

News Sheet

he Newsletter of Connswater Community Greenway Stakeholders

November 2012

AIMS OF THE STAKEHOLDER FORUM

- -Share information
- -Engage and understand the requirements of Stakeholders
- -Promote the CCG
- -Build positive partnerships
- -Inform the management and maintenance of the CCG
- -Ensure quality and sharing good practice
- -Provide feedback to the CCG Trust and CCG Oversight Group
- -Promote and support involvement of others

CCG Trust

Kyle Alexander (Chair)

(Strategic Investment Board)

Mervyn Gibson

(East Belfast Partnership)

Maurice Kinkead

(East Belfast Partnership)

Anne McMurray

(East Belfast Partnership)

Sammy Douglas

(Member)

Ethel White

(Member)

CCG Oversight Group

Andrew Hassard (Chair)

(Belfast City Council)

Gerry Millar

(Belfast City Council)

Ciaran Quigley

(Belfast City Council)

Maurice Kinkead

(East Belfast Partnership)

Kyle Alexander

(Strategic Investment Board)

Mark O'Donnell

(Department for Social Development)

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The Stakeholder Forum

Our last Stakeholder Forum was held on 29th June 2012 in Shorts Sport & Recreation Club. The advertised agenda was changed due to the major flooding event in east Belfast of 27th June 2012. In circumstances such as this the Stakeholders Forum was a useful forum, allowing local residents impacted by flooding to raise important issues with key statutory representatives and our local politicians. At the forum it was agreed that a small group would be established to look at a number of short term measures, designed to reduce the potential impact of flooding on the residents' homes.

We would like to thank Brian and the team at Shorts Sport & Recreation Club for hosting the June Stakeholder Forum and for their part in the delivery of the first ever East Belfast Arts Festival.

Project Update

After the uncertainty of the past year dealing with contractual issues between Belfast City Council (BCC) and the CCG contractor, we are delighted that progress towards the construction of the Greenway is now being made.

BCC and the CCG Team have been working closely with colleagues in Rivers Agency on a revised programme. Due to the flood risks to Orangefield Park and Victoria Park sections, these are to be progressed as a matter of urgency, and we anticipate works to commence in Orangefield Park in April 2013 and in Victoria Park in May 2013. Design work in these areas has now recommenced and appointment of the contractors will follow.

In addition new consultants and a new design team are being appointed for the rest of the CCG/FAS. The construction of the remaining elements of the work will be undertaken September 2013—August 2015. 5 culverts will also be widened along the CCG route, commencing July 2013.

East Belfast Arts Festival

In September 2012 the east hosted it's first ever East Belfast Arts Festival culminating in the Big Top Festival at Aircraft Park headlined by our very own Van Morrison.



The festival was supported by a number of organisations including East Belfast Partnership and

the CCG Team and clearly demonstrated the need for us to develop performance space such as the new C.S. Lewis Square at Holywood Arches.

The festival was hugely successful attracting 1000s of visitors to east Belfast, many for the first time, with outstanding reviews. For more information visit www.facebook.com/eastbelfastartsfestival

Interim Flood Alleviation Works

As a direct response to the most recent flooding in the Clarawood and Orangefield Park area and as a result of representations made through the CCG Stakeholder Forum by residents affected by the flooding, Rivers Agency and BCC agreed a number of interim measures to protect properties from flooding ahead of work commencing on the Connswater Community Greenway/East Belfast Flood Alleviation Scheme in April 2013.

These measures were developed and informed in conjunction with residents and flood modelling by Rivers Agency's consultant designers. These included:

- I. The creation of a flood water storage area between Clarawood House and Orangefield Park on land purchased from BELB to develop the CCG
- 2. Increasing the capacity of the culvert at Orangefield Lane to move water away from the area
- 3. Removal of trees along the riverbank
- 4. Provision of accessible sandbag stores in areas susceptible to flooding such as Orangefield Park, Sandhill Park and Clara Way.



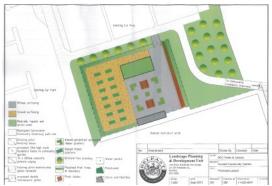
Flood Storage area between Clarawood & Orangefield Park



Increasing the capacity between Clarawood & Orangefield Park

These interim measures will improve the protection of properties prior to the delivery of the CCG/FAS which will provide increased protection prior to integrated flood alleviation scheme, scheduled to commence in April 2013 being delivered which is designed to protect properties for a 1 in 100year flood event.

Community Garden at Avoniel Leisure Centre



The CCG has secured a site at Avoniel Leisure Centre to develop our first community garden aimed at supporting several local community organisations to develop both space for growing and new social networks with other like minded organisations.

The Avoniel community garden will be designed, built and planted by local community organisations, fully supported by the CCG Team and Belfast City Council (BCC). The CCG team will develop a horticultural amenity training programme that can be delivered through the community garden, building skills and confidence in garden user groups

who can, in turn, pass on these skills to other community gardeners.

The above design developed by BCC shows what could be delivered through the site, it includes; raised beds, fruit trees/mini orchard, a social area for garden users and some ornamental planting. This draft design was developed to show the potential for the site and will be subject to change as the local community becomes more directly involved in the design and build of the new garden.

This is a pilot scheme and, if successful, we will be seeking to develop a number of these community gardens along the CCG route to enable local communities to take more ownership of our parks and open spaces.



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