, Gilton House
Brian Webb, Gilton House
Alan Hill, Gilton House
Alan Bale
Keren Suchecki (Minutes)
Theresa Driscoll
Sarah Howard

Apologies

Roy Marsh, Simon Crew (councillor Brislington East), Rosie Tomlinson, Tara Mistry, Lorna Heaysman, Ann Stobbs, Ann Mugford.

1. WELCOME & INTRODUCTIONS

Those present introduced themselves, and were welcomed to the meeting by the Chair.

2. MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

The minutes of the last meeting were confirmed as a correct record.

Matter arising:

- i) Item 3 Briz-Skate Project: David visited the project and was very impressed. Club is reforming as a membership group, requesting a small annual donation (suggested £5-10) with a sliding scales of small charges for activities (50p - £2). Club has a Facebook site with videos. Plans to set up a training scheme for volunteers to supervise skateboarding across the area and potentially wider. Applying for funds to become independent but will remain under the BCP

- umbrella under Respect for legal functions (e.g. insurance, wages). Briz-skate have requested a member of BCP to be on their management committee.
- ii) Louise Bale reported on behalf of Ann Mugford that she and other residents have been very impressed and pleased with police activity in Victory Park. Andy Phillips explained that with lighter nights activity will be stepped up but that the approach taken is working well – not an enforcement role but talking to young people, explaining how noise travels and the effect on neighbouring residents and asking young people to leave the park at 11pm. Working very well so far.
 - iii) Cycling on pavement Brislington Hill. £30 fines being imposed in some parts of Bristol. **BCP formally requested that the police use this approach in Brislington, instead of issuing warnings.**
 - iv) Victory Park now has a dedicated parkie (Carol Daley). She also covers At Anne's Park and Arnos Park, with a watching brief for Nightingale Valley and St Anne's woods.
 - v) Anti-social behaviour Eastwood Road flats. Police now have a key to entrance. Housing department to improve security around entrance and refuse areas and caretaker service to clean up communal areas. Police have carried out letter drops to residents, daily patrols and have been speaking with residents. One arrest has been made and names recorded at Anti-Social Behaviour meeting. No new problems have been reported. Patrols to continue.
 - vi) Quad bikes and motorcycles in Alison Avenue. Letter drop was carried out and one resident responded to say they were riding a quad bike there, but under the impression that it was allowed as it's private land. This resident has written to the other neighbours apologising and explaining their mistake. No further reports of motorbikes received.
 - vii) Parking on pavement Alison Road/School Road. Observation carried out to monitor numbers and gather statistics on accidents. Site meeting held 30th March: concluded no structural changes can be made. The pavements are wide enough to accommodate careful parking and no enforcement to be carried out.
 - viii) David received a call regarding possible racial harassment. He referred caller to Tim Chandler and contact details also passed to Andy Phillips at this meeting.
 - ix) Andy reported that despite the new structure of Neighbourhood Forums, the police will continue to send a representative to BCP meetings if staffing commitments permit.
 - x) **Next PACT meetings:** 11th May for Brislington West; 25th May for Brislington East. Venues to be confirmed.

3. MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE UPDATE

1. It was difficult to give a full update of the last committee meeting because the minutes have not yet been supplied By BCC Democratic Services. This presents problems for BCP as the next management committee meeting is only one week away. **This issue to be raised with BCC Democratic Services.**
2. The committee discussed the relationship between the various aspects of Neighbourhood Forums/Neighbourhood Partnerships/BCC/Community Partnerships/ward councillors etc. All overlap and interlink, but remains a confusing picture at the moment.

3. Community Chest. Each ward receives £10,000 per year (so Brislington receives £20,000 in total) which can be used for small grants to local groups. BCP's preferred way is to hold rounds throughout the year so that groups can apply and get a response within a reasonable timescale. Current deadline is 14th April and next round will close 16th June. Outcome of the current round will be decided during week commencing 26th April by a panel made up of BCP members (outcome is referred to councillors for final approval). Grants of up to £2,000 are available for local groups carrying out activity that meets BCP criteria (detailed on the application form). E.g. mums in Litchfield Road have set up a group to develop safe play and are improving a small piece of local land. BCP will evaluate grants and report back to the community, this has started and there are photos on the website

4. TREASURERS REPORT

1. Accounts to mid-March were previously distributed electronically with the minutes. Various adjustments have been made which Steve briefly ran through and explained.
2. Balance of Community Chest currently stands at around £8,000. David informed the meeting that a decision has been made to ring fence £5,000 to cover gaps in service provided by BCC Democratic Services. Any unspent balance will be put back into the Community Chest at end of each year.

