



Bristol Parks Forum

representing resident led
park groups and citywide organisations
involved in protecting and improving
Bristol's green spaces

14th October 2008

This evening, Bristol Parks Forum will be making representation to the full council meeting to ask them to redress the sale of Filwood Park.

The Forum were surprised to learn that the sale of Filwood Park had been agreed less than 30 minutes at the same cabinet meeting after they adopted the Parks and Green Space Strategy. Under The Parks and Green Spaces Strategy the council is obliged to ring fence 70% of any land sale for investment back into parks and green spaces.

Fraser Bridgeford, Chair of the Bristol Parks Forum said, "After working hard with councillors and council officers to produce and get agreement on the strategy we are very disappointed that this was allowed to go through. The Strategy calls for Area Green Space Plans to be produced in conjunction with the local community to determine the requirements for specific areas and how they will be delivered. The existing Filwood Park area may well be key to satisfying the longer term needs of the local community."

"If it is identified once the Area Green Space Plans has been completed that the green space requirements need to be met by the return of Filwood Park to council ownership then the land should be repurchased by the council to meet the need. If it is identified that a better solution is found for and agreed by the Filwood community then the monies received from the sale of Filwood Park should be made available to support the Parks and Green Spaces Strategy. Either way, 70% of the sale should go towards the P&GSS. As the local press revealed, this is a significant sum not being made available to Bristol Parks and this needs to be redressed."

"With parks and green spaces under threat around Bristol not only at Filwood but Castle Park, The Chocolate Factory Site on the Railway Path, Ashton Vale and Malago Greenway to name a few, it is time that the council shows its green credentials."

Fraser Bridgeford, Chair, Bristol Parks Forum

Further information can be Contact Details:
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Bristol Parks Forum

Bristol Parks Forum was established by Bristol Parks as an umbrella organisation for community park groups and organisations in the city with an interest in their local parks and green spaces.

The forum is supported by Bristol City Council but acts independently and is currently the only 'community voice' that is dedicated to all of Bristol's green spaces. The forum's three main roles are to:

- offer an opportunity to share ideas and experience
- act as a consultation body for the Bristol Parks service and other agencies;
- influence decision-making, including the allocation of resources.

Parks and Green Spaces Strategy: <http://tinyurl.com/487ay7>

Bristol Parks Forum <http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/>