
BOPF Open Forum Meeting

Thursday 1 Sept 2016, Southmead Greenway Centre, Raleigh Rm, 10:30 – 12.30
Doncaster Road, Southmead, Bristol, BS10 5PY, Bristol, BS1 3HY

MINUTES

- Present Trustees:** Chair Judith Brown (JB), Gloria Morris (GM), Gillian Seward (GS), Jenny Smith (JS), Minutes: Yolanda Pot, Finance & Administration Manager (YP). **No members present: 25; non-members: 9; Total: 34**
- Apolog.** David Elson (DE), Pat Foster (PF), Tony Wilson (TW), Julie Boston, Roy Hacket, Celia Pippis, James Lynch
1. **Chair's Welcome** - housekeeping, apologies and introductions
Judith welcomed everyone. JB explained that the Consultation **National Data Guardian for Health and Care's Review of Data Security, Consent and Opt outs** was quite complex and reading was required, so members should complete the questionnaires at home. JB asked everyone to instead complete the Public Consultation on Supported Bus Services form.
 2. **HAVE YOUR SAY ON WHAT HAPPENS LOCALLY!**
 - 2.1. **CONSULTATION 1 - National Data Guardian for Health and Care's Review of Data Security, Consent and Opt outs**, <https://bristolbugbears.commonplace.is/>, copies of the questionnaires were left for members to take home and complete.
CONSULTATION 2- Public Consultation on Supported Bus Services - 30 Sept 2016. Members completed the questionnaires for BOPF to submit to the City Hall.
 - 2.2. **Consultation 2 FEEDBACK – 31 people completed the Public Consultation on Supported Bus Services** questionnaires and JB has handed them in to City Hall.
 3. **SPEAKER**
 - 3.1. **Bristol Walking Alliance (BWA): Alan Morris (AM) & Glenise**
Campaigning to improve Bristol's Walking Environment

BWA is an alliance of organisations. Their **goal** is to make Bristol one of the best cities for walking in the world. The BWA wants to create an environment for those on foot that is:
Welcoming: with well-maintained and generous pedestrian space in attractive surroundings.
Safe: designed to be safe and to feel safe from risk of accidents or attack.
Convenient: with direct routes that are free of unnecessary impediments.
Inclusive: usable by all regardless of age, gender, financial circumstances or level of fitness.
campaigns include: *Walking as Transport, Space for Walking, Walkable Neighbourhoods and Streets for People*
Next event is *Walkable Neighbourhoods*, Sat 15 Oct 9:30 - 1pm
To get involved organisations can become members and Individuals can become supporters.
FFI contact: enquiries@bristolwalkingalliance.org.uk, www.bristolwalkingalliance.org.uk

3.2. Questions and comments from the floor

Q Geoff Re: walking groups. A lot of walking groups are mainly for mobile older people but not for older people who are not very mobile. For this group of people walking groups should be called *Outings* instead.

Q Harriet Lupton. Have you been able to have meetings with the planners as a teaching type meeting? **A AM** Yes we have met with 2 people from the *City Design* department. These issues are dealt with by more than one department. These include *Sustainable Transport* and *City Design*. You have to talk to different groups.

Q Jenny Smith Re: pavements. Many pavements are not level. I fell down and damaged my teeth.

Q Albert. Re: Bell on bicycles. When are we going to enforce a law for cyclists to have a bell? You can't always hear or see them coming.

Q Gillian Re: Parked cars on pavements. I took this up with the council and have been told that they were working towards having a similar arrangement to that in London.

Q Tom RE: Bumps on the roads. These are difficult for the disabled. **A AM** There is another consultation called Bugbears on cycling and walking routes around Bristol that you could complete. **JB** pointed out that we had covered this consultation in a recent Open Forum.

4. BREAK

5. BOPF Business

5.1. Apologies

5.2. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 July 2016 were approved as an accurate record.

5.3. Matters arising from the previous minutes

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes.

6. REPORTS

6.1. Chair's Report – Judith Brown

- **BOPF Drop-In for Lunch and a Fun Friendly Afternoon** – Broadmead Baptist Church, Union Street, Wed 5 Oct 2016, 12:30 – 4.00pm
- **Celebrating Age Festival Launch**, M-shed, Harbourside, 18 Sept, 10am - 4pm. City-wide activities for 2 weeks from 25 Sept.
- **LGBT** organise walking groups in Bristol called **Walk Out Bristol**, <http://lgbtbristol.org.uk/contact-us>, Tel: 0117 353 4621
- **Open meeting: Healthwatch Bristol: talking about health. Topics: Cancer prevention, Mental Health.** Thurs 8 Sept, 10.00 - 12.00 hrs, BAWA, 589 Southmead Road, Filton, Bristol, BS34 7RG. To register: Tel: 0117 2690400, <http://goo.gl/DiH7k3>
- **University of Bristol research project: Are you aged 60+? Do you take more than one medicine for different conditions? We'd like your advice.** catherine.jameson@bristol.ac.uk, 0117 9287 237
- **Bristol Black Carers** provides culturally appropriate support and services for Black and Minority Ethnic (BME), Trelawney House, 2nd Floor, Suite B208, Surrey Street, Bristol, BS2 8PS. Tel: 0117 379 0084, admin@bristolblackcarers.org.uk, www.bristolblackcarers.org.uk
- **Bristol Black Carers and Bristol West Indian Parents & Friends presents: Brims & Bows Evening Tea Fundraiser**, 3pm-7pm, £15 admission, Sun 18 Sept 2016, Mercure Bristol Grand Hotel, Broad Street, Bristol, BS1 2EL. For tickets call Bristol Black Carers: 0117 379 0084

- **Babbers** is a radio programme run by older people for older people at Ujima radio 98FM. Every Mon 12.00-2pm. JB invited people who wanted to be a presenter, or wanted us to discuss specific issues to contact her at the BOPF office number. Training could be given.

