

GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

MEETING DATE: THURSDAY 21ST JULY 2016

Meeting Location: URC, Passage Road, Henbury

Apologies: Councilor Chris Windows

Present: Paul Thompson (Chair) and 13 people were present including Councilor Mark Weston

Matters arising

One item referring to minutes of the last meeting held on 21st April 2016, the Library opening times, was amended to include Wednesdays opening from 11:00 to 19:00.

The minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 21st April were then accepted as a true record of the meeting.

Chair's Report

Chairman, Paul Thompson, Welcomed first time attendees and apologized for the mix up in some peoples understanding of the starting time of the meeting.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer, Derek Head, opened with an explanation of how he became treasurer of the Council and to make an appeal for anyone interested in volunteering for the role of treasurer to contact the Council as he feels that a younger persons' knowledge of modern technology could be of benefit to the goals of the Council.

Derek circulated copies of a Summary of Cost Centre Balances and went on to explain that there is an outstanding bill for printing and an outstanding income from the grant to launch the Community Action Plan (CAP).

Appendix included in the minutes.

Councilor's Update's

Councilor Mark Weston informed the meeting that matter of the Bristol, South Glos, NE Somerset and Bath and North East Somerset (BANES) devolution debate had resulted in Bristol opting to participate while BANES have opted out of the proposal.

Mark said that the decision was a difficult one to come to, but on balance the funding opportunities for the region outweighed the possible downside of having a Metro Mayor which is a condition of the devolution project.

It would appear that by participating in the devolution there would be a £4- to 4 million top up for transportation in the city a further billion pounds for investment in local infrastructure spanning the next 30 years.

A question of accountability was asked from the floor and Mark assured those present that the new administration would not resemble the old Avon structure and would have much stronger accountability and safeguards.

Mark also reported that he had been to a meeting with Clifton Rugby Club to discuss parking for the new Henbury railway station and that matters were ongoing.

A second question was asked – Would the referendum result to leave the EU affect funding in our area? Mark explained that while Henbury and Brentry had pockets of poverty its wealth overall was above that needed to qualify for much EU funding and that because of this the ward should not experience any financial impact from the decision to leave the EU. He did say that the area does benefit from EU Research & Development funding and that he is confident that this will be protected under UK regional development funding after the UK leaves the EU.

Community Building - Councilor Mark Weston

Mark confirmed that Bristol Charities are relinquishing the lease on the Henbury Centre and that 3 organizations were expressing an interest in taking up the lease on the building, including this Council. To formally register a declaration of intent a submission must be made to Bristol City Council by 8th August 2016 and Mark asked for the council's permission for him and Sarah to prepare and submit the necessary documentation.

The £17,000 per annum running costs were discussed and it was pointed out that the center was not currently maximizing its income potential which would be necessary should the H&BCC take on the 3 year lease.

Questions were asked regarding the level of commitment needed at this stage and the potential financial liability for the trustees. Mark assured the meeting that no commitments would be made with full consultation with the Council and that changing the status of the exiting charitable status of the Council, to protect the personal liabilities of the trustees with the help and advice from VOSCUR would be part of the process.

Tim suggested that an Extraordinary General Meeting would need to be called if H&BCC were successful in stage one of the application as the next full General Meeting in October would be too late to meeting the 2nd stage submission which is due in September. He finally said that the centre has to pay its way through charging rent to user groups and that as the centers' income potential has not been fully exploited it could be financially self sustaining

A motion was put to the floor to allow Mark and Sarah to prepare and submit an interest by the H&BCC to Bristol City Council. The motion was proposed by **Howard Windsor and seconded by Andy Holliday**. The motion was passed unopposed. Mark closed this subject by asking any user groups to provide letters of support for the council's proposal.

Mark then brought up the matter of the Henbury Library and told the meeting that there was £18k available to invest in the library. He suggests that the building needs and external overhaul, to which Howard mentioned that the ceramic murals on the front of the building, which were made by a local girl has never been vandalized and should remain.

Mark said that a full consultation would take place before any work is done and outlined other aspects of the refurbishment that might take place such as in proving the access to the toilets for public use, which would provide the only public toilets in the area; improving access to the existing computers in the building for better public utilization and possible the installation of a café in the building to encourage its wider use and support.

Police Update

There were no representatives from the local constabulary present at the meeting and no report had been received.

Community Action Plan Update – Tim Parkinson

Tim reported that the launch of the CAP was successful and well attended. He was pleased to announce that each of the 12 sections of the plan has at least one volunteer willing to undertake the task facilitating the progress the detailed actions of the Plan. He also said that some tasks have more than one volunteer and some volunteers are working on more than one action, as a result of this he called for more volunteers to come forward to help achieve the goals. He and Marianna have copies of the full Action Plan for anyone who would like one and he is prepared to spend time with anyone who might like to volunteer.

The CAP Steering Group is currently chaired by Tim and he asked that if anyone younger would like to undertake this role to please make them self known to the Council. He handed over the newsletter distribution responsibilities he currently holds and the management of the website to Marianna to allow him some reduction in the number of his community activities..

