



# **Henleaze Neighbourhood Forum**

## **7pm – 9pm Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2014**

### **Henleaze Library, Northumbria Drive, Henleaze**

## **Minutes of Meeting**

### **1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS.**

Both councillors were present along with all 4 resident representative and the Beat Manager and PCSO from the Police. The agenda for the forum has been restructured to focus on the key priorities for the Neighbourhood Partnership (NP) and to give everyone present the opportunity to air their views and comments.

### **2. PRIORITIES**

The aim of Neighbourhood Partnership are to:

*Neighbourhood Partnerships bring public sector decision making to a local level where local residents can influence how they would like to see their neighbourhood improve.*

Shortly after this NP was formed it set five priorities. They are:

- Traffic and Transport
- Environment and Green Spaces
- Provision for the elderly
- Provision for the young
- Communications, community engagement and capability building

After 5 years the time has come to review these priorities to confirm they are still relevant and whether any other should be added. Views on this are welcome.

### **3. POLICE.**

Neil is the current beat manager and has temporarily taken over from Paula Donnelly who will return at the end of October.

In the last period there have been 204 recorded incidents in Henleaze. To put this into perspective this compares with 249 in Westbury-on-Trym and 603 in Southmead. These have been analysed to look for emerging issues. The main areas include:

- Burglary – There were 23, an increase since the last period. There was a peak in September, with most occurring at night and via insecure windows and doors at ground level. There has now been an arrest and the occurrences have reduced.
- Theft from Vehicles – This is down by 39%. Again there has been an arrest and the occurrences have reduced.
- Shoplifting – There were 21, a reduction of 23%
- Vehicle Theft – There were 5 bike thefts and 5 cars stolen.
- Anti-Social Behaviour – There were 82 incidents, a reduction of 5%
- Drugs – There were no major problems

### **3.1 QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS.**

- 1) What are the rules about getting out of a car with the engine running?  
It is illegal and is called quitting. You can take down the number and report it by ringing 101 or going on-line
- 2) There was a 2% increase in the Community Charge but Police numbers in our area are now reduced with the closure of Southmead Police Station  
This is a matter to take up with the Police Commissioner, Sue Mountstevens.
- 3) Southmead Police Station is up for sale  
Southmead Police Station is no longer fit for purpose. The custody suits are now moving to Patchway. The Police will just need office space in the future. The new location is still to be decided. Residents would rather it was closer to Henleaze, Stoke Bishop and Westbury-on-Trym than to Southmead. People don't want to go to Patchway. There is still a front office at Southmead Road but with reduced hours.
- 4) Will there be more police on bicycles?  
The police bike used by Toby is currently broken. Others have seen better days. The Police would rather be on foot. However, they are short staffed at the moment so using cars enables them to cover a wider area.  
There will be four beat managers very shortly.  
People are encouraged to use Neighbourhood Watch and to share information with neighbours by talking to them.

## **4. ENVIRONMENT.**

### **4.1 GRENN CAPITAL**

Bristol will be the European Green Capital for 2015. BCC have raised funds. Each Neighbourhood Partnership has been given £10k for small projects proposed by local groups. The broad criteria are on the first page of the paper. These are:

- Food
- Energy
- Nature
- Reuse
- Transport

The Environmental Working Group will review applications and make recommendations. You apply using forms that are easy to complete. Some ideas already discussed include:

- Temporary Road Closures to hold special events
- An App to thermally image your house

- Composting

There could be more money if the £10k works well. There is the Quartet Organisation for projects up to £10k and a City Wide fund for projects up to £25k so don't be put off putting in for big projects. NPs are currently the only group in BCC doing something on Green Capital. But don't worry if you miss out this time as there will be other opportunities. The NP will publish deadlines but just do it as if we don't use the £10k we will lose it.

## **4.2 PARKS AND MAINTENANCE**

BCC would like ideas as to what can be done in our parks. Use the paper survey or go on-line. The web link is complex so be careful typing it. It ends in "main". The consultation closes at the end of October.

