



*Bishopston, Cotham & Redland  
Community Partnership*

## **Minutes of the BCR Partnership Committee meeting held at 7.30 pm on Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021 (Online Zoom Meeting)**

**Present:** Roger Gimson, Alison Bromilow, Peter Browne, Councillor Fi Hance, Councillor Martin Fodor, Councillor Emma Edwards, Kevin Chidgey

### **Apologies**

Councillor Mohamed Makawi, Councillor Lily Fitzgibbon

### **1 Transfer of Treasurer Role**

- 1.1 Peter Browne is standing down as treasurer and Kevin Chidgey has agreed to take on this role.
- 1.2 Peter Browne has kindly agreed to remain as an account signatory until Kevin Chidgey has secured on line access to the account: this should happen in the next week.
- 1.3 Roger Gimson thanked Peter for his work as treasurer including producing annual account statements.

### **2 Results of the BCR Public Forum Survey**

2.1 Roger Gimson summarised the results of the survey :-

- 51 people completed the survey, mainly via the Partnership's newsletter. Most had previously attended a public forum meeting and indicated that they would like to attend future meetings.
- As to the next forum meeting there was a slight preference for an online meeting rather than a physical meeting – not surprising given the uncertainty about the pandemic.
- Most respondents (70%) were happy with the format of meetings (reports from councillors, community groups, police) while there was also strong support for discussing a specific topic as listed in the survey including travel (76%), parking (67%), planning proposals (67%), improving high streets (61%) and climate action (47%).
- Students, noise and nuisance issues, Houses in Multiple Occupancy (HMOs) and e-scooters were among other suggested topics.
- A number of localised issues were also mentioned (eg. the anti terrorism measures at Gloucestershire Cricket Ground).
- Over 40% of the responses came from Bishopston and Ashley Down.

2.2 It is reassuring to hear that what we are doing still interests people.

### **3 Possible Topics for the Next Forum Meeting**

3.1 Alison Bromilow made the point that some of the topics suggested in the survey are discussed in other forums (e.g. Bristol Student Community Partnership, the Neighbourhood Planning Network meeting in October which was briefed on the latest position on student housing including HMOs and The HMO Licensing Scheme).

3.2 Councillor Fodor emphasised the importance of the forum meeting in bringing people together to share concerns and engage decision makers.

3.3 Pavement parking and e-scooters were mentioned as areas where feedback to councillors would be welcomed. With regard to e-scooters there will be a review when the e-scooter trial ends in March 2022.

3.4 The difficulty of securing Council officers to attend meetings puts greater pressure on councillors to attend meetings and come up with answers. Often there will be confusion as to the responsibilities of councillors and what they can or cannot do. Often there will be constraints and other factors which inhibit progress (which should be explained). When selecting a specific meeting topic we should lean towards topics where it might be more possible to make things happen: the relevant decision maker should be invited to the meeting .

3.5 Can we persuade Cabinet members to come to forum meetings? This might be more possible were Cabinet members able to choose a topic where they felt that they could do something and/or where was a positive story to tell. We could offer Cabinet members a range of topics to choose from. A zoom meeting might be favoured rather than requiring a cabinet member to travel.

3.6 Councillor Fodor reported that a number of topics were about to be considered by the Council's Scrutiny Committee – parks and open spaces, and liveable neighbourhoods - and these might be worth either considering as forum topics or topics where the views of Partnership members could be sought

3.7 After further discussion it was agreed that we should go for a travel / parking related topic and invite the Cabinet Member for Transport , Councillor Don Alexander, to the meeting.

#### **4 The Next Forum Meeting**

4.1 It was agreed that we would hold the next forum meeting on line at 7.30 pm on Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup> November.

4.2 The agenda should comprise the regular reporting items from councillors, the police and community groups (particularly Street Scene), a travel / transport / parking topic\* to be agreed after consultation with Councillor Don Alexander and the open forum.

(\*eg. parking? obstructive parking? e-scooters? speeding? rat runs? road closure / pedestrian schemes/ liveable streets?)

4.3 Daniella Radice has asked if she could give an update on the SENDaWelcome initiative supporting young people with learning disabilities.

4.4 We must leave time for people to raise issues at the open forum. Matters which might crop up include van dwellers around St. Andrews Park, issues between local residents and Gloucestershire Cricket Club (noise from new ventilator fans, anti terrorism barriers, new licensing arrangements), traffic speeding, student parties / noise, and rat runs through Bishopston (particularly Church Road),

4.5 It was agreed that we should invite people to put forward questions for the open forum but this will not be a requirement for asking questions or raising concerns at the open forum.

## **5 AOB**

5.1 Regret was expressed that Gloucester Road was not selected by the City Council as an action area in the High Street Recovery Package now out for consultation.

5.2 The meeting was reminded that Cotham Hill Permanent Scheme consultation runs until 30<sup>th</sup> November

5.3 A report on feedback from the Overton Road Engagement Survey was published in October.

5.4 Councillor Edwards reported that Councillor Don Alexander will be participating in an open forum to give an update on priorities for local roads. This will be of particular interest to people in Bishopston and Horfield concerned about rat runs and speeding.

5.5 In the New Year we should review how the Community Partnership is doing. Are we adding value? Can we continue to operate with just three Committee members? Is there a prospect of more CIL funding in the near future to stimulate community interest?

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Kevin Chidgey / BCR CP  
2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021