

TRESA Members' Meeting

24 April 2007

Present. Tim, Helen, Martyn, Suzanne, Tina, Rebecca, Bridget, Kate, Holly, Richard Jones, Andre, Annie, Margaret, Jonathan, Colin, Charles, Patrick, Simon, Peter, Noel, Ed

Apologies. None

Welcome

Chairman welcomed members to the meeting

T-Mobile Mast

Bridget of the 3-lamps residents' association described their campaign against the siting of a T-Mobile phone mast at the back of Tesco. There are limited grounds for objection: valid objections are those of any planning application (for example aesthetics, obstruction) not alleged affects on health. Bridget encouraged anyone wishing to object to send letters to the council. She reported the deadline for submissions as the 11 May.

Finance

Current funds are £336.16 plus £150 received from Bristol Water as a contribution to the planters in Totterdown Sq.

Talk of Totterdown

The latest edition (number 5) had been produced by Richard with help from Jonathan. General comments on the newsletter were that it compared favourably to others community newsletters. Richard was thanked for his efforts with it.

Distributors were needed for the 3-Lamps estate and Richmond St areas.

Totterdown in Print

Kate explained a proposal for funding that she was intending to make to the Awards for All lottery funding. It would be for £10,000 of publishing to produce various publications (a new version of the Totterdown cookbook sold at the Front Room arts trail, Totterdown Rising, issues of Talk of Totterdown and a repeat of the A5 arts for all cards used at the arts trail 2 years ago). Because Richard is likely to be the publisher, he has stepped down from the TRESA committee to avoid any conflict of interest should the application be successful.

The meeting agreed that the application should go ahead and thanked Kate for the efforts she has made in putting the proposal together.

Arena update

Steve reported that there was little news on the proposed Arena development. The hoardings on the A4 had been damaged by storms and were due for replacement. SWERDA were due to begin more remedial work (shoring up the river bank). There was still a funding gap that meant no further development was imminent.

Allotment project

Steve reported that he had established contact with Network Rail, the landowners of the plots at the end of Bellevue Road, who seemed open to the idea of reclaiming the allotment site. Council estimates were that the remedial works would cost around £40,000 - £50,000.

Noel had offered to pick up with research into possible funding for the project.

Totterdown Square

Suzanne thanked all those involved in tidying up the planters outside the Oxford Street shops. The former plants had been removed by volunteers and new plants were about to be planted. Donations had been received from Bristol Water (£150) and Tesco (£200) towards the plants.

Suzanne explained that maintenance of the area was made more difficult because it is in private ownership with shop owners tenants of an absent landlord. Improving the planters was a good example of changes that can be made at a local level.

Garden Festival

Last year's garden festival was a success and would be run again this year. Volunteers are in place to organise the various aspects of the event that will take place on the weekend of 30 June.

Traffic

Following two fatal accidents on the stretch of Bath Road in Totterdown in recent months, there has been action by TRESA members to push for the safety of the road to be improved. Extensive exchanges with the city council have brought up many reasons for why little can be done. Suzanne reported that the City Council were looking into removing the dividing line (between pedestrian & cycle lanes) on the pavement, and installing a flashing sign to remind people of the 30mph speed limit. Members are urged to continue to press for action on speed cameras, road markings and any other improvements.

Following development of the garage site on Bath Rd, money has been allocated from the 'section 106' funds that will be used for improvements to the traffic flow on Stanley Hill and surrounding streets. The most practical means of preventing rat-running seems to be to prevent the left turn off Bath Road into Angers Rd. Martyn will be pressing to ensure that the money is spent in this way.

Other business

A suggestion was made to tidy up St Luke's steps

A suggestion was made that the road sign near the Langton St bridge should have Totterdown added to it.

Date of the next members' meeting

The date of the next members' meeting is 26 June 2007 at a venue to be determined.