Request to Restore Bus Routes by Julie Boston

Do members approve the following request from **Julie Boston to restore bus routes?**

Bristol Older People's Forum Meeting urges Marvin Rees, elected Mayor of Bristol, to restore bus routes, such as 20, 36, 25, 51, which have been reduced or cut in the past 2 years. This is an equalities issue. The Mayor of Bristol, the Cabinet and Bristol councillors have two options:-

- *Continue to pay First to run non-profitable bus routes. Bristol City Council has used this option since the Management buyout in the 1980s.*
- *Create a Bristol-owned Bus Company. The Mayor, Marvin Rees, said he would look into this in his 2016 election statement*

Vote in favour: 14; against: 1

The VCS Grants Prospectus

The Bristol City Council (BCC) has changed the way it makes grants to the Voluntary and Community Sector (VCS). The VCS Grants Prospectus is being introduced to fit in with the authority's existing budget and the central government's comprehensive spending review. From 2017 direct grant investment will be made through a new pooled fund called the **Bristol Impact Fund**. Available funds have been cut from £7.7 m to £3.5m from July 2017 for a 4 year period. The BCC is asking VCS organisations to use their skills, experience and focus and to work sustainably to make a difference and create change by giving the right help at the right time; helping people to help themselves and each other; building on strengths of people and communities and connecting people and organisations within and across communities. VCS organisations are to deliver the following impacts: reduced disadvantage & inequality; improved health & wellbeing and increased resilience (people's ability to manage).

Mental Health and the VCS Grants Prospectus

JB attended a BCC Cabinet meeting on 11 August 2016 chaired by the Mayor of Bristol, Marvin Rees. Judith submitted the following question re. agenda item 10 VCS Grant Prospectus: "Mental Health was included in the draft of the new Council Prospectus among the first eight challenges in which voluntary organisation applying for grant aid would have to demonstrate evidence of work. It was subsequently withdrawn. In view of the fact that 'Mental Health' in Bristol is a priority issue for the Health and Wellbeing Board, and that many people rely on voluntary sector organisation like my own for help in maintaining interest and stability in their lives, thus preventing distress to individuals and families, and further cost to the NHS and the Council, would it not make sense to reinstate Mental Health back into the Prospectus?"

Reply from Cllr Margaret Hickman – Cabinet Member Neighbourhoods

"We have received a lot of feedback regarding this issue, both directly and via the VCS Assembly session in July 2016. The Key Challenges in the new VCS Grant prospectus will now include 'Reducing social isolation and improving wellbeing'. We are using the term *Wellbeing*

to describe a state of feeling good and functioning well which is underpinned by broad combination of things such as feeling content, safe, valued, confident and happy.

In response to a supplementary question the Mayor concurred that mental health is a priority issue and that the voluntary sector is key for supporting many people to maintain interest and stability in their lives. He has previously made an explicit commitment around children and young people mental health and wellbeing and it is one of his Pledges. He agreed to work with officers and the Cabinet Members for Neighbourhoods and Health to deliver the services needed in partnership with the voluntary sector and public health colleagues.

The Cabinet Member Health also concurred that Mental Health be made explicit in the VCS Grant Prospectus.

BOPF Manifesto

JB mentioned BOPF's Manifesto and that its themes were: safety, transport, care, physical health, mental health, communications, housing and home, participation and leadership & awareness/ visibility.

6.2. Other reports (NPC, SWFOA, SWSN etc.)

- **Keith Evans Re: Digital Inclusion.** When a friend had to call off a holiday and wanted to claim back on insurance they said she had to fill out a form online. After quite a struggle she eventually received a paper copy.
- **Keith Re: STP.** I went to the Health and Wellbeing board meeting. There is very little information coming out about this from the Sustainability and Transformation Plan (STP). It has taken a freedom of information request to get any information.
- **Re: Dual disability of hearing and visual problems.** Some people have both hearing and visual problems. The National Institute for the Blind (RNIB) find solutions for this dual disability.

6.3. Open Forum - anyone can raise issues of concern

- **Re: Park & Ride:** A member questioned why there were not more 'park and rides' - **Albert Stewart** responded, saying that that was not the bus company's fault - when they sought planning for car parks, the local population protested "*not in my back garden*" and the Council turned the applications down.
- **Jenny Re: Banks.** I have family members who can't remember numbers. We therefore don't use pin numbers, so we have to go directly into a bank to carry out any banking business. The bank keeps trying to persuade us to obtain pin numbers.
- **Geoff. Re: Public toilets.** The issue was brought up at NPC. Even though Bristol is a boom town and property prices are high there is a lack of public toilets. This is a particular issue for the elderly and children.

7. The meeting finished at 12:30 hrs

Date of next meeting: Thursday 6 October 2016, 10:30 to 12:30 hrs. Vassall Centre, **Speaker** Driving and Mobility Centre, Helen Mann, Occupational Therapist. *Driving – do we get better with age?*

Signed (Chair):

Date:
