

Totterdown Residents' Environmental and Social Association (TRESA)

Notes of Members' Meeting held at the Constitutional Club, Wells Road at 7.30pm on 27th February 2007

PRESENT: Tim Hill, Patrick Hulme, Michelle Havard, Greg Moss, Gerry King, Richard Jones, Suzanne Audrey (chair), Steve Sayers, Margaret Davis, Colin Bird, Charles Hutchens, Kate Pollard, Conny Kowalczyka, Martyn Trowbridge, Ed Bramall, Sarah Jasmaheurch.

APOLOGIES: Tim Sterling, Helen Sterling, Samantha Goodwin

1. Minutes & matters arising

There were no minutes from the previous meeting since it was the AGM. Notes of the AGM will not be approved until the next AGM.

2. Finance

The balance after anticipated spending on printing the Talk of Totterdown is £317.42, which puts us in a healthy position to produce the next Talk of Totterdown so long as advertising is secured.

3. Membership

Ed reported that there are now 90 members of TRESA. 48 are paid up. He is chasing those that are not. Those present were urged to encourage any one they know in Totterdown to join.

4. Zone N

Suzanne reported that the application to turn Zone N into a town green had been withdrawn after it was discovered that the assumed boundary was not correct. Further work would be undertaken to ensure that the area did not become a car park.

5. Lamp posts

After a survey of 300 households in the area undertaken by Mark Bailey had revealed more than three quarters in favour of retaining the Victorian lamp posts, Bristol City Council are now considering keeping them in place.

Martyn is organising an audit of historic street furniture. The form will be placed on the website by Steve, and a notice about it will go into the Talk of Totterdown. It's not yet clear what we can do with such a database of information, but it may be used to raise awareness of the issue.

6. Stanley Hill

Martyn had written to various parties suggesting that the £24,000 'Section 106' funding for community use from the development on Bath Rd (site of the garage) would be better spent on traffic calming measure for Stanley Hill rather than the already funded bus route initially suggested. Cllr Mark Bailey has informed TRESA that this request is likely to be granted if the development goes ahead.

7. Bristol Arena

No further news has emerged regarding the Arena. There remains a funding gap and no resolution around what plans might be acceptable to the development partners. Steve will keep a watching brief on the situation.

8. Bellevue Allotments

Steve has received support from the City Council allotments office in pursuing the possibility of reviving the disused allotments at the end of Bellevue Rd. The land that they are on is unfit for growing food due to contamination. It will cost around £40,000 to make it fit for use. The next steps are to investigate funding opportunities (probably through the Landfill Tax Credit Scheme) and to contact the landowners (Network Rail) and the Allotment Regeneration Initiative (ARI) who may be interested to assist in the project.

9. School Road Park Grant

Ed has submitted a grant to the lottery fund 'Breathing Places' for an urban nature trail at the School Road park. He has received an acknowledgement and a request for updated accounts, which have been submitted.

Suzanne has spoken with Cllr Mark Bailey about the possibility of using Section 106 money from the proposed development on the garage site in Wells Road for new railings along the School Road edge of the park. Cllr Bailey said this was a legitimate request. It was agreed that Patrick would submit this request to the planning department on behalf of TRESA.

10. Wells Road development

Sarah raised the issue that she is looking for retail space in the Wells Rd area and had been told by the developers of the disused garage (planning permission sought for flats and a retail unit) that it was their intention to woo a supermarket to take a single retail site on the ground floor. TRESA's preference, agreed at the meeting, was to see the space used for smaller units rather than one large space. Colin would put together some words for Suzanne to send to the Council planning officers.

11. Update from 3 lamps association

Tim Hill said that the focus of recent discussion for the 3-lamps residents had been around parking issues and a concern about increasing drug use in the area. They had been working with PC Sue Coates on tackling the latter issue.

12. Totterdown Square

Students from UWE will be spending some voluntary time helping to spruce up the square (in particular the planters). Suzanne would be taking advice on what plants might be better suited (trailing varieties rather than upright). The anticipated date for the work is 15 March.

13. Newsletter

Talk of Totterdown 5 is almost ready for printing. Some room is left on the back page for further content. In future it would be useful if a designer could help. Any suggestions for a suitable candidate would be welcome.

14. Wells Road safety

Following the fatal accident on Wells Road the meeting discussed what options might be pursued to make the pathway safer. Patrick offered to take up the issue initially with Tim Sterling and then to push the Council to take action e.g. ensuring that a 30mph speed limit is adhered to on this section of the road.

15. Axa Sunlife challenge

Kate highlighted the possibility of having Axa Sunlife staff undertake a day of community work. The application would need to be submitted before April.

16. AOB

Charles asked for clarification about a community car parking sign. It was thought that this referred to the car club.

17. Dates of Future Members' Meetings

Tue 24 Apr, Tue 26 Jun. Venues to be determined.