

Meeting notes

Project:	BANES Water Space Study		
Subject:	Water users focus group		
Date and time:	5 Sep 2016 - 14.30-16.30	Meeting no:	1
Meeting place:	Widcombe Social Club, Bath	Minutes by:	GW
Present:	Patrick Moss George Whalley Adrian Robinson Andy Smith Sue Smith Sam Worrall Carol Krebs	Representing:	MossNaylorYoung Atkins Ltd Towpath user Boater and Waterways Chaplaincy Boater & Julian House Outreach Boater

ITEM	DESCRIPTION & ACTION	DEADLINE	RESPONSIBLE
1	<p>Focus Group Objectives</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To understand issues on waterways in BANES from perspective of users. This will feed WSS which is concerned with establishing an evidence base and intervention recommendations concerning the use, management and development of waterways and their bankside in BANES. 		
2	<p>Facilities on Waterways</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The group all agreed that there was a significant lack of basic facilities in BANES (especially toilets/'Elsans', showers, waste disposal and dog waste bins). - Lack of life saving equipment at 'wild swimming' points. - As well as affecting current waterways users and live-aboard boaters the lack of facilities do not correspond to CRT commercial ambitions to boost tourism on BANES waterways. - The lack of appropriate facilities results in unacceptable impacts such as people using woods and towpaths to defecate, frequent dog waste or dog waste bags on towpath and people washing in the open using the taps that exist. - Little evidence of enforcement by relevant authority (e.g. CRT/Council/Police) of existing laws/by-laws/policies regarding litter/dog waste/facilities etc. <p>Suggested Solutions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Potential shared facilities with locks that close at night 		

Next meeting: TBC

Distribution: TBC

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NOTE TO RECIPIENTS:

These meeting notes record Atkins understanding of the meeting and intended actions arising therefrom. Your agreement that the notes form a true record of the discussion will be assumed unless adverse comments are received in writing within five days of receipt.

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	<p>to avoid vandalism. Boaters could have ‘watermate’ keys to allow use of facilities when locked.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - If additional waste bins (dog and general) were provided it is likely voluntary groups would sign agreements to transfer waste to existing waste bins to avoid additional revenue costs to Council/CRT. - Use of Council or Neighbourhood level Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) to fund additional facilities - ACTION – Research whether neighbourhood CIL/Plans exists, which Parish/Neighbourhood groups are relevant and whether waterways facilities are included in infrastructure lists (reg123 list). Explore inclusion on District wide Reg 123 and CIL lists (for 2018-19 onwards). - ACTION – If CIL relevant make links to explore opportunities. <p>ACTION – Map the existing facilities and services that boaters are using (together with details of who maintains or owns these), including water points, pump out and any other. Show show where no access to electricity, running water and sewage pump out etc – gaps in the network. This can be the basis for requiring facilities as part of new development and will identify major gaps in the local network.</p>	<p>ASAP</p> <p>ASAP</p> <p>ASAP</p>	<p>Atkins/MNY</p> <p>Atkins/MNY</p> <p>Atkins/MNY</p>
3	<p>Waterway Safety/Etiquette</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There is an issue of people that hire boats and canoe clubs not following waterways ‘etiquette’ including speeding, not giving way at bridges/locks, passing between boats, turning in front of boats and being drunk in charge of vessels etc.. - Suggested Solutions - Education programme – including visiting canoe clubs to explain protocols/etiquette and health and safety implications – potentially funded by CRT as guardians of the waterways - Leaflets handed out to boat users, notices in boats and briefing sessions with all people on hire boats before handing over keys. - Posters 		
4	<p>Moorings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Relative lack of moorings to accommodate demand. Pinch points are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Swineford o Saltford – riverside restaurant o Darlington Wharf due to hire boat ‘saturation’ o Cannot stop at Green Park? Sainsburys on way to Bristol due to lack of moorings and steep bank topography – potential for floating pontoons near facilities? - Opportunity to create ‘floating market’ at Avon Street 		
5	<p>Landside Parking</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - General lack of parking facilities especially at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o George Pub – Bathampton 		

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Walcot, Bath – whereabouts more specifically ○ Ferry Lane, Bath – whereabouts there are a few Ferry lanes? 		
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mobile Phone and Internet Coverage - Lack of internet/mobile phone access: - Suggested Solutions - Regular markers showing bridge numbers for use in emergencies - Repeaters along waterway network in mobile coverage 'blackspots' 		
7	<p>Other Issues</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rough-sleepers have increased in BANES. Particularly under bridges and on towpaths. 		
8	<p>Next Steps</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Consultants to assess feedback and decide whether additional meeting required. - Circulate notes to group and other consultees who could not attend for comment - ACTION – set up further meeting if required 	ASAP	Atkins/MNY
9	<p>Summary of Actions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ACTION – Research whether neighbourhood CIL/Plans exists, which Parish/Neighbourhood groups are relevant and whether waterways facilities are included in infrastructure lists (reg123 list). - ACTION – If CIL relevant make links to explore opportunities - ACTION – set up further meeting if required - ACTION – Map the existing facilities and services that boaters are using (together with details of who maintains or owns these), including water points, pump out and any other. Show extensive areas where no access to electricity, running water and sewage pump out etc – highlighting the geography of the main gaps in the network. This can be the basis for requiring facilities as part of new development and will identify major gaps in the local network, which can then seek to be addressed. 	ASAP	Atkins/MNY
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