

Terms of Reference for The Greater Bedminster Community Partnership Environment sub-group

The Greater Bedminster Community Partnership Environment sub-group (the group) is part of the Greater Bedminster Community Partnership (GBCP) structure and will be governed by the Greater Bedminster Community Partnership's terms of reference.

Aims: Our aim is to preserve, protect and enhance the biodiversity, and sustainability of our area, its green spaces, trees and street scene, for the benefit of the whole community of Greater Bedminster.

Definition of the area covered by the group: The area covered by the two council wards of the Greater Bedminster Community Partnership:

Ward details as follows, via the highlighted links below:

Bedminster:

<https://www.bristol.gov.uk/wardfinder/?XSL=warddetail&WardId=16#my-account>

Southville:

<https://www.bristol.gov.uk/wardfinder/?XSL=warddetail&WardId=23>

Remit: The group can consider any issues relating to the environment in the Greater Bedminster area and report their views to the Greater Bedminster Community Partnership. However, the group will also engage and develop links with neighbouring Environment Sub Groups and Neighbourhood Partnerships, on matters that impact GBCP as and when they occur.

It is proposed that the group will take the lead on the following issues across the GBCP area:

- Environmental improvements in the NP area;
- Parks and grounds maintenance issues;
- Parks Improvement Plans;
- Green Capital Funding
- S106 Allocation

The group will work with Council Officers and others with responsibility in these areas to influence the provision of these services to the community. In carrying out this role the group will take into account:

- Priorities set and views expressed at Community Conferences;
- The views of community groups within the GBCP area;
- Any representations made to the group by members of the community;
- The views of members of the wider GBCP, including Councillors';
- The advice of Council Officers or others with specialist knowledge of the subjects being considered;
- The emerging Priorities for the GBCP area and the impact these will have on resources available.

Membership: Members of the group agree to work together to achieve the aims of the group and to consider the wider interests of the community the group covers over

their own personal interests. Group members will not benefit financially or in any other way from being a member.

Membership will initially be open to anyone who lives, works or use the leisure facilities available in the GBCP area. In selecting members the group will ensure that all areas of GBCP are represented and that individual community groups are not over represented.

Officers:

This group is a sub-group of GBCP there will be no officers of this sub-group other than a “champion” i.e. chair and Bristol City Council Officers to:

- Facilitate and co-ordinate the group’s activities
- Where necessary, act as the point of contact for the group
- Ensure the GBCP are advised of the group’s activities
- Keep a list of members and contact details

Where there is more than one member volunteering to be “champion” the members of the group will elect their “champion”. The group can also appoint members to lead on particular issues.

Group Meetings:

It is proposed that there will be the following meeting schedules:

To initially meet on a monthly basis until Christmas 2014, at which point the meeting schedule will be reviewed but it will aim to meet at least 4 times a year.

Ad Hoc meetings and walkabouts: Members of the group can meet at any time to discuss particular issues with Council officers or residents; or to look at areas where issues have been raised. Any such meeting must be reported back to the group either at the next group meeting or by exchange of emails/ letters.

Reports / Publicity: The group will report to GBCP and require ratification on proposals sought in relation to securing funding but will also provide updates on discussions and debates and provide guidance on strategic issues. In the event that there are vacancies these will be advertised at Neighbourhood Forums and via the website. The group will actively seek views of local residents on issues being discussed if it is felt that further consultation is required.

Closing down the Group: To close down the group a meeting of the membership should be called, and a majority vote in favour given. If the GBCP ceases to exist or no longer has a requirement for the group, the group will vote on whether they wish to continue and define new terms of reference.