



Neighbourhood Partnership Times

Issue 4
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More “powers” to St George Neighbourhood Partnership!

On Thursday 1st October 2009, Bristol City Council Cabinet approved plans to devolve £10.9m and transfer decision-making powers to 14 Neighbourhood Committees across the city.

“Neighbourhood Committees” is a new term used to describe local councillors with enhanced decision-making powers. The role of the Neighbourhood Committees will become vitally important to the way Neighbourhood Partnerships operate across the city.

What this means for us as local residents in St George is that we now have real opportunity to have a say in how services affecting our lives are delivered locally.

Devolved budgets are expected to take place as early as April 2010. As we speak councillors and senior council officers are working hard alongside Voscur and members of the Thriving Neighbourhood’s

Board in order to make this happen within the tight timescales.

Details of how this is going to work is still pending, but what we do know is that we will continue to operate as we have done in the past year and build on many of the good projects we have supported.

We will continue to organise open Neighbourhood Forum meetings across St George, in order to provide as many opportunities as possible to get local residents involved in improving St George.

Express your view!

In this section we usually invite both local residents and agency representatives to express their views about the St George Neighbourhood Partnership. In this issue we have invited Denise James to tell us what she thinks of the Partnership

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Hello everyone, my name is Denise James, I work for Bristol City, within the Waste Services & Streetscene dept. My role is the Project Officer for the Bristol Clean & Green Campaign and I have been in this post now for five years. Unlike some Council Officers I do not have a dedicated work area. This has allowed me to work with community groups and agencies from across the city.



The purpose of this initiative is to help
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Action Plan Update

Producing and managing an Action Plan for the area is one of the key roles of the St George Neighbourhood Partnership. If you would like to know how the Partnership works contact Abdul Razak Dahir on 0117 903 6409.

The area Action Plan is made up of issues expressed and prioritised by local residents at the Neighbourhood Forums, these are open public meetings. At the moment the following themes are the main headings for our area Action Plan:

- 1- Traffic and Transport issues
- 2- Neighbourhoods & Street Scene
- 3- Parks & Leisure issues

In this section of the newsletter we report to you the progress we are making in taking forward the Action Plan priorities as identified by local residents:

1- Traffic & Transport:

At our last Neighbourhood Forum meeting local residents prioritised "Public transport provision in east Bristol for elderly residents" Since this meeting we have contacted Bristol Community Transport to see how we could use alternative transport provision in the short-term. This priority will also be passed on to First Group who are responsible for delivering public transport provision for the city.

Another priority was "Traffic calming for Meadow Vale, Speedwell and surrounding areas and Troopers Hill" There is an ongoing discussion to reach an agreement with Bristol City Council's Highways department to look after mobile traffic calming equipment on behalf of St George Neighbourhood Partnership. If this agreement is reached the Partnership will consider purchasing it's own equipment which will be ring fenced for St George Neighbourhood.

2- Neighbourhoods & Street Scene

Bristol City Council's Street Scene department visited Stibbs Hill Lane and cleared the fly tip waste in response to a community priority which emerged from the 15th of July 2009 Forum meeting.

An other issue which was previously prioritised is "Street Cleansing times in conjunction with collection times" Steve Rogers on behalf of the partnership managed to negotiate with SITA. SITA has now agreed to change street cleansing dates for Speedwell area from Tuesday to Thursday, so that it is cleaned after the rubbish collection. 34 Roads from the area has benefited from this new arrangement, which began July 2009.

3- Parks and Leisure

At the last Forum meeting local residents prioritised "Get Play rangers or outreach workers to consult with young people to find out what activities they want provided in St George East". This priority is currently on going, we are waiting for project costings to carry out consultation with young people.

Previous priority was to identify community facilities in St George area particularly for the older people. A wide range of people and groups responded to our survey of local community services in St George area. As a result of this we now have 48 community services registered with us to go on a mini directory. We are considering naming this new directory after our central pages in this newsletter you are reading "St George - What's On!" If you think we should name it something else please get in touch and tell us your thoughts.

