

Henleaze Neighbourhood Forum Notes – 22 February 2018

Present	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clare Champion-Smith (CCS) and Geoff Gollop (GG) – Councillors • Helen Furber (HF) – Facilitator • PCSOs Zaheer Bulbul (ZB) and Joe Reed (JR) • Approximately 40 members of the public
Apologies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councillor Liz Radford, Alan Aburrow and Sue Thomas

1. Introductions	HF welcomed everyone and explained the proposed format for the evening. She then introduced the Councillors.																				
2. Police update	<p>a) Introduction: ZB introduced himself and JR. He explained that a replacement is currently being sought for PC Tara Pike who is taking maternity leave.</p> <p>b) Statistics: ZB gave details of the recorded crime statistics for Henleaze and Westbury-on-Trym for the period from 1 November 2017 to 21 February 2018. As the categories provided did not correspond with previous data, it is not possible to provide comparative figures.</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Offence</th> <th>Total</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Arson</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Burglary</td> <td>98</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Criminal damage</td> <td>34</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Drug offences</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Robbery</td> <td>6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sexual offences</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Theft/ Handling stolen goods</td> <td>141</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Violence against the person</td> <td>60</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other</td> <td>5</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>ZB advised that quite a lot of the burglaries that were occurring last year were down, in the main, to one individual who was targeted by the police. The individual is serving a custodial sentence for dwelling burglaries.</p> <p>The number of recorded crimes has gone down from 134 at its peak at the start of March 2017 to 54 crimes recorded in February 2018 (note statistics only cover a 21-day period).</p> <p>c) Update on recent break ins: There has been a recent spate of break ins to porches in the Horfield, Southmead and Henleaze areas. The suspected offender lives locally and is a white female, slim build, 5'6", in her early 30's with long dark hair in a ponytail. She lives locally and, at the time of the Forum, was on conditional bail. She had been walking around the area pretending to do leaflet drops whilst looking for houses to target. If there are any sightings, please call the police immediately.</p> <p>She has mainly been targeting parcels and mail. She has also stolen coats and other personal belongings once she has gained access to porches.</p> <p>d) Southmead Police Station: As previously noted, the Station closed at the end of March 2017. Negotiations for a new station in North Bristol are ongoing. It is hoped to have an update about the location soon.</p>	Offence	Total	Arson	1	Burglary	98	Criminal damage	34	Drug offences	2	Robbery	6	Sexual offences	3	Theft/ Handling stolen goods	141	Violence against the person	60	Other	5
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	<p>A temporary enquiry office is available within Southmead Fire Station (10am – 6pm) until a permanent solution is available. However, ZB is based at Bridewell and travels to/from Westbury-on-Trym & Henleaze each day.</p> <p>e) Beat Surgeries: These will take place on the following dates in Henleaze Library:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday 14 March, 5pm to 6pm • Tuesday 10 April, Noon to 1pm
<p>3. Bristol City Council Budget</p>	<p>GG and CCS commented briefly on the Budget for the financial year to 31 March 2019.</p> <p>At a meeting of the Full Council on 20 February, it was agreed to raise Council Tax by an extra 4.99% from April 2018. This includes 2% to support Adult Social Care.</p> <p>Based on initial feedback it is thought that Henleaze Library will remain open. The position regarding Westbury Library remains a concern, notwithstanding the extended access facility. The Councillors anticipate the position becoming clearer during April.</p>
<p>4. Transport</p>	<p>a) Traffic Choices: Prior to the budget cuts, Bristol City Council introduced an on-line process whereby residents can suggest highways projects (e.g. parking restrictions, changing lane markings etc) which they consider to be necessary and/or helpful. For ongoing details go to https://www.trafficchoices.co.uk/</p> <p>In the last quarter the following local issues were added to the website (note that there is duplication but, for completeness, the entries have not been edited).</p> <p>i) 7 December – Due to the proposed introduction of a Residents Parking Scheme in nearby roads, drivers are using Etloe Road, Queen Victoria Road, Bayswater and Royal Albert Roads to park. As these are narrow roads, the vehicles are parked on the footway, so pedestrians have to walk in the road. On Etloe Road/Bayswater Road there are two nurseries and a primary school. The cars parking here create a danger to the public. My car has already been hit as a result of people parking on the pavement creating a very tight road.</p> <p>ii) 20 December - Cars are parking on the pavements on Etloe Road, near the junction to Royal Albert Road, preventing wheelchairs, push chairs and the elderly from walking past. There is also a school and nursery within 100m. Vehicles parked on the pavement are also making it very difficult to turn out of Royal Albert Road onto Etloe Road. And making it difficult for children and parents trying to cross. This has got worse in the past few months, I suspect from more parking restrictions, roll out of RPZ extensions and the return of students. My main concern is older people and children are unable to get past these vans and cars parking on the pavement on a daily basis. Address with some yellow lines and eventually a RPZ scheme. I have contacted the Police, local councillors and more recently my local MP - Darren Jones.</p>

- iii) **29 December** – I work on Henleaze Road and I am bringing to the Council's attention the situation concerning the zebra crossing on Henleaze Road that is just before the junction of Cavendish Road. I have worked in an office on Henleaze Road for 6 years and for some reason many cars just ignore this zebra crossing and myself and colleagues have had many near misses whilst walking across the zebra crossing. Cars even go straight across when you are in the middle of the road. Not only my work colleagues, but also members of the public have called into the office reporting about the danger of this zebra crossing.
- iv) **8 January** - Residents and visitors of Cranford Court are finding it difficult to turn out of the car park on to the highway, as large vehicles are parking in the section not covered by double yellow lines, outside Cranford Court. This is a very busy main road, with a bus stop directly opposite. We have to pull out into the middle of the main road to see upcoming traffic before being able to negotiate the parked vehicle.
- v) **8 January** – I would like to report an issue with the pedestrian crossing between Falcondale Rd and The Downs, on my way to drop my son at Elmlea school. At least 2-3 times I have nearly been knocked over on my bike with my 4-year-old son on it too, whilst crossing the pedestrian crossing. Drivers may not be aware of the crossing when coming up the hill on Falcondale Road or the other side of the crossing.
- vi) **8 January** - I am concerned about the speed cars and in particular vans and lorries go up and down Coldharbour road near Halsbury road Junction. There is a 20-mph speed limit but it's not observed. The lorries can make my house on Halsbury Road shake. It's also difficult for my kids to cross.
- vii) **8 and 9 January** (Entries by a resident and Darren Jones MP) - A constituent in Westbury Park has written to us about his increasing concerns on poor parking in Etloe Rd., BS6. I am writing to draw your attention to the desperate situation of obstructive parking in Westbury Park.

I have lived on Etloe Road for 5 years and the past month has been the worst I have experienced. In particular people parking on pavements blocking access for push chairs and wheels chairs, not to mention obscuring the view of drivers at junctions - especially around the Etloe Road and Royal Albert road junction.

This is almost certainly the result of recent RPZ extensions and the Downs parking limit. We are very close to bus links so people park and catch the bus. It is becoming desperately congested of late and I feel only an RPZ extension and some yellow lining will make these roads safe for the children at Westbury Park Primary, Daisy Chain nursery and St Christopher's School.

A brief discussion took place about the issues recorded above. It was agreed that there would be no quick answers as it can take at least two years to get double yellow lines painted! A possibility may be to enlist help from local Neighbourhood Watches. It was suggested that 'The Forum' writes to ask if any help might be forthcoming.

b) Visits by Civil Enforcement Officers (“Traffic Wardens”): The Councillors have arranged for activity statistics to be provided at the Forums. Data for the last twelve months follows:

Place	Visits	Vehicles noted	PCNs*
Henleaze Road	289	194	40
Westbury Road	42	7	3
Grange Court Road	14	0	0
Priory Avenue	12	0	0
Brecon Road	26	2	1
Carmarthen Road	23	2	1
Cardigan Road	94	92	12

*Penalty Charge Notices

Note that visits made by CCTV vehicles are not recorded unless PCNs have been issued.

Civil Enforcement Officers can undertake targeted enforcement. However, it should be noted that complaints about parking in areas around schools are patrolled on a roster basis.

- c) St Ursula’s and surrounding area:** Signage is now in place so, subject to resources, Civil Enforcement Officers can take greater action regarding inappropriate parking in the vicinity of the school.
- d) RedMaids’ High School:** GG/CCS have continued to speak with representatives from the School but the traffic issues continue. It was agreed that GG/CCS will ask for a copy of the School’s travel plan. Ideally the plan can then be shared with local residents and a meeting to discuss it could be considered.
- e) Statistics re Accidents etc:** Details regarding road accidents for the last three years are included in the Traffic Choices website – go to (<https://www.trafficchoices.co.uk/>) and select ‘view traffic accidents in your area here.’
- f) Canford Lane:** The perceived need for a pedestrian crossing in Canford Lane was raised. An article regarding crossing Canford Lane is included in the March edition of Henleaze & Westbury Voice.
- g) Feasibility studies:** The Councillors confirmed that Community Infrastructure Levy monies cannot be used to fund feasibility studies. This begs the question of how these studies can be financed – especially current examples such as a possible crossing in Canford Lane and the possibility of extending the Redland RPZ into our ward.
- h) Community Speedwatch:** One volunteer has come forward from Henleaze. He advised that he felt he could make a difference and encouraged others to join him. If you would like to be involved, send an email to henleazeforum@hotmail.com
- i) 20 mile per hour zones:** It is understood that a six week Consultation regarding these zones will start in April. The focus would be on whether they are in the correct places.

