June 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 Project Management Team
- Promote and support involvement of others

CCG Oversight Group
Andrew Hassard – Chair and SRO
(Belfast City Council)
Gerry Millar
(BCC)
Ciaran Quigley
(BCC)
Maurice Kinkead
(East Belfast Partnership)
Kyle Alexander
(Connswater Com. Greenway Trust)
Mark O’Donnell
(DSD)
Pat Aldridge
(Rivers Agency)
Big Lottery
Reporting Officers
Wendy Langham
Rose Crozier
Bob Beggs
Advisors
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(Central Procurement Directorate)
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The Stakeholder Forum

Our last Stakeholder Forum was held on 9 December 2011 at Glentoran Football Club and we were delighted to welcome along our First Minister Rt Hon Peter Robinson, MLA. We would like to pass on our thanks to Russell and all the staff at Glentoran Football Club for hosting this event and wish them every success in the future.

As you will all be aware we have, since the first Stakeholder Forum back in June 2008, ensured that we held a forum every three months to provide all our stakeholders with project updates and developments. Unfortunately, due to the ongoing contractual problems over the past 12 months we were unable to hold a Forum in March 2012 whilst these issues were being resolved.

The project is now back on track and we look forward to your continued support for and participation with the Connswater Community Greenway project.

Construction Contract Update

As many of you will be aware from recent press coverage Belfast City Council (BCC) and the Connswater JV (SIAC NI Ltd and Galliford Try Infrastructure) have agreed that it is in both parties’ interests to mutually terminate the contract to build the Connswater Community Greenway. Final terms of mutual termination have now been agreed and the Council is moving to re-start the project. We are working closely with all our partners and funders and hope to release details shortly of the revised construction programme.

Funders and other key Statutory Partners remain committed to the development and delivery of the CCG and East Belfast Flood Alleviation Scheme and are working hard to develop a programme of works that will enable work to start by late 2012/early 2013 at key priority areas along the route.

Whilst it is regrettable that there has been a delay in delivering the capital build side of the project, work has continued within the project team and BCC to ensure we deliver a quality greenway that reflects the needs of all our stakeholders.

CCG Website

The CCG website has been re-launched and has become more user friendly and interactive, enabling users to view current design proposals, find out more about their area and obtain up to date information about the project, upcoming events, news etc... Revised plans and construction programme will be updated as soon as they are available.

Any feedback on the site would be greatly appreciated.
Yardmen Cycle and Walk 2012—1st April 2012

Many thanks to all of you who took part in or supported our Titanic Yardmen Cycle and Walk in aid of Bowel Cancer UK on 1st April 2012. With over 1000 people taking part in the walk or the cycle and approximately 150 volunteers on the day, the event was a huge success raising a titanic total of £21,324.41 for use by Bowel Cancer UK in raising awareness of this deadly disease across Northern Ireland. The event attracted significant media coverage and allowed local people to participate in the opening of the new Titanic Belfast building whilst also celebrating the role of the shipyard workers in developing Harland and Wolff and, indeed, Belfast as a major industrial force.

Feedback from participants was superb with many people asking why east Belfast doesn’t deliver more of this type of event. This shows what can be achieved in east Belfast when we all work together.

The completion of the CCG will hopefully facilitate many more fun family and community events of this nature, attracting thousands of visitors to the east of the city.

Many images and videos of the day are available through our website and Facebook page. We would welcome any ideas for future events or celebrations along the CCG route and suggestions should be forwarded to sean@eastbelfastpartnership.org or phone Sean on 90467930.

The Hollow

The Hollow at Elmgrove is perhaps one of east Belfast’s best kept secrets. It’s the place where the Loop and Knock rivers join to become the Connswater river, where the historic and beautiful Conn O’Neill bridge is located and it has influenced the music of Van Morrison. After years of neglect local residents, Bloomfield Community Association, East Belfast Alternatives and Connswater McDonalds Restaurant staff have joined with the CCG Team to clean up the Hollow and bring it back into community use through a series of fun volunteer events.

Whilst there is still work to be done in the Hollow through the CCG the Hollow is now a safer, more attractive and welcoming place and, thanks to all the hard work a jubilee party was able to be hosted at the Hollow.

Over the past two years up to 50 people have been involved in bringing the Hollow back to life through a series of volunteer events focusing on cleaning and restoring the Hollow. Trees and shrubs have been removed, the rivers have been cleared and tons of rubbish have been removed from the site including builders rubble, electrical goods, furniture etc...

100s of volunteer hours have been spent in the area and our thanks to all who took part, particularly Bloomfield Community Association, McDonalds staff, Elim Pentecostal Church and local residents such as Michael and Linda.

Majora Carter Visit

Majora Carter, an award winning environmental campaigner from New York visited east Belfast recently. The visit included lunch and a tour of regeneration projects in east including CCG, Skainos, East Belfast Development Agency, Titanic People and Titanic Quarter Halt Subway Mural.