



**Bishopston, Cotham & Redland  
Community Partnership**

## **Minutes of the BCR Committee Meeting held on Thursday, 12<sup>th</sup> April 2018**

**Present:** Committee Members: Roger Gimson, Alison Bromilow, Sarah Nutchey, Alison Boulton, Peter Browne, Kevin Molloy, Kevin Chidgey.

Other Attendees: Cllr. Eleanor Combley, Lois Goddard (Redland Green Community Group), Fiona Wright (Friends of Horfield Common), Rita Gupta (North Bristol Community Project), Rob Stroud (Friends of Ashley Down Green), Tony Willetts, Jane Smith, Peter Tomlinson.

**Apologies:** Michele Tedder (Redland Club), Sue Powell (HowZat?)

### **1 Matters arising from the previous meeting that are not on the agenda**

1.1 The Mayor's Office have responded to the email sent by the Chair regarding the Mayor's non appearance at the BCR Partnership public meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> February. [Answers are now posted on the bcrpc.org.uk website]

### **2 Finances**

2.1 Sarah Nutchey reported that the Community Partnership bank account has been set up and that to date £230 has been paid in by individuals and partner organisations including The Bishopston Society, Friends of St. Andrews Park and Sustainable Redland. A number of organisations have still to make their promised donations.

2.2 The meeting was reminded that Street Scene have also made a contribution to the Partnership – the cost of public liability insurance for the year.

**Action:** Roger Gimson to contact partner organisations who have not yet paid their promised donations.

### **3 Bid to Councillors to fund Partnership meetings**

3.1 As agreed at the previous meeting a bid was made to the six ward councillors in the BCR Partnership area for £1,200 (£200 per councillor) to fund Partnership meetings in 2018 / 19. All six councillors have agreed the bid which included a commitment to holding three public meetings and additional special meetings as required. We also have to undertake an equalities monitoring exercise at one of the public meetings and report on how the money has been spent.

3.2 The Partnership and councillors have to formally sign the agreement.

**Actions:** (i) Roger Gimson, Alison Bromilow and Sarah Nutchey to sign on behalf of the Partnership, accepting to the terms of the agreement.

(ii) Councillor Eleanor Combley to arrange for all six councillors to sign the agreement.

## 4 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)

4.1 Bristol City Council's new arrangements for administering the allocation of CIL money through six Area Committees are some way from being finalised. Certain principles / guidelines have been agreed (eg. project bids have to be supported by ward councillors, the preference is for large rather than small projects, projects should support local priorities) but the mechanism for inviting project bids and deciding project bids is not yet in place. Area Committee area 2, which covers the three BCR wards and three other wards, is likely have an allocation of approximately £30,000 in 2018/19, a proportion of which was already allocated by the Neighbourhood Partnership but has not yet been drawn down.

4.2 The Council's CIL timetable states that projects put forward by community groups (and other bodies) and supported by councillors have to be agreed by 4<sup>th</sup> May. To date the only projects believed to be in the pipeline are highways schemes proposed by the Council's Highways Department.

4.3 Area Committee 2 councillors have met and agreed that the CIL money available should be distributed over the whole area on projects meeting local priorities (and the CIL criteria) but with a possible skewing of funding to support more disadvantaged areas.

4.4 The challenge for the Partnership is how to publicise the CIL programme and encourage organisations to develop / submit bids meeting the CIL eligibility criteria in the absence of agreed local priorities and a mechanism in place to invite and make decisions on bids.

4.5 It was recognised that there is a risk in asking community groups to spend time and effort on developing new projects when there is a relatively small level of funding available and no guarantee that their project will satisfy still to be agreed local priorities and funding allocation decisions. However, there will be future CIL funding available and it will be prudent for community groups to consider / have in place project bids that could eventually be put forward for funding.

4.6 Any further guidance that councillors can give us on the CIL bid process and the criteria to be used in inviting and deciding bids (local priorities, ward / area allocations, etc) will be welcome.

