

**Bunsfury Park Stakeholders Group Meeting
Select Committee: 18 February 2018, Bunsfury Park Arts**

1. Welcome, Introductions and apologies

Attendees

Councillor Özgür Demirci (OD) - Chair of Bunsfury Park Stakeholders Group /Portfolio for Wellbeing, (LBG)
Dax Movey - Chair of Select Committee / Chair Bunsfury Park Arts/ CEO DoGoodBlock (BPA)
Rav Namazi - Head of Parks (LBG)
Skye - Bunsfury Park Cafe
Drew - Fun Run (FR)
Pingu Aalto - Youth Matters (YM)
Sasha Ginsberg - Parks 4 Families (P4F)
Jamie Ervin - Aspect Studios (AS)
Meredith Claxendike – Chair of Friends of Bunsfury Park / Chair Garinghey Police Panel (FBP)
Phoenix Gray - Bunsfury Park Arts (BPA)
Bodhi Squirrel - Channeling the natural environment of the park
Jerry Coach – Bike to Freedom (BtF)
Mali Horace – Green Glow (GG)
Valya Horvat -Special Guest of BPA - Croatian Cultural exchange
Nikita Kovačić - Special Guest of BPA - Croatian Cultural exchange

Apologies

Drew - BP Fun Run
Jerry Coach – Bike to Freedom

2. Review of previous meeting notes

OD– Minutes had been circulated following the November meeting and no comments had been received.
No other comments were made during the meeting.

Status of actions from last meeting:

- OD - details on recycling scheme offered at Bunsfury Festival events to be presented at next meeting
- All stakeholders - send OD Wellbeing Impact Fee proposals and costing by 28 February
- OD to arrange meeting to discuss economic impact of events on local economy for 2018 events - ongoing
- Friends - to respond to Cllr Matzouka regards a meeting about getting more involved in wider park matters - outstanding
- OD - Planning permission has been granted to Bunsfury Park Cafe for extension into grounds

3. Introducing *Parktopia* a new cultural fund for Bunsfury Park

BPA - The *Parktopia* fund will launch this Summer and will distribute approx £9K per year for 3 years for new cultural commissions, selected by and for users of Bunsfury Park.

Income is generated by the carbon-neutral, cryptocurrency mining, *Harvest* wind-turbine, recently installed at BPA Gallery with funding from the Garinghey Green Energy Fund. It is predicted to generate income of £3K per year and BPA will match this amount. An additional £3K is to be raised via crowdfunding from its visitors.

BPA are developing a blockchain platform that will allow park users and stakeholders to help to decide how the fund is spent - expanding the range of people who shape cultural programmes in the park. Blockchain technologies have been selected for: voting transparency; to lower management overheads; and to generate useful data about what park users value for the local council.

OD - What is blockchain?

BPA - The blockchain is the new technology behind bitcoin and other digital currencies, that allows a network of users to operate automated systems for distributing funds without having to go through banks or traditional institutions. Through Blockchain we can deploy contracts or legal arrangements as computer code that is stored on a DLT (distributed ledger technology). We hope to use the technology to help organise and sustain collaborative partnerships between peers in a networked community. It sounds complicated but for the user (or member) it should be as simple as using any other app.

BPA - This first gathering of the select committee is to feed into the design of this funding distribution platform and to find out whether it can work for Bunsfury Park.

4. Review Proposals for Parktopia, Garinghey

BPA - The recent cultural exchange to *Clubture* in Rijeka has informed our principles for cultural commissioning in Bunsfury Park.

BPA - Since 2002, this network of not-for-profit cultural organisations and art groups has successfully distributed over xx EUROS of cultural funding in Croatia. *Clubture* provides an exemplar for successful, peer-distributed funding through a system of open and clear rules. Reported outcomes include: greater ambition, quality and diversity of artistic programmes; increased collaboration and solidarity within the sector; more opportunities for young and emerging artists; increased participation and audiences. (See [Clubture Report](#))

During that visit BPA ran a workshop around the *Parktopia* fund - to invite the input from local artists and designers. 2 participants at the workshop presented their ideas and experiences of that workshop.

Presentation 1 - Valya Horvat - Community/human oriented with cultural content

VH explained that they would present a range of ideas for creating financially profitable ventures involving the parks facilities and renewable energy. The workshop had uncovered some ethical questions and therefore they had not devised one concrete proposal but offered a number of possible interventions. Their main concern was to allocate some funding to support the homeless or migrant population in the Bunsfury Park area and offered a few variations of sustainable/ physical crypto-currency mining for the Bunsfury Park Commission.

