



**Notes of Westbury-on-Trym Open Forum**  
**7.00pm on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2016**  
**at Venue 35, Stoke Lane**

**Present:**

**Councillors:** Cllr Geoff Gollop and Cllr Liz Radford

**BCC Officers:** Gary Brentnall, Neighbourhood Officer

**Avon & Somerset Police:** Sgt Calum Allan and PC Jeanette Cadden

**Guest Speaker:** Paul Walker BCC Library Services

**Neighbourhood Partnership representatives:** Stephanie French (Tree Champion), Prof Alan Preece (Environment WG Chairman), and Graham Donald (NP Vice Chairman)

**WoT & Hen Elected Ward Representatives:** Alan Aburrow (Chairman), David Mayer and Helen Furber

**Plus** approximately 40 members of the Community (i.e. 52 in total)

**Apologies:** Cllr Clare Campion-Smith, Val Bishop

**1) Welcome and Introductions and Corrections to Notes from Previous Forum:**

**Alan** opened the Meeting; welcomed the attendees and made the introductions. He confirmed that Bristol City Council (BCC) had instigated a policy of supplying reduced quantities of hard-copy papers at meetings and this was limited to Agendas only. All papers and reports are distributed ahead of the meeting electronically. For residents to receive these papers, it is necessary for their e-mail address to be lodged with Gary Brentnall on: [gary.brentnall@bristol.gov.uk](mailto:gary.brentnall@bristol.gov.uk)

**2) Police Feedback**

**PC Jeanette Cadden**, covering the Stoke Bishop beat area, delivered a report on behalf of our beat manager PC Joanne Robertson who was unavailable due to shift patterns.

a) Statistics for Westbury-on-Trym, in the past 12 months

- i) Dwelling Burglary down from 37 to 34
- ii) Non Dwelling Burglary up from 46 to 74
- iii) Theft from motor vehicles down from 103 to 85
- iv) Overall crime up from 633 to 699

b) "Nottingham knockers" i.e. street traders selling at front doors is illegal and without a pedlars' licence is a crime. Most callers proffer a hawkers licence which is not adequate. Residents are urged to ring 999 if they have traders calling because the incidence of burglary increases after these callers are active in the area. The Police have prioritised this crime and will arrest perpetrators and put them before the Court.

- c) Theft from motor vehicles – still a very high number. Usually resulting from failure by the owner to lock their vehicle. Please be vigilant and remove all visible valuables from the car when unattended - including loose change.
- d) The Police will relocate from their current building on Southmead Road to a new facility on Greystoke Avenue in a BCC building - probably next April/May.
- e) **Rita James** asked what could be done about Junk Mail not being pushed completely through letter boxes which advertises when residents are away.
- f) **Cllr Geoff Gollop** raised the matter re the increased incidence of shop crime and “Ram Raids” and asked what measures are in hand? PC Cadden confirmed that there was an on-going programme of “Store Training” to help reduce shoplifting and CID were investigating the recent spate of Ram Raids and had certain targets under review.
- g) **Rita James** wanted to know what was being done to promote Neighbourhood Watches and how residents could start or resurrect a Watch. PC Cadden confirmed that the PCSO’s constantly promote the Neighbourhood Watch and all questions should be directed to them.

### **3) Ongoing Issues (You said – We did report):**

**Alan** gave a summary of the “You said – We did” report of ongoing local issues contained within the pack of papers for the meeting. Please refer to supporting paper:

[www.activenp.co.uk/2016/10/you-said-we-did-report-to-westbury-on-trym-and-henleaze-open-forums-november-2016/](http://www.activenp.co.uk/2016/10/you-said-we-did-report-to-westbury-on-trym-and-henleaze-open-forums-november-2016/)

**Alan** reported specifically on:

- a) The lack of progress with any traffic mitigation proposals for north Bristol as a result of the proposed 6500+ housing developments at Cribbs Causeway and Filton Airfield planned by South Glos. **Cllr Geoff Gollop** confirmed the lack of information from Council Officers and reminded everybody that, currently, South Glos have no plans to include a Park & Ride facility within their proposed developments.
- b) Western Power had not yet removed the fencing from their redundant electricity sub-station in the lane between Cooper Road and Back Stoke Lane.
- c) There had been no feedback from Westbury Wildlife Park on their future ambitions for the site.
- d) Means of controlling excessive student parking in the local roads around the Hyatt Baker Halls of Residence was still being pursued with the University by our local Councillors. Inevitably, this will mean the introduction of additional parking restrictions in the local roads.