Wendy Baverstock has been working on the Health and Wellbeing objective of the CAP and has been to a meeting with the Bristol Health Partnership where she learnt that there is a small amount of funding available to hold a Wellbeing Event in the area. She has asked for a ‘focus group’ to look into the possible content needs of such an event.

Events Group Update and Henbury & Brentry Residents Association (ex SEARCH)

The Henbury & Brentry Fun Day is taking place on Saturday 20th August.

The Goram Fair is taking place on Saturday 30th July. Marianne pointed out that in the Newsletter the organizer of the Fair Darren Ward has given the wrong contact telephone number so enquiries would need to be via other contact routes.

Kate Wintle, the Secretary of the United Reformed Church asked that it be noted that certain events that used to take place at the Henbury Centre are now taking place at the Church; these include Tai

Chi, the Community Art Class and Curling. Marianna requested an e-mail from the Linkage Representative, Freya Dodd, who organizes these groups.

Neighbourhood Partnership – Keith Houghton

Keith. Houghton did not attend the meeting.

New Local Job Group – Wendy Baverstock

Wendy reported that the new Job Club currently based in Henbury Library has been a success since its launch on the 1st July 2016. She told the meeting that it's numbers were now restricted by the number of available computers in the library and that a move to larger premises. i.e. The Henbury Centre to which they could pay rent., would be of great benefit to local people seeking support in finding work in the area. She was happy to report that the Club had already assisted one local in securing an apprenticeship and what with the support of Kelly from the Princes' Trust they hope to help many more 16-30 year old fulfill their potential.

Awards update – Rose Carr

Rose Carr did not attend the meeting but it was noted that the Awards Evening is now taking place on Friday 23rd September at The Lawns Social Club and that the final date for nominations has been extended to 5th September and now includes an on-line nomination option through the H&BCC website.

Other Business

The matter of the safety at the 'lollipop' crossing outside of Brentry School was discussed with suggestion from the floor on how to slow traffic coming from the direction of a blind bend. The matter of parked cars restricting the flow of traffic on Swanmoor Road was also discussed and when these matters were put to Councilor Mark Weston he undertook to investigate the inclusion of residents concerns in a future traffic planning application.

Tim raised the matter of non-ward residents bemoaning members of the council pointing out that a motion was raised and adopted at the AGM to allow people who have participated and contributed to the community, but who do not live in it to become members if voted so by the attendees of a GM.

He proposed that Wendy Baverstock, who "has worked her socks off" for the community and who lived in the area for 10 years and still makes use of the services of the area be brought into the council. The motion was seconded by Derek and was carried without any opposition. Wendy was welcomed to the council and thanked for her contribution which has recently including selling £350 worth of advertising for the July Newsletter

Natasha Hawkins of Southmead and Willow GP practices was invited to tell the floor of the work she is doing in the area. As a Social Prescriber for the area Natasha collects information of community activities and support and relays this information to the GP and support staff in the area. She also provides information from the NHS to social and community groups and is looking forward to a close working relationship with the Council.

Marianna asked that if anyone is aware of any arts project or activities taking place in the area so that she can disseminate this information to the community.

She also told the meeting that the Blaise Estate staff have asked her to pass on a message that the Estate is eager to expand its services and that they are open to suggestions for events, activities that can take place on the Estate and encourage locals to get in touch with the staff there to discuss ideas.

Paul asked that is anyone has any ideas on interesting and relevant Guest Speakers for future meetings that they contact him.

Meeting closed at 20:10

The next Community Council General Meeting will be held on Thursday October 20th at the United Reformed Church with Coffee being served at 19:15 and the meeting starting at 19:30.

AppendixA

Henbury & Brentry Community Council							18.07.16
Summary of H&BCC Cost Centre balances							
	Restricted	Opening 01/04/2016 £	Paid £	Transferred Out £	Received £	Transferred In £	Current Balance £
Newsletter	Yes	453.56	915.00		0.00	500.00	38.56
Events	Yes	546.81			0.00		546.81
Elderly fund	Yes	712.86	0.00		0.00		712.86
Unrestricted funds	No	182.44	310.79	0.03	0.00	500.00	371.62
Facilities	Yes	3099.35		1016.00	0.00		2083.35
Safety	Yes	971.70	0.00		0.00		971.70
BS10 Youth Forum	Yes	1663.95	0.00		0.00		1663.95
Community Transport	Yes	1450.00	1050.00		1207.31		1607.31
Elderly Lunch	Yes	0.00	0.00		0.00		0.00
Community Plan	Yes	69.64	380.26		1812.39	16.03	1637.80
BGC grant for flowers and notice board	Yes	1710.00			0.00		1710.00
Awards Ceremony	Yes	0.00	30.00				-30.00
Current totals		10760.31	2686.05	1016.03	3019.70	1016.03	11113.96
							Check with R&P total
							£11,113.31
							Difference
							£1801.60