



Henleaze Neighbourhood Forum Notes 2 February 2017

Present	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alan Aburrow (AA), Valerie Bishop (VB), Helen Furber (HF) and David Mayer (DM) – Elected Neighbourhood Partnership (NP) Ward Representatives for Westbury-on-Trym & Henleaze • Clare Campion-Smith (CCS), Geoff Gollop (GG) and Liz Radford (LR) – Councillors • Graham Donald (GD) - NP Vice Chair and Stephanie French (SF) - NP Tree Champion • Andrew McGrath (AM) - Bristol City Council (BCC) Neighbourhood Co-ordinator and Gary Brentnall (GB) – BCC Neighbourhood Officer • PC Paul Cousins • Approximately 30 members of the public
Apologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jane Emery, Bob Maggs, Patrick Power, David Reynolds, PC Joanne Robertson, Tom Scoffham, Judith Slugett, Brian Snary and Ruth Snary

1. Introductions	<p>HF welcomed everyone and explained the proposed format for the evening. She then introduced the Councillors, Ward/NP Representatives, BCC officers and the Police representative.</p>
2. Police update	<p>a) Introduction: PC advised that he was substituting for Joanne Robertson (Beat Manager for Henleaze). He then gave an update.</p> <p>b) Burglary: Six burglaries took place in the three months to 31 December 2016 compared with eight in the previous quarter. In 2016 there was a 38.8% drop from the year before.</p> <p>c) Non-Dwellings (Shed/Garages): Eight break-ins took place in the last quarter compared to ten in the previous quarter. There was a 4% drop from the year before.</p> <p>A recent spate of non-dwelling burglaries around the Howard Road/Russell Road area has taken place. These occurred over the course of two nights. A male, from the local area, was arrested. The police believed him to have been connected with the offences. Although the arrest could not be proven, the fact the individual was arrested and showed bad character whilst in custody resulted in him being recalled</p>

	<p>to prison. Since then there has been a significant decrease in offences in the area.</p> <p>d) Theft from motor vehicles: Nineteen thefts took place in the last quarter compared to fifteen in the previous quarter. There was a 23.9% drop from the year before.</p> <p>The police have been deploying a covert capture car around the local area and have been getting some positive results from this. There have been some convictions and some cases are still pending.</p> <p>e) Anti-Social Behaviour: There was a decrease of 24.7% last year. The main offenders for the majority of the incidents have been positively targeted. As a result, they have been served with notices and are being monitored by the Anti-Social behaviour team.</p> <p>f) Immobilise: From carrying out re-visits for burglaries and shed breaks, the police have found that individuals are still not making records of possessions. PC asked everyone to look at the Immobilise website - www.immobilise.com</p> <p>There was a recent case where the police did not have a serial number. The stolen property was sighted and checked but at the time the police could not prove that it was stolen. The owner found the serial number a few days later but the property had been 'moved on'. If the police had the serial number at the time of the theft, they could have recovered the item and linked it to an offender.</p> <p>In response to a question, PC advised that Immobilise is as 'hacker proofed' as possible.</p> <p>g) Beat Surgery: PC Jo Robertson and PCSO Zaheer (Zak) Bulbel are holding a 'drop in' surgery at Henleaze Library on Friday 24 February between 1pm and 2pm.</p>
<p>3. Bristol Energy</p>	<p>A representative from Bristol Energy (BE) was due to have attended the Forum. As the representative withdrew, the Councillors gave a brief overview. In essence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BE is wholly owned by BCC. • They offer gas and electricity for domestic and business customers across Bristol, the South West and nationwide. • They aim to provide an innovative way to support BCC in its economic, social and environmental goals. • Monthly meter readings are required. • Customer service is reported to be very good.

	<p>In response to a question, it was confirmed that, should any debts be incurred, they are underwritten by BCC.</p> <p>Further details are available at https://bristol-energy.co.uk/</p>
<p>4. Budget Cuts</p>	<p>Following on from the recent consultation, it was confirmed that the BCC budget for 2017/18 is due to be approved at a meeting of the full Council on 21 February.</p> <p>The cuts will certainly have an impact on Henleaze and Westbury Park. Specifically:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 50% of the NP budget (mainly salaries) will be taken away in 2017/18 with the remainder going by 31 March 2019. • Funding for traffic schemes will not be available. • Wellbeing funds are unlikely to be available. • Cuts across the city could impact on either or both of Westbury-on-Trym and Henleaze libraries. <p>Meeting participants were asked to bear in mind the likely impact (both human and financial) of the budget cuts when considering the remaining topics on the Forum agenda.</p>
<p>5. Environment</p>	<p>a) Sensory Garden: As advised at the last Forum, NP funds have been provided for two detailed design options for a sensory garden in Old Quarry Park (OQP). Subsequently further funds were allocated in December for the work, post approval of a preferred design, to be undertaken.</p> <p>Local residents will be involved in the project through a consultation process. GB anticipates matters moving forward by the end of February.</p> <p>In response to a question about the possibility of removing some trees from OQP, it was confirmed that over seventy self-seeded sycamores have already been removed.</p> <p>b) Parks: There is uncertainty across Bristol about the way forward. Budget savings are proposed of £3.92m over the next three years. It is proposed that community groups could take a more active role.</p> <p>The Parks Forum (www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/) is a strong group. Members are raising matters with Councillor Asher Craig (BCC Cabinet Member for Neighbourhoods). It is understood that cuts of £425,000 are included for 2017/18 with the balance of approximately £3.5m to be discussed at a BCC Cabinet meeting in June or July.</p> <p>c) Trees: Three trees budgeted for in 2015/2016 are due to be</p>

	<p>planted this season (by 31 March 2107) in the central reservation of the dual carriageway on Henleaze Road by OQP.</p> <p>Subject to Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) funds being available, replacement trees are scheduled to be planted in the 2017/2018 season in West Broadway (two), Grange Park (one), and Oakwood Road (two).</p> <p>Six diseased trees in Northumbria Drive are due to be felled shortly (in addition to two already felled). Some residents have stepped forward to sponsor two replacement trees. Further funds may be forthcoming from CIL funds or a Just Giving page set up by a local resident.</p> <p>It is envisaged that repairs to the pavements in Devonshire Road and the removal of stumps will take place during 2017.</p> <p>In response to a question, it was confirmed that it currently costs £295 to replace a tree (species will generally be the same). However, if a tree pit is also required the cost can rise to between £1,000 and £1,500.</p> <p>d) Ivy: Work has been undertaken to remove ivy from the wall of OQP.</p> <p>e) Overgrowing hedges: Where hedges etc. encroach on pavements and there is insufficient room for buggies and/ or wheelchairs, BCC can serve notices on residents to undertake the necessary trimming.</p>
<p>6. Transport</p>	<p>a) Westbury Park: The Chair of the Westbury Park Community Association (Kevin Chidley) advised that he had drafted a two page note about parking issues in Westbury Park. The note relates to roads in the wards of Westbury-on-Trym & Henleaze and Redland. It was agreed to circulate the note (see attached) with these Forum notes.</p> <p>After a discussion about the issues (including an open debate amongst Forum participants where it was accepted that residents of different roads will probably have different solutions), it was agreed that Kevin will draft a 'balanced survey' to solicit the views of those living in Westbury Park. He will share the draft with the Councillors.</p> <p>It is recognised that potential actions taken in Westbury Park – e.g. a residents' parking zone, double yellow lines etc. will have an impact on Henleaze.</p> <p>b) Cribbs Causeway & Patchway New Neighbourhood (CPNN): At the last Forum, participants were alerted to an</p>

	<p>electronic petition that has been started calling on the Mayor to work with South Gloucestershire Council to identify a site for and establish a Park & Ride facility. 3,500 signatures are required before the petition can be presented and to have a debate at a Council meeting. To date only 560 people have signed the petition. To access (and sign) it, go to: http://epetitions.bristol.gov.uk/epetition_core/community/petition/3589.</p> <p>c) Rockside Drive: The new shelter is now fully operational in that a real-time indicator has been added recently.</p> <p>d) Buses: Concern was expressed about the reliability of First Bus' number 2 service. It was suggested that where problems arise, residents send emails to First Bus (possibly to the Managing Director James Freeman who attended the Forum last year) and that correspondence is openly copied to the Councillors.</p>
<p>7. Older People</p>	<p>The NP's Working Group for Older People (WGOP) will be meeting on 22 March (10am at Henleaze Library). At the meeting preparation of a third edition of the popular booklet on activities in Stoke Bishop, Westbury-on-Trym & Henleaze for the over 55s will be discussed.</p> <p>After the NP ceases to exist, the WGOP will consider linking up with other community groups in order to continue working with and for older people.</p>
<p>8. Small Grants</p>	<p>Due to the BCC budget freeze, no small grants payments have been possible since the last Forum.</p> <p>The NP has been given £5,000 from the Avon & Somerset Police Transformers' Fund to allocate towards youth projects. Four projects (one from the Henleaze area) will potentially benefit from the Fund; a decision will be made at the NP meeting on 6 March.</p>
<p>9. Planning</p>	<p>a) Characterisation: The Henleaze - Our Place Character Appraisal has been published and is on BCC's website at: www.bristol.gov.uk/planning-and-building-regulations/character-assessments. A hard copy is now available at the Henleaze and Westbury-on-Trym libraries.</p> <p>b) 99 Devonshire Road: Concern was expressed about the ongoing lack of action and health and safety concerns.</p> <p>c) Harbury Road: A decision is anticipated by 13 February on an enforcement case.</p> <p>d) Twickenham Road: An application for retrospective planning permission has been approved.</p>

	<p>e) Red Maids' High School: Few people at the meeting lived near/ are directly affected by the latest Red Maids' High School planning application. It was explained that sixty plus people had submitted objections or made neutral comments about the impact on residents of the additional vehicles taking pupils to/ from school and of extra parking around the school. Other issues relate to the joint impact of the expansion of St Ursula's E'ACT Academy and Red Maids' High School, polluting the environment and safety concerns. The Councillors advised that a meeting was arranged with the school Bursar on 3 February.</p>
<p>10. Communications</p>	<p>a) Henleaze Christmas Festival: The 2016 Festival went well. A meeting is taking place later this month to determine the amounts to be paid to the nominated charities.</p> <p>More volunteers are needed to help support the 2017 Festival.</p> <p>b) Update: A public access defibrillator has been installed outside the Henleaze United Reformed Church. Publicity about the defibrillator started with an article in the recent Henleaze Society Newsletter.</p> <p>c) Westbury-on-Trym: In 717 a church was established in Westbury-on-Trym. This year, to mark the 1300th anniversary, several events are taking place. Information can be obtained from Bridget.Niblett@Outlook.com.</p>
<p>11. Metro Mayor</p>	<p>Questions were raised during the Forum about the new position of Metro Mayor. Participants were advised:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Metro Mayor will be in addition to Bristol's Lord Mayor and elected Mayor. • The Metro Mayor will chair the new West of England Combined Authority - which promises £1 billion over 30 years for Bath and North East Somerset, Bristol and South Gloucestershire. • Responsibilities of the Metro Mayor will be transport, economic development, housing and adult learning. • The Metro Mayor will be elected on Thursday 4 May 2017.
<p>12. Future Forums</p>	<p>At the end of the Forum, participants were asked if they would like the quarterly meetings to continue. In summary the comments were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The meetings are valuable to the Councillors. • Residents find the meetings to be informative. • Consideration needs to be given to how future meetings will be structured. A suggestion was that the local community

	groups could facilitate meetings.
13. Contacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillors: Clare Champion-Smith (cldr.clare.campion-smith@bristol.gov.uk), Geoff Gollop (cldr.geoffrey.gollop@bristol.gov.uk) and Liz Radford (cldr.liz.radford@bristol.gov.uk). • Henleaze Ward Representatives: Valerie Bishop (valerie.bishop3@btinternet.com) and Helen Furber (helen.furber@blueyonder.co.uk).
14. Next meeting	Subject to confirmation, it is proposed to hold a meeting at 7pm on Thursday 11 May in Henleaze Library.