

Westbury-on-Trym Open Forum, 8 October 2014

“You said, We did”

Report on Issues Raised at Previous Open Forum Meetings

Issue	New & On-going Issues
1.1	<p><u>Pavement grabbing in Westbury Road</u> Monitor regularly and report progress. Update (29.01.13): At a meeting between residents and BCC Planning officers last November, officers informed residents that they could apply for retrospective planning permission regarding this land. This is still the case. BCC officers will not proactively approach residents to do so. Residents, if they wish, will need to formally approach BCC Planning. Action: Cllr Watson to urgently progress the apparent impasse with Council officers, including Jim Creamer (Streetworks & Licensing Manager) Update (02.05.13):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • S143 notices have been served on two of the properties instructing them to remove the walls and reinstate the surface to its original condition • Residents have not moved forward with their applications to extinguish highway rights • Residents have been given until 30th April (or thereabouts) to start the planning process, where until then the council will postpone enforcement action pending on the outcome of the application. <p>Update (07/10/13) A retrospective Planning Application (13/02042/F) for the work was granted on 7 October, with numerous conditions and restrictions. Also see Item 1.4, below. Update (16/01/14) The residents have submitted an application under S247 of the Town and Country Planning Act to stop up part of the footway. The Department of Transport has given notice of this application and notices are posted on site. The notice period ends on 30 January. Several of the utilities have responded to the notice but there are no objections to date. If the Order is made, the residents will be able to proceed with their proposal to extend their front gardens/driveways. Update 19/03/14) The Secretary of State has granted an order to stop up the highway under S247 Town & Country Planning Act. There is a 6 week appeal period which commenced on 11 February, whereby aggrieved persons or persons questioning the validity of the order may apply to the High Court for the order to be suspended or quashed. A notice has been posted on site with this information Update 18/09/14 Following receipt of the final Stopping Up Order from the DfT for the area in front of numbers 138 to 150 Westbury Road, enclosure of the gardens can now proceed as per the terms granted in Planning Application 13/02042/F, as amended in Planning Application 14/02288/X. Issue now closed (but also see Issue 1.4, below).</p>
1.2	<p><u>Development(s) being proposed by South Glos Council at Filton Airfield</u> Growing concerns locally that proposals could adversely affect traffic in north Bristol, including WoT. Action: Encourage Bristol councillors and Council officers to be more proactive. Update (02.05.13): The Mayor has been talking to South Glos Council and there will be a public meeting sometime in May, date to be confirmed. Update (04/10/13) South Gloucestershire Officers are trying to confirm a programme for public engagement covering both the new neighbourhood development framework Supplementary Planning Document and individual developer proposals. The programme is influenced by decisions on the Core Strategy for which the Inspector’s report is now expected in mid-November. Engagement is likely to include informal drop-in events in the autumn and a period (six weeks) of formal consultation on the SPD starting in the New Year. Further details, dates and venues for drop-in events will be advised as soon as possible.</p>