**Action :** Roger Gimson and Alison Bromilow to draft a guidance note to community groups inviting them to develop / put forward eligible projects that might potentially be funded by CIL either in 2018/19 or in future years.

## 5 Planning for the Next Public Forum

5.1 The next public forum is scheduled for June in Cotham ward. The preferred venue is Colston Primary School on Cotham Grove which will need to be booked from 6.30 – 9.30 pm to facilitate a 7.00 – 9.00 pm meeting.

### **Actions:**

- (i) Roger Gimson to check on the availability of the two Cotham ward councillors and to ascertain which topics they would like to see covered by the meeting.
- (ii) Kevin Molloy to contact Colston Primary School about dates (and cost) once we know about the availability of the ward councillors.

## **6 BCR Community Partnership Priorities for the following Year**

### **(i) Parking in the vicinity of the County Ground on match days.**

6.1 Advice from City Council officers is that any restrictions on parking on match days will only be possible through the resident parking mechanism.

6.2 HowZat? residents group have arranged a public meeting with Gloucestershire Cricket Club at 7.00 pm on 26<sup>th</sup> April at the cricket ground to discuss parking and traffic circulation issues on match days. It is likely that the cricket club will be asked to do more to mitigate these impacts (as prescribed in their traffic management plan).

6.3 HowZat? residents group is leading on this issue but that it was agreed that the Community Partnership should support them where appropriate. We should, for example, publicise the 26<sup>th</sup> April meeting.

### **(ii) Resident Parking**

6.4 The Mayor has stated that he will consider further resident parking schemes in areas where there is support for such a scheme. The guidelines relating to new resident parking schemes (RPS) published in November 2017 place considerable responsibility on ward councillors to gauge local views and to demonstrate the demand for new schemes. The meeting discussed how this might be achieved (eg. councillors capturing the views of residents pushing for RPS, a more structured attitudinal survey of all local residents).

### **(iii) Parks**

6.5 Council funding cuts will have a major impact on our parks, presenting challenges and opportunities for our park groups (eg identifying other sources of funding to help maintain and improve our parks, setting up new management arrangements, possibly through securing foundation status).

6.6 The meeting agreed that a new BCR Parks sub-group that brought together all the parks and open space groups in the BCR area could act as a valuable platform for sharing ideas and experiences and improving contact with the Council's parks officers.

**Action:** Alison Bromilow agreed to co-ordinate a virtual BCR Parks sub group.

### **(iv) Trees**

6.7 It was agreed that the next BCR newsletter should encourage people to join the new Street Tree Group. It was also suggested that the Street Tree Group and Parks Group might mutually benefit by talking to each other on tree matters.

### **(v) The 20 mph Speed Limit**

6.8 In due course the Partnership will need to consider the Council's review of the 20 mph speed limit which will be published shortly. Concern was expressed at the meeting about the lax enforcement of the speed limit (eg in Bishop Road).

### **(vi) Waste and Recycling**

6.9 It was agreed that we keep a watching brief and continue to support Street Scene (eg. by publicising initiatives such as litter picking groups).

**(vii) Libraries and Public Amenities**

6.10 The Partnership will need to monitor and respond to evolving Council policies and programmes affecting libraries and public amenities.

**(viii) Reaching the more Isolated Communities**

6.11 How can we improve communication and contact with hard to reach groups?

**7 The Community Partnership Role in the future Gloucester Road BID**

7.1 Plans are in hand to submit a new business improvement district (BID) proposal involving representatives of the existing BID Board and traders in the more northerly stretches of Gloucester Road which are currently not in the BID area. A meeting has been arranged with City Council officers (who have oversight of BID schemes) to consider a new proposal covering an extended area.

7.2 The meeting agreed that the message be conveyed to traders and the City Council that the Community Partnership are happy to support a new BID proposal when and where we can help the process.

7.3 The meeting agreed that it would be helpful if the Partnership had more information on the delivery and impact of the current BID initiative.

**8 Date of Next meeting**

**Action:** Roger Gimson to circulate an email to check the availability of Committee members.

*KC / BCR Partnership  
16<sup>th</sup> April 2018*