

# COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2018



## Westbury Park Festival 2018

The 2018 Festival will be held in the last two weeks of June. Events will include a Prom Concert on Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> June and an Art Fair on Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> June. If you are interested in joining the Festival Committee and/or organising an event please email: [westburyparkca@gmail.com](mailto:westburyparkca@gmail.com).

## Durdham Down Bookshop, North View

Durdham Downs bookshop was a much loved bookshop serving the local community for many years until it closed in May 2016 due to the death of its owner.

A notice has recently been placed in the window of the former bookshop inviting people to post ideas / suggestions for the use of the shop. The notice says that rent will be negotiated on the basis of "how interesting the idea is".

It is important that we maintain North View as a vibrant shopping centre and it would be unfortunate if we start to lose shops to other uses. If you have any ideas about the future use of the former bookshop please pop them through the letterbox at 39 North View.

## Henleaze Neighbourhood Forum

The next meeting of the Forum is at 7.00 pm on Thursday 22 February 2018 at Henleaze Library. This is your opportunity to raise issues/concerns about services with your local councillors. Come along and make your views known – especially given the pressure on funding and, in turn, services provided by Bristol City Council.

*NB This meeting may be of greater interest to Westbury Park residents living in Henleaze Ward as opposed to those living in Redland Ward (see item below).*

## Bishopston, Cotham and Redland Community Partnership - Meet the Mayor

The newly formed Bishopston, Cotham and Redland Community Partnership (BCRCP) is holding its inaugural AGM at 7.00 pm on Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> February at Bishopston Library (100a Gloucester Road) and have invited the Mayor to speak and answer questions.

*NB Westbury Park residents living in Redland Ward (primarily the area to the south of Coldharbour Road) may be more interested in this meeting than the Henleaze meeting (see above) which falls on the same night.*

*The Community Association is represented on the BCRCP Steering Group which is charged with setting up BCRCP – the successor body to the BCR Neighbourhood Partnership which was wound up by the City Council in March 2017.*

## **Westbury Park School Defibrillator – Information Evening**

As many of you may be aware, Westbury Park Primary School has installed a life saving defibrillator with 24 hour community access. The School are looking to raise awareness of the defibrillator and to demonstrate how the device is used. To this end the School is holding a short information evening on Wednesday 7th March between 7.00 and 7.30 pm. The presentation will take place in school and access is via the gate next to the defibrillator.

## **Parking**

The news about resolving the parking problems in many parts of Westbury Park is not so good. The long awaited guidelines for new resident parking areas published by the City Council in November 2017 are unduly negative, complex, bureaucratic, short on detail about what constitutes support for a scheme, require far too many hurdles to jump, and place, in the absence of Council resources, an enormous burden on local councillors to initiate, promote and manage the whole process. Even were support for a new resident parking scheme to be clearly demonstrated over a wide area (1,000 households +) it would take at least three years for the scheme to be introduced.

A number of roads suffering parking problems (eg. Cossins Road, Etloe Road) may need to look to other parking restriction measures to address their respective parking issues.

The Community Association had planned a resident parking attitude survey of Westbury Park in Spring 2017 but the survey was put on hold pending the publication of the Council guidelines on new resident parking areas referred to above. The Association is now in discussion with local councillors to explore whether it would still be worthwhile undertaking the survey and broadening it so that it would also encompass other possible parking solutions (eg. parking and waiting restrictions) as well as resident parking. There remain the rather challenging issues of finding the £400+ it would take to undertake the survey and of organising the survey – watch this space !!

## **Bristol City Council Library Review**

A hiatus has been reached over the future of Bristol's libraries as the Council has bowed to public pressure and agreed to explore options that could save libraries from closure. The Council did not make a decision in December as planned but instead agreed to explore alternative options to ensure the long-term sustainability of the service.

The Liberal Democrats on the City Council are advocating an alternative model of mutualisation - a non - profit making organisation to run the library service, led by paid professional staff working with volunteers.

## **99 Devonshire Road**

It seems that there might be some progress on this eyesore (and dangerous) site over the next few months as owners Diverse Construction are thought to be meeting with the City Council's Building Regulations team to review their plans for the development. A decision will need to be taken as to whether the half built cavity wall structure on the site will need to be demolished given that it has been open to the elements for over two years.

## **Great Bristol Spring Clean, March 2018**

Bristol Waste Company and Bristol City Council will be supporting groups to take part in the Great Bristol Spring Clean; part of a national weekend of litter picks organised by Keep Britain Tidy. So many groups wanted to take part last year that the event is being extended locally to cover the ten days from Friday 2nd March – Sunday 11th March.

Events like this are a great way to get involved in helping to make your community a cleaner, greener and more welcoming place. They also support the Mayor's Bristol Clean Streets campaign to make Bristol measurably cleaner by 2020.

Bristol Waste Company have hundreds of litter picking kits to loan out, so if you are interested in organising a litter pick or would like to join a local group then get in touch by calling 0117 304 9022, by emailing

[hello@bristolwastecompany.co.uk](mailto:hello@bristolwastecompany.co.uk).

More information is available on [www.bristolwastecompany.co.uk/springclean18](http://www.bristolwastecompany.co.uk/springclean18)

## **Westbury Park Orchestra**

Are you looking to join a friendly Orchestra? Westbury Park Orchestra is a new committee led non-auditioned orchestra under the baton of Ben England with a repertoire of classical and modern popular pieces and an emphasis on having fun. You will ideally need to be of a good standard. Free taster rehearsal for newcomers (string and brass players particularly welcome). The Orchestra meets at Westbury on Trym Methodist Church, Westbury Hill at 8.00 – 9.30 pm on Monday nights (term time)

[www.westburyparkorchestra.com](http://www.westburyparkorchestra.com)

And finally, news of an event that was not listed on the recently circulated "What's On" monthly schedule :-

## **5.30 - 7.00 pm, Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> February, Westbury Park Methodist Church**

### **Pancake Party**

A family event being organised by The Church in Westbury Park with plenty of pancakes and toppings on offer. Adults £3.00, Children £2.00.

Email the Church Office for tickets [-office@westburyparkchurch.org](mailto:-office@westburyparkchurch.org)