	<p><u>Update (17/01/14)</u> South Glos is currently consulting on its Supplementary Planning Document for the development of the area on and around Filton Airfield. Once adopted, this document will inform all developments on the site. There are 4 consultation drop-in events planned in coming weeks and Neighbourhood Partnership officers are also organising a public meeting to enable residents to find out what negotiations BCC is undertaking with S.Glos to ensure that Bristol's (and its residents) needs are included in the planning for this large development. As soon as the date is secure, it will be widely disseminated across north Bristol.</p> <p><u>Update 21/03/14)</u> BCC Officers gave a presentation to invitees from north Bristol at the Greenway Centre on 17th Feb. BCC also submitted a response to South Glos on their proposed SPD by the closing date in February. Notes and comments from the meeting are now with officers. These notes, and the presentations, will be distributed to all attendees.</p> <p><u>Update 18/09/14</u> Our Neighbourhood Partnership has joined with neighbouring NPs in supporting the Metrowest proposals for developing rail links in north Bristol and, in particular, proposals to open the 'Henbury Loop' to provide an important rail route to coincide with the new housing developments around the former Filton airfield. The proposals include opening a number of new stations. To achieve this, appropriate funding needs to be secured. The NPs in north Bristol have written to the Mayor (copies available) asking that he respond to the requests in the letter, and that, additionally, he consider the importance of securing the funding to undertake this work prior to the majority of new residents moving in to the new housing.</p>
<p>1.3</p>	<p><u>Toilets in Canford Park</u> These are not 'public' toilets as such and, due to their location, subject to opening only when a Park Keeper is on Duty. The toilets are primarily for users of the sports facilities. <u>Action:</u> Officers to explore if toilets can be opened for longer, particularly during school holidays and weekends.</p> <p><u>Update (04/10/13)</u> Over the school summer holidays extra funding was secured to keep the toilets open during busy times in the park. This proved to be a success. Now that the holidays are over, funding is being sought that will enable the conversion of the toilets (currently not fully accessible to the public) to enable them to be open more often. The Neighbourhood Partnership and officers are exploring a couple of options that may help progress this matter.</p> <p><u>Update (14/01/14)</u> Quotes currently being obtained for upgrading the current toilets to make them publicly accessible. These quotes will be put to the HSBWOT Environment Working Group in early February. The Group will then make a formal proposal to the NP. It is assumed that payment for the toilets (if agreed) will be requested from the S106 money currently held by the NP for the Hiatt Baker development on Parry's Lane. The quotes will include ensuring the facilities are vandal-proof; significant drain work; blocking of one wall and flood-prevention works.</p> <p><u>Update 21/03/14)</u> £13,741.05 has been allocated by the Neighbourhood Partnership to provide public toilets. Officers are currently working on the details of how the toilets will be managed.</p> <p><u>Update 18/09/14</u> Should be opened in early October</p>

1.4	<p><u>Pavement Parking in Westbury Road</u></p> <p>Following on from the apparently successful retrospective Planning Application for the frontages of Nos 138 – 150 to be extended (see Item 1.1, above), a request was made that the Highways Dept (Jim Creamer) should critically review the remaining section of footway (not covered by the Planning Application) to ensure that parking arrangements are regularised and, if necessary, legalised.</p> <p>Action: The Chair of the WoT Forum to contact Jim Creamer to progress this issue.</p> <p>Update (16/01/14)</p> <p>There has been no progress on this matter due to other priorities. It will be reviewed when the outcome of the stopping up application (Issue 1.1, above) is known.</p> <p>Update 19/03/14)</p> <p>No further progress.</p> <p><u>Update 18/09/14</u></p> <p>Following receipt of the final Stopping Up Order from the DfT for the area in front of numbers 138 to 150 Westbury Road, the City Council have started the necessary processes to formally adopt the remaining footway areas along Westbury Road as public highway. This will clarify ownership and responsibility of the various areas and will enable any remaining issues over pavement parking to be considered and addressed.</p>
1.5	<p><u>Fires in Public Waste Bins</u></p> <p>Fires in waste bins near the bus stops by Canford Lane shops are a regular occurrence due to thoughtless smokers and the failure of May Gurney to properly empty the “Fag End Butt” compartment causing it to overflow.</p> <p>Action: Gary Brentnall to raise the issue with May Gurney.</p> <p><u>Update (14/01/14)</u></p> <p>It has been reiterated to May Gurney the importance of the waste collectors emptying the cigarette butts at the top of the bins as well as the main compartments. On-going monitoring required.</p> <p><u>Update 21/03/14)</u></p> <p>There are continuing reports of problems. Officers will meet with May Gurney to work out a plan for ensuring that fire risk is reduced as much as possible.</p> <p><u>Update 18/09/14</u></p> <p>This is an on-going problem. A meeting will be secured with the management of the team of street cleaners operating in the NP area, with a view to agreeing that they all receive appropriate training in how to empty the cigarette shelves at the top of the waste bins. There is evidence that this problem is not restricted to our NP area.</p>
1.6	<p><u>Dangerous Wall on Henbury Hill</u></p> <p>Alastair Watson was asked if he would investigate the dangerous wall on Henbury Hill.</p> <p>Action: Alastair Watson to report back.</p> <p><u>Update 18/09/14</u></p> <p>Verbal update to be given at WoT Forum on 8 October 2014</p>
Issue	Closed Issues
2.1	<p><u>Access to Canford Cemetery via the Kissing gate</u></p> <p>Access problems for mobility scooters.</p> <p><u>Update</u> (29.01.13): Gate removed. Problem solved. If abuse by motorcyclists occurs again, BCC will need to find another solution</p>
2.2	<p><u>New style litter bin and Cycle Rack in Canford Lane (Shops)</u></p> <p>Pursue and progress installations.</p> <p><u>Update</u> (29.01.13): Bin and cycle racks are now in place</p>
2.3	<p><u>Redundant bus stop outside “Classic Man”</u></p> <p>Despite representations from the Forum, Council officers clearly had no intention of removing this bus shelter. A local resident suggested that we should decorate it with hanging baskets!</p> <p><u>Update</u> (29.01.13): BCC will not remove the bus stop as it is expensive to do so and it may be needed in the future</p>