### 1) Fallodon Way

The local Neighbourhood Watch did a survey of their new park. There has been a history of anti-social behaviour on summer nights. The new design aimed to reduce this. They got 11/21 responses to the survey. In general the responses were positive with less recorded problems at night. It is now viewed as an asset. Some people have previously wanted it removed. There has been some disturbance (noise) during the day but this is because it is being better used. There has also been a slight increase in parking problems but this is not seen as a problem. The local Neighbourhood Watch will continue to monitor.

### 2) Old Quarry Park

There is work underway to use section 106 money to replace the fences and unsafe wall on the west side. However, the road above the park, Henleaze Terrace, is unadopted. The quarry wall forms part of the road foundations so it is difficult to put in a new fence. They are looking at using a lighter fence with "wild mesh". They are making the Scout Hut more accessible to all. They will work with the developers of the new Older People's Housing to make/fund further improvements. The priority is to spend the Green Stimulus money first.

## **4.3 TRESS IN DEVONSHIRE ROAD**

These trees are now too big for their location and their roots are raising the pavement. Some trunks have reduced the pavement width to below 65cm. There are early studies to look at how they can be replaced but there are problems:

- Rebuilding / introducing tree pits is expensive
- 13 trees are causing a major problem
- 13 trees are causing a minor problem

Replacement trees would need to be the right variety. Consultations won't start until there are firm proposals.

## **4.4 QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS.**

- 1) Green Capital Grants can only be awarded to Groups, not to individuals  
If you have an idea go to the Environment Group. They will put you in touch with a suitable supporting organisation such as the Henleaze Society.
- 2) Green Energy is a criteria for Green Capital .  
Any project with a legacy beyond 2015 will be looked on favourably but will also look at short ideas. Don't rule out one-off events.

- 3) There is a Green Capital idea of “community energy”.
- 4) What are Highway Verges?  
These are the areas along side roads and other road side spaces
- 5) Dublin Crescent also has dangerous trees and trip hazards
- 6) There are some trees, such as those on Kellaway Avenue, that are being felled and not replaced  
Some of these are in the conservation area. The only funds that the NP currently controls that can be used for street trees is the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) and Section 106 money. If there are concerns contact your councillors.
- 7) The hedge on the footpath by Fallodon Way Play park is overgrown
- 8) Green Capital Grants can be made to replace trees.

## **5. PLANNING.**

There are not many open controversial issues:

- Waitrose is almost finished and now includes 2 new trees!
- St Ursula’s application has yet to be submitted. May be later in October. There are comments on the school website that building will start in Jan-15 but when questioned the school weren’t aware of this. Watch this space
- Quarryleaze was approved at the end-Jul-14. The report has yet to appear on the BCC planning website.
- There are many applications for tree work
- Tesco Golden Hill has made an application to install a Portakabin for key cutting, etc. between the store and Kellaway Avenue. It will remove cycle parking on this side of the store.
- Red Maids has asked for minor works aimed at encouraging cycling
- 52 Park Gove have moved the fence that was obscuring visibility at the junction with Henleaze Park.
- Extensions in The Furlong and Eastfield have been rejected

If anyone has any comments on any planning application they are encouraged to go to the BCC website and comment and not to rely on other people as they may not comment either!

### **5.1 QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

- 1) Proposed Zebra Crossing on Coldharbour Road.  
It is good that this has been raised but disappointing it only looks at pedestrians as it can be used by child cyclists getting to school. Would like the end of Cairns Road to be closed off to cars. See end of report for proposed changes. Would not want cyclists to be able to use crossing without dismounting.

## **6. TRANSPORT**

Due to resourcing issues only active schemes will be completed. Going forward Neighbourhood Partnerships have been asked to choose one big scheme a year. The schemes currently progressing in Henleaze are:

- New crossing at the junction of Park Grove / The Drive / Henleaze Park. Expect a consultation on this soon.
- Zebra Crossing on Coldharbour Road. See above
- Zebra Crossing on Southmead Road. Expect a consultation on this soon.
- Exit from Tesco Express. Report completed. Proposals will now be worked up.

The next big scheme for the area will be a new zebra crossing on Shirehampton Road to make it easier for pupils for Cedar Park Primary School to get to the new play park at Stoke Lodge.