**If you would like to get involved or
just want to share your thoughts
please contact:
Abdul Razak Dahir 0117 903 6409
abdulrazak.dahir@bristol.gov.uk**

Fantastic success for local community group in St. George.

Kensington Road Residents Association in St George have won the 2009 winners for Bristol in Bloom in the 'Your street' category of the competition.

Grenville Johnson who set up the residents association just over five years ago said 'We wanted to visually enhance our street, so we asked all the residents to plant a window box or planter or hanging basket and display them in their tiny front gardens. We submitted an entry for Bristol in Bloom and have just heard the wonderful news that we are the overall winners for the street category. We also arranged for the Council to provide hanging baskets, which are attached to the lampposts, and they make such a big improvement to Kensington Road. So many local folks and visitors have made so many positive comments about our efforts. The Lord Mayor and Lady Mayoress of Bristol have also made a special visit to see what we have achieved.'

We set up a working party to clear an area of unclaimed land in the street that was a magnet for fly tipping, and it was overgrown with brambles and weeds. We cleared part of it and replanted the area to form a community garden. The other half of the area was left as a wildlife and food source and retreat for nesting birds and insects.

A Bristol in Bloom silver gilt medal will be given at a special ceremony at the Mansion House in Bristol during September. Grenville's house frontage display of flowers and foliage also received second prize and a silver gilt medal in the same competition.





St George - V

**Our next
Public Forum meeting
is at Gurdwara** (formerly known
as St George School)
**301 - 307
Church Road
Bristol BS5 8AA**
On
**Wednesday 4th Nov 2009
7pm to 9pm**

Remember to come along!

PACT Meetings

**St George West:
Friday 30th Oct 2009, 7pm to 8pm at Bristol
Brunel Academy, Speedwell Road, Bristol**

**St George East:
Tuesday 8th Dec 2009, 7pm to 8pm at St
Aidan's Church, Fir Tree Lane, St George,
Bristol**

**St George South West:
Monday 4th Jan 2010, 7pm to 8pm, at Bris-
tol Brunel Academy, Speedwell Road, Bris-
tol**

**For more information about the next PACT
meeting in your area please contact Police
Sergeant Darren Warr on 0117 952 9529**

Meadow Vale Community Cen		
Days	Activities	T
Mondays	Art classes	09:4
Tuesdays	Card club	2pm
	Adult tap dancing classes	7:30p
Wednesdays	Available for hire	
Thursdays	Craft Club	2pm
Fridays	Available for hire	
Saturdays	Indian dance classes	11an
	21st November Winter Fay	
	12th December Grand Ch Draw & Party with Bu	
For more information or to book for p parties contact Ann 0117 960 535		

ST.GEORGE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Activities for

- Senior Citizens' Coffee Morning
- Time for Tots toddler group
- Craft Group
- Samba dance
- Bristol School of Tai-chi
- Choreographed Drumming
- Bristol Twins and More
- Jolly Tots singing group
- + Much more

Dance School every
Wednesday & Saturday

Choreographed Drumming
every Monday & Thursday

Yoga every
Monday & Tuesday

For more information visit our website or conta
www.stgeorgecc.co.uk
0117 9411882
0775 7319582
stgeorgecc@hotmail.com

What's On!

FREE CENTRE PAGE PROMOTION!

If you are a community/voluntary group and would like to be featured in future editions, please contact Abdul Razak Dahir 0117 9036409 or e-mail abdulrazak.dahir@bristol.gov.uk.

St. George has its own award-winning garden that is open to the public!

The garden has been featured on B.B.C television's 'Gardeners World' and in numerous magazines and national newspapers.

The garden at 28 Kensington Road, St. George, Bristol. BS5 7NB is open during the summer months by appointment.