2.4	<p><u>Overhanging foliage in lane to allotments off Stoke Lane</u> Investigate the scene of the report to establish the current source of the problem and take any necessary action with whomever is responsible to resolve the issue, and report progress Update (29.01.13): Foliage has been cleared</p>
2.5	<p><u>Flood Risk Assessment</u> Locate the Report and arrange for a link to be posted on the BCC NP webpage and send the electronic link to the ward reps so that the link can be uploaded to the NP3 web site Update (29.01.13): Report distributed at January Forum and can be accessed via: https://www.bristol.gov.uk/committee/2013/ta/ta000/0115_10b.pdf</p>
2.6	<p><u>Canford Lane speeding</u> Residents have complained of excessive vehicle speeds. Update (29.01.13): A Community Speed Watch had been held in November, over a period of 1hr 40min. This recorded 400 vehicles in total with 7 cars exceeding 36 mph. Action: Cheryl Hudson to ensure that all the residents who have volunteered for Speed Watch are trained and contact details are shared to ensure that the project is robust and sustainable. Update (02.05.13): 4 people trained for the voluntary CSW Scheme on Sunday 13th April - 3 ladies from Westbury On Trym (Chock Lane) and 1 gentleman from Henleaze. The newly trained volunteers have agreed to have their contact details shared and will be added to the existing trained volunteer list and all of those volunteers will be mailed the updated list. There are now 7/8 volunteers trained from WOT.</p>
2.7	<p><u>Height of Timetables in bus shelters</u> Timetables considered too high to be read by certain users. Update (29.01.13): Council officers have confirmed that there is a generic problem with the bus shelter design and they are trying to find a solution. Therefore, the current design is 'not fit for purpose'. Action: Officers will continue to seek a possible solution and will update the Forum at a future meeting. Update (02.05.13): As has been discussed before, it is not possible to move the timetable cases on these bus shelters. It is proposed that the timetable information is moved to the bottom of the displays and is printed in a larger font. To do this, it will be necessary to split the information over two displays - at present there are two identical displays in each shelter. The new timetables will be installed by Friday 26th April. It is anticipated that this will improve the situation. However, the WoT NP Reps cannot understand why BCC Officers are prepared to accept a solution that is not fit for purpose.</p>
2.8	<p><u>Notice Board in Stoke Lane</u> Update (29.01.13): Notice Board had been installed but remedial work is required. The polycarbonate screens need to be sealed to prevent rainwater ingress and the whole board needs to be lowered on its supports by at least 6 inches. Action: Farhan agreed to progress these remedial works. Update (02.05.13): Work is now complete.</p>
2.9	<p><u>Parking at Westbury Academy (Channells Hill)</u> Growing problem of inconsiderate parking around Westbury Academy. Update (29.01.13): Wayne Dewfall (Parking Services) gave an update to the January Forum about parking enforcement issues in general and around the Academy in particular. Action: Parking Services will continue to patrol the area. WPC Paula Donnelly to liaise with Tony Hoare (Chairman of the Governors) and confirm whether or not displaying photographs of parking offenders contravenes their human rights Update (02.05.13): Wayne Dewfall has directed his officers to Channels Hill to enforce parking. PCSO Paula Perry has included this in her patrol plan and visiting the area more regularly to increase PCSO visibility. WPC Paula Donnelly has been in contact with Tony Hoare and provided information as to</p>