## **6.1 QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

- 1) Zetland Road to Southmead Hospital Signed Route  
Would like the route changed. New route could use the new Zebra on Coldharbour Road
- 2) Is it illegal to use a bike whilst on a mobile phone?  
Is the same offence as for a car as both are vehicles
- 3) Should Cyclists be registered?  
If so, pedestrians should be too
- 4) Should bikes have an audible warning?  
All new bikes come with a bell.
- 5) Number 2 Bus  
Since the 15 bus was stopped First Bus has had no competition on this route. A resident cited an example of waiting 40 minutes for a bus on this 10 minute frequency route. If a bus is more than 20 minutes late you can complain and claim a refund if it is the fault of First Bus.
- 6) Cannot currently get from parts of Henleaze to the Bus Station or Temple Meads without changing  
First have been invited to the next Neighbourhood Partnership Meeting to answer questions

## **7. PEOPLE**

### **7.1 OLDER PEOPLE**

The group arranges outings for older people who are not able to get out by themselves. The next one is to the Cadbury Garden Centre. The group welcomes ideas on what to do. Events need to be targeted at the right people. Please feed ideas to Val Bishop. There will be a meeting at the Eastfield Inn at 10h00 on 15-Oct-14.

### **7.2 YOUNGER PEOPLE**

The NP has spent over £220k on younger people over the last 5 years, This includes support to youth groups and improvements to parks. The head of youth services at BCC wants to come to the next meeting with a map of youth activities in our area.

### **7.3 QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

- 1) Mildred advised of an older persons group that is being set up by RSVP at the Eastfield Inn that will work in conjunction with the Falldon Way Doctors' Surgery.

- 2) There was a playing out session. There is part a City wide initiative where residents close off the road for 3 hours once a month every month for a year to meet and hold community activities. The session was well supported and liked.
- 3) Older people need to meet and talk.
- 4) Young children can escape from Henleaze Library straight onto Northumbria Avenue, which is very busy. Design changes were requested to give people more time to stop them.

## **8. COMMUNITY GRANTS**

The NP has £30k for community grants. This tends to be split equally across the 3 wards. Current applications include:

- Downs Leaflets
- A tree on Horfield Common
- Buses for trips for older people

Everyone is encouraged to make applications.

## **9. COMMUNICATIONS**

Most issues BCC can deal with can be reported via the BCC website, [www.bristol.gov.uk](http://www.bristol.gov.uk)  
The links to the reporting pages can be found at the top of the home page.

If people want to take a more active involvement they are welcome to attend any working group meeting. Details can be found on the NP3 website: [www.activenp.co.uk](http://www.activenp.co.uk)

## **10. OPEN FORUM**

### **10.1 QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS**

- 1) Can cars be stationary with their engines running?  
This requires education. If it is of major concern raise it with the Environment Working Group
- 2) Accident on North View  
It was reported that there was an accident at the Zebra Crossing on North view. Information is scarce but it appears that an elderly driver was blinded by the sun being low in the sky. This will be investigated through the normal channels.
- 3) Lighting on the Drive.  
This is very poor around St Peter's Walk. Nothing will happen this year as the entire street lighting budget has already been spent. It was also cut by £200k. Clare will have a walk through with the BCC lighting officers. Cardigan Road is also bad.
- 4) Trees in St Albans Road.  
These need low level pruning. Gary will take this up. You can trim trees yourself but you are not insured.
- 5) 1 Hours Parking Spaces on St Albans Road  
Eight, 1 hour parking spaces, Mon-Sat, have appeared on St Albans Road. These have taken parking spaces away from residents. Would have needed a TRO. Expect it was part of the recent parking review in Westbury Park but will check. Would like added to any future review of parking in the area.

## **11. NEXT MEETING**

19h00 on Thursday 05-Feb-14 at Henleaze Library.

Not just a pedestrian crossing...  
The opportunity to create a **Closer Community**

The introduction of some "People Priority" streets, with very little impact on current motor traffic flow.