### **4) Working Group’s Reports**

**Alan** reminded everybody present that the latest versions of all the Reports from the NP’s Working Groups were available online:

- a) **WG for Older People:** [www.activenp.co.uk/older-persons-2/](http://www.activenp.co.uk/older-persons-2/)
- b) **Transport WG:** [www.activenp.co.uk/transport-2/](http://www.activenp.co.uk/transport-2/)
  - i) **Traffic Choices submissions:** [www.trafficchoices.co.uk/index.shtml](http://www.trafficchoices.co.uk/index.shtml)

- ii) **FixMyStreet submissions:** [www.fixmystreet.com/](http://www.fixmystreet.com/)
- c) **Environment WG:** [www.activenp.co.uk/environment-2/](http://www.activenp.co.uk/environment-2/)
- d) **Tree Champion:**  
[www.activenp.co.uk/2016/08/funding-new-and-replacement-street-trees/](http://www.activenp.co.uk/2016/08/funding-new-and-replacement-street-trees/)
- e) **Communications WG:** [www.activenp.co.uk/communications-2/](http://www.activenp.co.uk/communications-2/)
- f) **Well Being WG:** [www.activenp.co.uk/well-being-grants/](http://www.activenp.co.uk/well-being-grants/)

## 5) Planning Report

Please refer to report provided by courtesy of the Westbury-on-Trym Society:  
[www.westburyontrysociety.org.uk/page3.htm](http://www.westburyontrysociety.org.uk/page3.htm)

**Alison Harding** gave an overview of the current planning application at 12 Southover Close and her objections which are shared with a number of local residents. Full details of this current Application are available through the Council's planning application webpage, Application [16/05502/F](http://www.westburyontrysociety.org.uk/page3.htm)

## 6) Open Forum

**Graham Donald** reported that the number of active members of Residents Speed Watch teams had reduced and requested that residents support and volunteer to take part in Speed Watch activities to help reduce speeding in support of the Police. Full training will be provided.

## 7) NP Matters and Announcements

- a) Westbury Library extended hours

**Paul Walker** from Bristol Library Services advised that Westbury Library was the first of three Libraries across Bristol being used as a pilot to extend the access by the public to the Library by use of swipe cards when there is no staff on duty.

He advised that Library Services were working in conjunction with the local Library Group and the Library would be closed for one week at the end of November, beginning of December, to complete the installation of card readers etc.

Full training would be provided to any resident wanting to use this facility and a review with the public would be held on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2017 between 10.30 until 11.30am and between 4.00 and 6.00pm (refreshments will be provided).

- b) BCC Budget problems and Corporate Strategy Consultation document

**Cllr Geoff Gollop** outlined the scale of the problem and potential shortfall of £94m comprising £34m overspend in 2016/17 together with savings required due to Government cuts of £20m per year in the next 3 financial years.

In order to deal with this matter, the Elected Mayor (Marvin Rees) has distributed a Corporate Strategy Consultation document:

<https://www.bristol.gov.uk/council-spending-performance/corporate-strategy-2017-2022-consultation>

There is also the means to take part in an online survey and details are highlighted at the end of the above link. Electronic submissions need to be made by 5pm on Thursday 5 January 2017.

The Mayor has also arranged a series of Public meetings across the City. The meeting in North Bristol is scheduled to be held at Henbury School on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> November at 7.00pm. Anyone wishing to attend must reserve a seat at <http://bit.ly/2e6HpOM> and must also register questions in advance

A public meeting for Westbury on Trym and Henleaze residents to discuss the document and suggest responses has been arranged at Westbury-on-Trym Village Hall on Friday 2nd December at 7.00pm.

- c) **Cllr Geoff Gollop** also amplified the issue raised earlier (Item 3.a) and highlighted the planned development of houses (6500+), Retail extension at Cribbs Causeway and Industrial units on Land in South Gloucestershire on the North Bristol border. This would have a very serious and potential negative impact on the road and rail infrastructure in our Neighbourhood - in particular traffic congestion on the A4018 (Cribbs Causeway, Passage Road, and Falcondale Road) and the A38 (Gloucester Road), leading to traffic gridlock and destruction of our communities and retail centres.

He went on to suggest that endless parking reviews and restrictions has the effect of moving the problem ever further from the centre but is not a solution to the problem and is ultimately doomed to fail. He recommends that the more sustainable solution is to prevent the traffic from leaving South Gloucestershire and entering into Bristol by providing a Park and Ride facilities at Cribbs Causeway and Filton.

He has started a petition to get this matter discussed in Full Council. For this to be enacted the petition will require 3500 signatures. Should you wish to support this petition please go to: [http://epetitions.bristol.gov.uk/epetition\\_core/community/petition/3589](http://epetitions.bristol.gov.uk/epetition_core/community/petition/3589)

**8) Date of next Forum** – Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2017, venue TBA

**NOTE!** The slide show displayed during the Meeting, in support of some of the topics raised and discussed, can be seen on the NP3 website (as a pdf):  
[Powerpoint Presentation Nov 2016](#)