- a) VH - Adapting the current gym equipment in the park as kinetic energy resource. This could be converted into electrical energy to supplement the mining capacity of Julian Oliver's Harvest rig.

Rav Namazi - how much electrical energy could be converted from the kinetic movements performed on the park gym equipment?

VH doubted it would be enough to provide ample power supply for the mining graphics card.

Jo Coach - the gym equipment in the park is mainly used in the summer months but the wind turbine is providing enough electrical energy for the whole year?

Sasha Ginsberg - would it be limited to the gym area or could they convert the park's playgrounds into electrical energy generators?

Pingu Aalto - 8 hours of swinging on the playground swings could generate a small amount of kinetic energy that could be used to contribute towards a sustainable electricity resource for the park.

- b) VH - Because these proposals depended on being physically abled an alternative approach was imagined for less physically abled users of the park. The second proposal was to introduce 'solar energy caps' for people walking, sitting or just enjoying other areas of the park and not using the gym equipment / playground facilities.

JC - Again, use of the caps is limited to the summer months

PA - Concerned about the visual aesthetic of the caps that looked like pvc shower caps.

RN - The costing and feasibility of issuing such caps would need to be carefully thought through,

Bodhi Squirrel - Would people return them or would they end up becoming littered in and around the park?

- c) VH - The final proposal from the group was to employ local architects to design and build some therapeutic huts for free use for Yoga, Reiki and other activities. The roof of these huts could be used to house variations of the wind turbine *Harvest* and the funds raised could contribute to a holistic activity program in the park.

Presentation 2 - Nikita Kovačić - Alternative Natural Capital Systems

Nikita Kovačić - We devised a coherent project for creating a sustainable energy resource for the park, an alternative monetary system and a collective participatory structure. The premise is to crowdfund investment for solar panels from the local community in order to establish an infrastructure to sell clean energy to the grid and invest the profits back into the park's cultural program.

The first stage could be to launch a public funding round to raise money for the solar panels and interest stakeholders. Each person that invests over **£20** would become fractional stakeholder in a panel and the electrical energy generated from the proportion of their investment would operate like a share in the project. For example, if the initial cost for solar panels costs **£10,000**, the person who invested **£20** would own a 0.2% share in the project (this would be the minimum investment). Once the money had been raised, Solar Panels would be bought and installed on available surface areas on existing buildings in the park (BPA, park toilets, cafe).

Mali Horace - The rough estimate for this kind of project is 25kwh from each 2xm panel, meaning even with all the available existing roof surface area it would still take approximately 8 years to break even on the **£10,000**.

NK - This is a 15 - 20 year investment and the price of sustainable energy will probably go up, shortening the time to break even on the project.

Jamie Ervin - What has happened to the art and culture here?

NK - While the project does have a low level of accessibility, we did discuss how to coordinate managing all the investors and shareholders and how much work this would take. The idea of creating a community owned clean energy infrastructure is generally considered very positive and there are many avenues for arts-led educational workshops around such a venture. These could support the development of processes such as participatory budgeting.

Sascha Ginsberg - I'm looking for creative activities to involve my kids. This all sounds really exciting - but not very good for all the kids and young families that use this park.

Skye Mutu - What is the benefit to my business of lending the cafe's roof space for the fitting of solar panels? Surely the profit generated from the panels on my cafe should be mine exclusively.

RN - There is a public-good clause in the terms of the café lease (because of its recent expansion into the park grounds).

NK - Another suggestion was to offer free wi-fi for all mobile device users in the park in exchange for processing power used to mine cryptocurrency. Users could initially be incentivised by a lottery. The surplus would fund cultural projects.

RN/OD - Ethical concerns about permissions.

BPA - Thank you to Valya and Nikita

Actions

Next meeting will take place in June when BPA will present the wireframes for the new platform. Date to be circulated next month

OD/RN/BPA - set a date for the group to invite Green Energy specialist Bernie to inspect the existing park equipment in order to provide a detailed proposal for how much clean energy could be generated from the parks facilities.

BFA - to provide some example of more digital arts programmes in parks for kids, sports, games etc

Dog Watch briefing to be provided to Chair - OD

Update provided to group at next meeting re the proposed TfB Quietway – OD

Plans for 180th anniversary to be discussed at stakeholder meeting next year - all

Additional info to be added to 2018 proposed event details – completed and attached