

Notes of the St George Community Network Meeting of 5th July 2017

Attendees: Abdulrazak Dahir (Neighbourhood Co-ordinator, Bristol City Council), Fiona Russell (Chair, Meadow Vale Community Centre), Jo Chesterman (Playing Out, St George Community Association, Friends of Summerhill Academy), Pete Flook (local resident), Brenda Flook (local resident), Richard Curtis (Chair, Church Rd Action Group), Jo Curtis (representing Friends of St George Park), Tamsin Harcourt (Chair, St George Community Association), Diane Jones (Friends of St George Library), Rob Acton-Campbell (committee member, Friends of Troopers Hill, Bristol Parks Forum), Susan Acton-Campbell (chair, Friends of Troopers Hill)

Apologies: Grenville Johnson (Chair, St George in Bloom, Kensington Rd Residents' Association and Neighbourhood Watch), Jane Kilpatrick (local resident), Nigel Williams (member of the former Church Rd Town Team and owner of local business Black Iris Images), Mike Kimber (local resident), Laura McNeill (local resident), Geoff Reeson (Chair, Friends of Dundridge Park)

Notes taken by: Susan Acton-Campbell

1. Name

The name of the organisation was formally adopted as the St George Community Network

2. Terms of reference

The terms of reference were accepted with the replacement of the word "committee" with the phrase "working group". A modification was added to reflect that while the organisation would be focusing on St George, where they shared aims with groups outside St George that could be better achieved by joint working than that would be done subject to resource.

After the meeting the terms of reference were loaded to

<http://stgeorgecommunity.org.uk/network/wp-content/uploads/2017/07/SGCNAadoptedJuly17.pdf>

3. Elections

Rob Acton-Campbell was elected as chair.

All the following 6 candidates were elected as members of the working group:

Grenville Johnson
Nigel Williams
Jo Chesterman
Diane Jones
Fiona Russell
Susan Acton-Campbell

4. Website and social media

A website www.stgeorgecommunity.org.uk has been set up. The first St George Community Association page features choices to visit the existing St George Community Centre website

<http://stgeorgecc.blogspot.co.uk/> or the St George Community Network site
<http://stgeorgecommunity.org.uk/network/>

Options for Facebook page names were discussed but due to a lack of the preferred name being available after the meeting the Facebook page is now

<https://www.facebook.com/StGeorgeCommunityNetwork/>

and Twitter is @StGeorgeCNet <https://twitter.com/stgeorgecnet>

5. Logo

The logo was discussed and after the meeting Tamsin and Jo provided a logo agreed to be very effective and functional.



6. Community noticeboards

Currently population of the local community noticeboards is by anyone who notes the details of the list of community noticeboards on <http://www.stgeorgenp.org.uk/contacts/> or by Susan Acton-Campbell. There has never been funding for printing and laminating notices, nor the supply of magnets to keep the notices in place. This has been done at Susan's personal cost. Susan to discuss with Tamsin alternatives for a more sustainable system.

Action(1) Susan/Tamsin

There is currently no council funding available to repair noticeboards if they are damaged.

7. Funding

Currently other than a few pounds donated at the public meeting on Wednesday 22nd June the group has no funds. Bristol City Council's discussions about Wellbeing funding, funds to hold meetings and publicise the groups replacing neighbourhood partnerships and the allocation of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) monies are still ongoing.

Richard Curtis mentioned that there had been funding available from Quartet to support the start up of new community groups, including meeting room hire, paper, printing etc.

Subsequent to the meeting Susan checked current offerings. The Express Grant from Quartet might serve this purpose. <http://quartetcf.org.uk/grant-programmes/express/>

8. Venues for future meetings

St George Community Centre is the preferred venue for future public meetings. The St George Community Association will provide this venue free of charge but this does mean meetings must be on a Wednesday and not clash with the monthly booking of WI.RED.

Task groups will meet at venues agreed by the members of those task groups. There will be an environment task group acting as a unified group representing the green spaces in St George, composed of representatives of volunteer groups involved in those green spaces or individual residents where no such group exists.

Abdulrazak will seek clarification on whether the library will continue to be free, what arrangements can be made so that a council officer does not need to be present to satisfy insurance requirements and whether better arrangements can be made to access the library to set up prior to a meeting.

Action (2) Abdulrazak Dahir

9. Content of next public meeting

Next public meeting is likely to be called for Wednesday 26th July. Tamsin and Jo to co-ordinate and confirm. The aim of this meeting is to have a St George Community Network response to the current Bristol City Council Your Neighbourhood consultation which includes the closure of all public toilets and the possible closure of St George Library

<https://bristol.citizenspace.com/bristol-city-council/yourneighbourhood/>

Action (3) Tamsin Harcourt Jo Chesterman

After the meeting Tamsin and Jo recommended that rather than try to arrange a public meeting in the short timeframe left before the end of the consultation, which covers school holidays, the SGCN should encourage local people to participate in the public consultations being held in Fishponds. Dates on

https://www.bristol.gov.uk/en_US/council-spending-performance/your-neighbourhood-consultation-2017

10. Date for next Working Group meeting

A doodle poll will be sent so the best date can be selected.

Subsequently sent by Rob Acton-Campbell

11. Meeting End

The meeting ended at 9pm