	<p>j) Pollution: This is a cause for concern throughout Bristol. A paper (Improving Public Health - A Clean Air Plan for Bristol) was due to go to the Cabinet Meeting on 6 March.</p>
<p>5. Environment</p>	<p>a) Old Quarry Park (OQP): Bristol City Parks Department staff have started the enhancements. It was agreed that the trustees of The Henleaze Society would be asked if they are prepared to work with the Council staff and the RSPB regarding involving school children assembling some bird boxes.</p> <p>Local historian Veronica Bowerman has suggested installing an interpretation board in OQP; she has received some favourable responses from possible grant funders. Forum participants agreed that a board, subject to funding and Bristol City Council agreement, should be installed.</p> <p>It was agreed that, as a community association needs to be involved in order to bank any grant funding, the trustees of The Henleaze Society should be involved.</p> <p>Other issues regarding OQP were raised by participants – (a) safety concerns regarding green moss growing in the children’s play area; (b) damage to the wall and (c) whether one or more bushes could be planted near the double gate that opens on to Henleaze Road. HF will follow up.</p> <p>b) Trees: Since the last Forum some money has been found to ease the street tree planting and maintenance position until 31 March 2019.</p> <p>In advance of the meeting, a Kellaway Avenue resident asked for help in planting a replacement street tree outside 87 Kellaway Avenue. If necessary local residents will consider fully funding or match funding the replacement tree.</p> <p>c) Pavements/ hedges: At the last Forum, a dangerous footpath was reported in front of Tesco at Golden Hill. The matter was raised again.</p> <p>LR followed up after the last Forum but participants thought that further pressure should be applied now due to the potential safety issues. The Councillors agreed to follow up on any action required.</p> <p>d) Drains: An overflowing drain in Owen Grove has caused concern for some time. Although it has been reported to the Council, the problem persists. CCS agreed to follow up.</p> <p>e) Hill View/ Park Grove: Following a discussion with an Officer from the Council’s Parks Department, it is possible that a bench previously in Old Quarry Park will be re-sited to the triangular area in Hill View/Park Grove. HF is following up.</p>
<p>6. People</p>	<p>A new Henleaze, Westbury-on-Trym and Stoke Bishop edition of “What’s on for over 55s” is due to be issued in March.</p>

7. Planning	<p>a) 99 Devonshire Road: Concern was expressed about no progress being made since the last Forum. It is understood that the work will recommence this Spring.</p> <p>b) St Ursula's: Residents remain concerned about the future of the old building and the site currently occupied on a lease by SHINE. No progress has been made in the last quarter.</p>
8. Contacts	Any emails sent to henleazeforum@hotmail.com will be forwarded to the relevant contact. Please contact the email address if you want your name to be added to the Henleaze Forum mailing list.
9. Next meeting	7pm on 24 May 2018 at Henleaze Library.

APPENDIX – Further information

School Crossing Patrol (SCP)	<p>At the November Forum a discussion ensued about the positioning of one of the Patrols by the Henleaze Junior and Infants Schools.</p> <p>On 28 February, a response was received from Bristol City Council advising that the SCP was positioned to allow the 'Lollipop Lady' better visibility of approaching traffic and to catch a greater number of pedestrians wishing to cross. The position has not changed so the lady remains at the original crossing point.</p> <p>The Officer went on to explain that the main purpose of the other feature was to slow traffic (as it is a raised table) and to narrow down the junction where it splits. The raised table slows south bound traffic down before it reaches the SCP and provides an additional point to cross for pedestrians coming from/to the north direction</p>
Henleaze Character Appraisal	https://www.bristol.gov.uk/documents/20182/0/Henleaze+character+assessment/1719a373-1617-4f53-bb97-ecbce1c5b89
Westbury Park Character Appraisal	https://westburyparkcommunityassociation.weebly.com/uploads/2/9/5/4/29540263/wpca_character-assessment_(1).pdf
Bristol City Council & Cabinet Meetings	<p>Full Council and Cabinet meetings are available via live and recorded webcasts.</p> <p>https://democracy.bristol.gov.uk/mgCalendarMonthView.aspx?GL=1&bcr=1</p>
Bins and recycling	https://www.bristol.gov.uk/en_US/bins-recycling
Street issues	<p>Examples include street lighting, drains, graffiti and damaged roads/ footpaths.</p> <p>https://www.bristol.gov.uk/en_US/report-a-street-issue</p>
West of England Combined Authority	https://www.westofengland-ca.gov.uk/