5. SUGGESTIONS FOR 2010

Planning Issues

BCP to develop relationship with Bristol Planning Network, a group that involves residents in planning issues and works with developers. Angela invited Barbara and Dave to attend BCP to explain how a local planning issue has affected them. They explained that the (now approved) plans to build flats at Knowle golf course will impact negatively on them as immediate neighbours of the development. They found the consultation process inadequate and a very poor experience, being barred from speaking at meetings or questioning the architect. The developers consulted with BCP on the development and cited them as community consultation, but BCP had not consulted with immediate neighbours of the development in giving their responses. BCP was not aware it would be described as the community consultation. It was concluded that the developers had not acted honourably in their consultation, ignoring the many letters of objection from immediate neighbours of the development. Planning permission has now been granted and the only recourse is a judicial review, which is expensive and complicated. It was explained that community consultation is only 'desirable' under planning regulations, not compulsory and under the current wording the developers demonstrated they had followed due process. Steve explained that if BCP are aware that community consultation has not been carried out it can submit a counter statement which the planning officer then has to weigh up against the application, but can't do this if unaware that community consultation not being carried out. BCP apologised for the negative effect their involvement had resulted in for the neighbours of the development and there

was discussion on how this can be prevented in future, e.g. developers to report back more thoroughly on who and how they have consulted and more accurately on what's been said by those consulted with.

Action: Angela to write to Alison Bromilow and Zoe Wilcox of Bristol Planning Network to report how this community consultation has gone badly wrong.

Other priorities for 2010

1. **Development Trust status for BCP.** This has been discussed in various meetings and BCP meets all the requirements to become a Development Trust. Membership is £50 per year. BCP continues to work towards becoming a Development Trust and it will be discussed further at the next management committee meeting and an update given at the May BCP meeting.
2. **Co-ordinator for Brislington Neighbourhood Partnership.** An appointment has been made and there was discussion about what BCP expects from the post. E.g. problems around vulnerable people housed at Gilton house require the involvement of Housing and Social Services. Warden services have been removed but people with serious support needs continue to be housed there and are posing risks to themselves and other residents. Residents present explained some of the worrying situations that they have experienced and expressed concerns that a serious incident, with potential loss of life, will occur if urgent action is not taken. BCP expressed its desire to see the Co-ordinator post to have the authority to bring the head of Housing and Social Services to their meetings to directly address the concerns of residents. It was agreed that BCP will have to be very clear about what they expect from the co-ordinator.
3. **Community Chest.** This remains a priority (a detailed earlier).
4. **Communications.** Liz reported that she does not expect Brislington school to produce the newsletter until the end of the school year and is expecting an update from Ann Stobbs next week. There was disappointment at this news but acknowledgment that it will not be a priority for students approaching exams. Liz made a request for more people to get involved in developing the newsletter.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

1. Trading Local event will happen in Sandy Park on 8th May. The Bedminster version was very successful and people were encouraged to come out to see the performances.
2. Gilton House holding a 40th anniversary celebration on 11th September. If the weather is good the event will be outside and all are welcome. If the weather is bad it will be indoors, which can only accommodate 40 people, so will be mainly for the residents.
3. Arnos Vale cemetery re-opening will be on 3rd May (Bank Holiday Monday).
4. April 25th Bristol Archaeology Group walk through Nightingale Valley to Beesley's with people from Brislington and Trooper's Hill.
5. There are photo displays in Brislington and Stockwood libraries showing river

clear up, with the aim of involving more people. Lottery funding being applied for to continue the work.

6. South Bristol Retail Study still receiving comments (deadline 16th April but this not strictly the end of consultation so comments will continue to be received after this date). It's a health check of all retail areas in South Bristol, although several Brislington retail areas have been excluded. It's an opportunity for residents to say how they'd like shopping to develop.
7. Brislington Planning Policy group would like more people to get involved. Contact Steve for details.

Next meeting: May 10th 7 – 9pm
Wicklea Youth and Community Centre

If you would like any further information about the Brislington Community Partnership or would like to raise an issue please feel free to contact Lorna Heaysman, BCC Community Engagement Team on 0117 9036444 or lorna.heaysman@bristol.gov.uk