Telephone 0117 9496788 or email: victorianhouse@blueyonder.co.uk



ngs gardens open for charity

Contact Rob/Susan 0117 9475037

Or

Visit: www.troopers-hill.org.uk



Friends of Troopers Hill 2009 Programme

Date	Activities	Time
Sat 7th Nov	Work Party	10:00 am
Tues 10th Nov	Meeting	7:15 pm
Sat 5th Dec	Work Party	10:00 am
Sun 6th Dec	Lichens and mosses walk Guided walk booking is essential	10:30 am
Sun 6th Dec	Join expert Justin Smith in a hunt for some of the most overlooked wildlife on Troopers Hill	
Sun 6th Dec	Finish off with a slide show review 2009	3 pm

For the Youth Bus contact:
Avon Youth Association on 01454868371

For Judo sessions contact:
Sarah on 0770 3469000

Youth Activities

Harry Crook Centre

Day	Activities	Time
Monday	After School Club	3:15 - 5:45
	Judo Club	6:00-9:00pm
Tuesday	After School Club	3:15 - 5:45
Wednesday	After School Club	3:15 - 5:45
	Judo Club	6:00-9:00pm
Thursday	After School Club	3:15 - 5:45
Friday	Football training U12s	6:00-9:00pm

For more information contact:

Gary on: 0117 9656948 / 0797 1686946

Or email: hcyac@dsl.pipex.com

Kingsway Youth Centre


Day	Activities	Time
Monday	General activities	7:00-9:30pm
Wednesday	General activities	7:00-9:30pm

For more information contact:

Mary Hastings on: 0785 5222320

Or email: mary.hastings@bristol.gov.uk

Activities Available in Speedwell

Date	Venue	Time	Age
Tuesdays Youth Bus	Bookers Cash & Carry	7:00-9:30pm	13-19 Years
Wednesdays Judo Sessions	Brunel Academy Speedwell Rd Bristol, BS5	6:00-7:00pm	5-7 Years
		7:00-8:00pm	8-13 Years



Extended School Football Coaching Sessions



Date	Venue	Time	Age
Mondays Tuesdays Thursdays Fridays	Brunel Academy Speedwell Rd Bristol, BS5	6:00-6:55pm	8-11 years
		5:30-6:25pm	5-7 years

No need to book, just turn up! Each session is £3
Coaches available are FA registered, CRB checked & First Aid trained.

For more information contact:
Sarah on 0770 3469000

The Revamping of St George Park



You may recall in our last issue we have urged for volunteers to join the revamping of St George Park. On Monday 24th July saw the start of 'BenchAid', a week long community project instigated by Crofts End Church, aimed at restoring all 55 benches and a vandalised shelter in St. George Park.

Despite some bad weather during the week, a large team of workers from the church joined with volunteers from the community to bring life back to this neglected area of the park. With materials

supplied by Bristol City Council Parks department, members of the Friends of St. George Park led by Trevor Ball, had been working for several months prior, repairing broken slats allowing people to sit on benches that had not been used for a long time.

Volunteers, many of whom got involved because they use the park regularly scraped, sanded and re-painted a total of 35 benches including one that seemed beyond repair, but which was brought back to it's former glory.



Restoring the park shelter was a major task which required a dedicated team of skilled workmen from Crofts End all of whom gave their time for free. Funding for the materials for this part of the project was secured through St George Neighbourhood Partnership and during the week the shelter was transformed. A new wooden ceiling was installed, damaged ironwork replaced and a new copula erected on the re-painted roof.



The week ended with a free community

party for everyone who got involved. The evening included a live band, a DJ, bouncy castle, face painting, BBQ and a kid's fancy dress competition for the best explorers outfit. This was a chance for people to let their hair down after a week of hard work and proved a great success, enabling further interaction between the community.