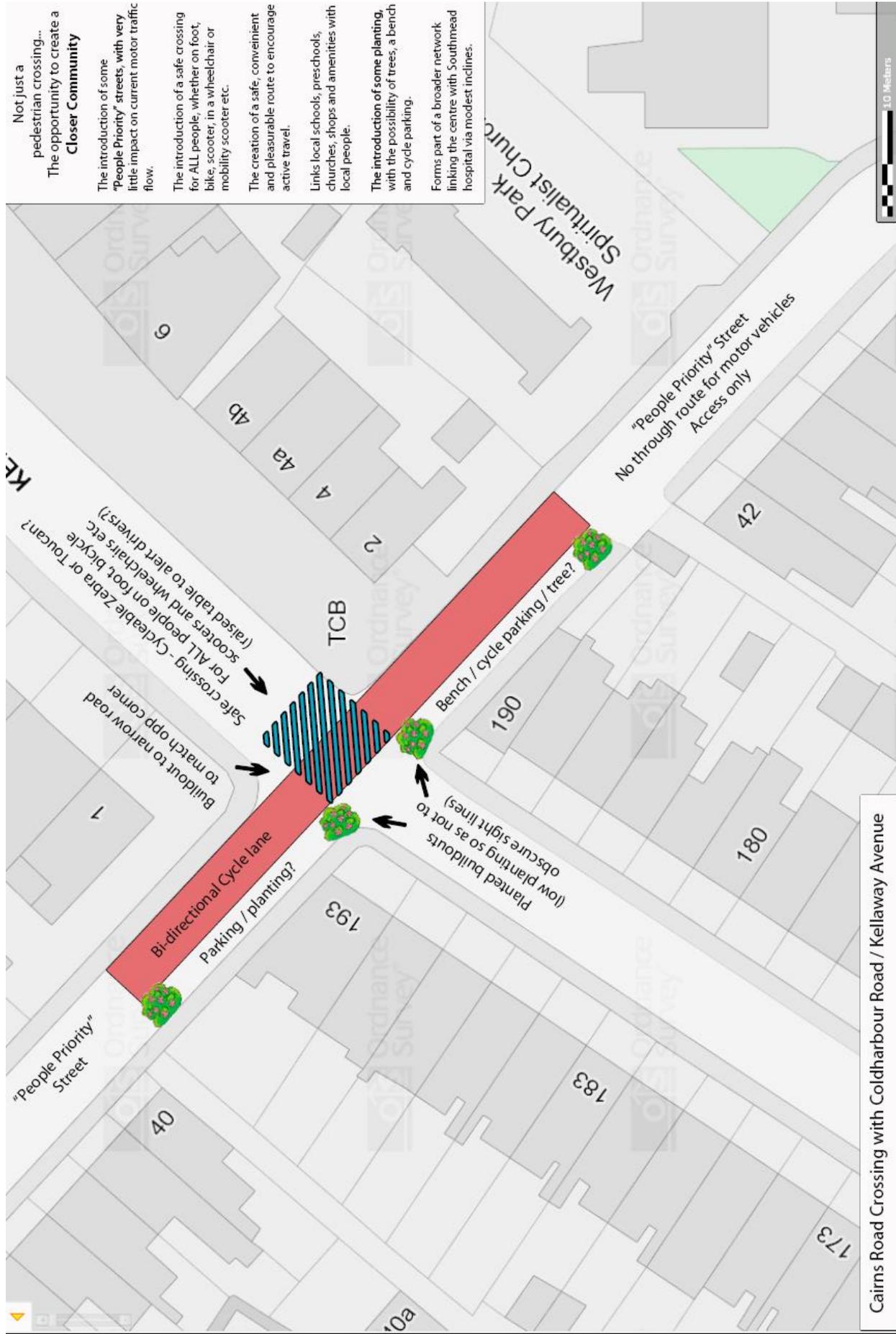
The introduction of a safe crossing for ALL people, whether on foot, bike, scooter, in a wheelchair or mobility scooter etc.

The creation of a safe, convenient and pleasurable route to encourage active travel.

Links local schools, preschools, churches, shops and amenities with local people.

The introduction of some planting, with the possibility of trees, a bench and cycle parking.

Forms part of a broader network linking the centre with Southmead hospital via modest inclines.



Cairns Road Crossing with Coldharbour Road / Kellaway Avenue