

Inclusion Southmead-160719

Apologies:

Karen Passmore, Nicola Ferris

Present:

Anthea Mustard, Deana Perry, Gordon Turner, Sheila Turner, Maggie Davies, Richard Baggott, Mike Steel, Dawn Payne, Vicky Welchman, Lucy Empson, Brenda Massey, Natasha Hawkins, Christine Portch, Robert Poloha.

Arnside Regeneration

Vicky and Lucy from Bristol City Council brought plans of the proposals to show Inclusion members. Arnside will not be pedestrianised as this would have a big impact on traffic possibly at the top end of Glencoyne. There will be parking on one side but only for Disabled and loading. Inclusion members felt that the number of Disabled bays should be increased to five. Disabled residents are allowed to park on double yellow lines. The other side of the shops will be for a cycle lane and resident Gordon Turner has asked for some bike racks to be installed. There will be a better flow of traffic as the layout will be greatly improved. There will be no change to the Aldi carpark. Visitors to Arnside will not be able to park right outside the shops but have a short walk from new car parking spaces along Greystoke Avenue. Richard expressed concern that businesses would suffer as a result but Deana stated that residents should not automatically expect to park right outside the store and a short walk was ok. This of course does not apply to Disabled people and it was thought that there would be perhaps a 3 hour parking slot. Questions arose about enforcement if someone was parked on double yellow lines or in a Disabled space illegally but unfortunately this is not something that Vicky and Lucy have any power over.

The road through Arnside will not have the concrete dug up but a new surface will be laid.

Discussion around a new crossing from Greystoke Ave to the nearest entrance to Doncaster rd park. Inclusion members did not like the idea of an "Island crossing" as manoeuvring a wheelchair, mobility scooter or a buggy and children around the central part is very difficult. Decided on a push button crossing. Dawn reports that some paving at Arnside is dangerous and Brenda has reported this- Lucy and Vicky say that it's a good idea to report things like this to "Fix My Street" because as residents we can be the eyes and ears for the Council.

McColls Update

We had very angry discussions around the lack of access to McColl's and what would happen if someone was poorly and had to be removed from the store. Tensions were high and sadly we didn't ask Richard if McColl's had done a risk assessment for this. Richard explained that he himself had removed a metre of shelving so that residents could access the store. Deana asked him if he had tested the entrance with someone on a mobility scooter and he said no. Deana then said that how do you know if it's accessible if you haven't tried it. One of our residents on a mobility scooter had tried to get in before but crashed into a shelf of crisps. Richard stated that he did have a relative in a mobility scooter but not living in Southmead. It was stated that McColl's had already put in plans that had been rejected by the Council and we told him that these plans were totally wrong and nothing like the plans we agreed 2 years ago. The ladies from the Council told him that McColl's had drawn up these plans but the ramp was actually on BCC land. Richard says that there are other paypoints where residents can pay rent and this is true- The Wine and Liquor store at Arnside but I doubt if a Disabled person could even get in the entrance.

Deana has been in contact with Alison Fagan and Shelly Partridge about appointing an Independent Assessor to visit McColl's and provide plans and a report to make it fully accessible. This is being done now so we have agreed to wait for the report which Richard will bring back to a future meeting.

Update on Doncaster rd park

Nic unfortunately didn't give us an update in time for our meeting and this caused a bit of uncertainty amongst us as members were concerned that we weren't making any progress. Others were worried that the money for the project could be spent elsewhere. Deana tried reassuring people that this pot of money was ringfenced for improvements to park entrances and green spaces. We have been waiting so long for this and we feel that the 2 entrances will not be opened up in time for a planned fun day in August. Anthea and Deana will email Nic and get a timescale for the work to be carried out.

New Venue For Inclusion

There is a possibility that after September we will no longer be able to use the meeting rooms. Decided that a Tuesday works best and we could possibly use St Stephens, Pentecostal Holiness Church or the hall next to St Vincent De Paul Church - Deana will make enquiries. Gordon Turner asked about the possibility of The Pentecostal Holiness Church having a new roof paid for in the Arnside Regeneration but it was felt that the best way to achieve this was through fund raising or a grant.

Date next meeting - Tuesday 13th August from 11am-1pm at the meeting rooms.