



*Bishopston, Cotham & Redland
Community Partnership*

Minutes of the BCR Partnership Committee meeting held at 10.00 pm on Friday, 15th October 2021 (Online Zoom Meeting)

Present: Roger Gimson, Alison Bromilow, Kevin Chidgey

1. The Community Connections Funding Report, Summer 2021: Bristol City Council

1.1 The Report lists organisations that have received funding, summarises the types of activities funded and assesses the impact of Covid 19, etc. The Report comments that the underspend was higher than normal as groups had not been able to arrange physical meetings.

1.2 The BCR Community Partnership was one of twenty community groups listed as receiving funding in 2019/20. A number of the groups have used grant money to employ staff to facilitate eligible activities: some groups have the benefit of having venues that can host meetings and events.

1.3 We had the opportunity to apply for funding for this financial year but with approximately £1,200 in our account including £800 of Council ring fenced money we did not need additional funding.

2 Planning the Next BCR Public Forum / Questionnaire Survey

2.1 It was agreed that we should organise a public forum meeting by the end of November and survey our newsletter subscribers (and anyone else who wants to take part via a website or facebook link) on whether they want a face to face or a virtual meeting.

2.2 Further discussion led to an agreement that we should widen the survey to ask for views on forum related issues including agenda items (eg. police reports, reports from groups) and possible discussion topics.

2.3 A number of possible ways of technically organising the survey were suggested including the Microsoft Pages app and our existing MailChimp account which could be used to create a survey page linked from our website.

2.4 It was further agreed that we should invite councillors and partner group representatives to a virtual meeting to seek their views on the next public meeting and other matters (eg , communication preferences). We must ensure that we have an up to date list of partner group representatives.

2.4 Libraries may still have a policy of not allowing face to face public meetings. Councillors may also have been given guidance about organising and attending public meetings.

Actions:

- (i) **Roger to draft a survey questionnaire and to circulate for comment.**

- (ii) **Roger to contact councillors and partner group representatives to arrange a virtual meeting to discuss various matters including the next public forum meeting.**
- (iii) **Roger to check on the status of Bishopston Library and other venues re. holding public meetings**

3 Partner Groups

3.1 All partner groups have had to curb their activities during the pandemic but most are still believed to have kept going - the known exceptions being The Bishopston Society and The North Bristol Community Project. We should check on the status of a few groups who might have succumbed. Competition from social media, particularly the growth of street based WhatsApp groups, has probably affected the sustainability of some groups.

3.2 Roger reported that Sustainable Redland has decided to wind up as a formal group and continue as a group of interested people. The group's funds have been distributed to good causes.

4 Communications

4.1 The newsletter keeps our 800 subscribers informed about meetings, community activities, Council consultations, etc. Local media, notably Bishopston Voice, helps us to reach a wider audience.

4.2 It was agreed that our next newsletter should ask people to consider joining the Committee, particularly people from Bishopston so as to achieve a greater geographical Committee balance.

4.3 We now have a new communications outlet, the notice board located at the Promenade on Gloucester Road which was formerly managed by the now defunct Bishopston Society. A company have been contracted to repair the damaged notice board – replacing lettering, a new perspex cover, etc. It was agreed that we would get the Perspex replaced but AB would try to source replacement letters to repair the heading panel. A price of £145 +VAT has been quoted. AB to Action.

4.4 It was agreed that the notice board title should be kept as “Bishopston” rather The “BCR Community Partnership”. We can place a note on the board explaining that we are now responsible for the board.

4.5 We will need to agree arrangements for managing the board. It can be used by Street Scene and by other groups to post messages about their activities and events, and by Councillors and the BCP Partnership to publicise meetings, Council consultations, etc.

5 Treasurer Role

5.1 Kevin agreed to take on the role of treasurer as and when Peter Browne decides to resign from this role.