Pastor Andrew Yelland said, 'Even though the weather was against us at times this project has been a huge success with people from across the community working together to benefit others. Those who visit the park cannot fail to see the vast improvement that has been made when people work together.'

Community Fun Day at Meadow Vale Park

After a long hard work in planning for the Meadow Vale Community Fun Day and over coming so many challenges Meadow Vale Park Action Group (MVPAG) managed to put it together at the last minute.

Meadow Vale Community Fun Day took place on Saturday 8th August at Meadow Vale Park. The day was full of fun for all members of community, families, children, young and elderly.

The event was part funded by St George Neighbourhood Partnership remaining funds was raised from Quartet Community Foundation. The event provided a good opportunity for local residents to come together and just simply have fun!

Jo Thomas who is one of the event organizers said "we are delight to have organised this event, our aim is to provide community activities for all sector of the community. We are now planning for Christmas Carol Singing nights in Speedwell. This will be taking place during the second week of December so look-out!"

If you are a community organisation/group and would like funds to help you deliver a project that is benefiting your local community the Partnership would like to hear from you. Please contact Abdul Razak Dahir 0117 9036409 abdulrazak.dahir@bristol.gov.uk



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deliver one of the City Council's 6 Key Priorities from 2008 – 2011 "improving the look and cleanliness of our streets and neighbourhoods"

The Bristol Clean and Green Board manage the initiative. Membership of the board which is made up of key stakeholders from across the City and they meet in the Council House usually once every six weeks. The Executive Member for Neighbourhoods chairs the meetings.

Since working directly with your Neighbourhood Partnership, we have been involved in the Speedwell Pride Project, which involved removing over 5.025 tonnes of rubbish from local resident gardens and encouraging them to take part in the Council's bulky collection scheme. The project also funded a trail hanging basket scheme in the local shopping area. This has proved to be successful and it is hoped this can continue next Summer. I have also been working closely with the residents of Kensington Place and encouraged them to take part in the Bristol in Bloom Competition. Whereby residents all made an effort to enhance their front gardens and recently celebrated award success at the Mansion House, in the presence of the Lord Mayor. We would like to encourage more local residents to take part in next years Bristol in Bloom awards and will be announcing our proposals shortly. We would hope that next year more local residents and streets will be celebrating Bristol in Bloom success.

**If you would like to know about Bristol Clean & Green please contact:
Denise James 0117 922 4726
denise.james@bristol.gov.uk**

Some useful contact details

Bristol City Council		
Department	Contacts	
General enquiries including Street lighting	www.bristol.gov.uk/a2b	0117 922 2100
Removal of rubbish/ fly tipping/ household waste	www.bristol.gov.uk/flytipping	0117 922 2100
The Pest Control & Dog Warden Service	dog.warden@bristol.gov.uk	0117 922 2500
	pest.control@bristol.gov.uk	
	www.bristol.gov.uk/pestcontrol	
Anti-social behaviour	www.bristol.gov.uk/asb	0845 605 2222

Police		
Bristol East South Neighbourhood Team		
Area	Name	Contact
Bristol East South	PS 2665 Darren Warr	0117 9529529 0791 9538882
	Main Office	0117 9529533
St George West (Speedwell/ Whitehall) Beat	PC 4170 Andy Peppin	0791 9628303
	PCSO 7724 Casper Harvey	0782 4519237
	PCSO 6995 Michelle Green	0776 8970970
St George East (Two Mile Hill) Beat	Main Office	0117 9529519
	PC 1978 Huw Williams	0776 7827613
	PCSO 8397 Victoria Shields	0776 9551551
St George's South East / South West Beat	Main Office	0117 9529534
	PC 682 Peter Crawford	0791 9628304
	PCSO 7047 Richard Mathias	0782 4519236
	PCSO 7094 Geoff Siddorn	0782 5103277
Crime stoppers		0800 555 111
In the case of an EMERGENCY you Should always dial 999		
visit: www.avonandsomerset.police.uk		