	actions the school may take in relation to drivers.
2.10	<p><u>Closure of Public Toilets (WoT High Street)</u> There were rumours that some of Bristol's public toilets were to be closed but this is not currently the case. Action: Situation to be monitored and Officers to report back to next Forum. Update (02.05.13): Currently, no toilet closures are happening, or programmed to happen.</p>
2.11	<p><u>Car Parking on pavements in Stoke Grove</u> Update (29.01.13): There has been a significant reduction in pavement parking following recent positive police action. Action: police will continue to patrol this road and also Lampeter Road, which was highlighted as having a similar pavement-parking problem. Update (02.05.13): Patrols in Stoke Grove have continued and it would appear that residents are continuing to support the police by parking appropriately and no further complaints have been received.[Rep Note: this BCC assertion is incorrect as complaints continue] Parking on Lampeter Rd continues to be a problem. A number of warnings were issued to elderly motorists who park at the location for ease of access to the village. A minority of residents and/or their visitors were found to be parked in a manner that obstructs the pavement. Update (04/10/13) Police response: With regard to Lampeter Rd, we are still receiving complaints from residents. We continue to issue warnings (in the form of an advisory leaflet) to vehicles that are not causing a complete obstruction of the pavement but have also issued a number of Fixed Penalty Notices which incur a £30 fine. The precise number of FPNs will be provided at the forum. We have the registration numbers of offending vehicles. These drivers have received a warning notice to their home addresses.</p>
2.12	<p><u>Canford Park – Fencing</u> Liaise with Nigel Sands to Monitor regularly and report progress. Update (29.01.13): regular liaison with resident group and AEO. Update (02.05.13): The installation work was stopped by the designer in February, following a site inspection which highlighted numerous (and serious) non-compliance issues with design interpretation/manufacture/installation/Health & Safety. After lengthy discussions and meetings, BCC have agreed to appoint a Project Manager and a Supervisor to control the contractor and to ensure that proper procedures are followed. Work should resume shortly and will include replacement of some of the recently installed items. Update (04/10/13) The fence has now been completed to the satisfaction of the Parks Landscape Architect.</p>
2.13	<p><u>Canford Park – New children's play equipment</u> Liaise with Vicki Abel to Monitor regularly and report progress Update (29.01.13): regular liaison with resident group and AEO. Update (02.05.13): Final phase of consultation taking place at Westbury Academy with local school children. Once final design scheme is known, it will be referred back to the contractors for implementation and a date agreed for work to commence. It is anticipated that the play equipment could be on site by July 2013. Update (04/10/13) The playground was opened in time for the school summer holidays and proved a huge hit with users.</p>
2.14	<p><u>Canford Lane – Monitoring Vehicle Speeds</u> Could 'dual speed cables' be introduced across the road to catch speeding drivers? Current measures appeared inadequate - including Speed Watch because drivers were alerted by the yellow high-viz tabards. Action: Refer concerns to NP's Transport Working Group and Highways Officers Update (15/01/14) "Speed Cables" are not the Council's preferred option for speed monitoring. Most recent speed data from Highways (for a 7 day period in April 2009) confirms speeds were not excessive: average speeds westbound of 29.6mph and eastbound of 31.4mph. It is suggested that more SpeedWatch checks are undertaken.</p>