

4 April 2012 - No 95

In this update: BPF Meeting 21 April - Green Space Disposals - Grove Wood Town Green - Other Town Greens - Cleaner & Brighter Parks Weekend - Gordon Tucker, 1931-2012 - Kings Weston Action Group - Bristol Garden Life Show

BPF Meeting 21 April

We are now finalising the agenda, if there is anything happening in your green space that you want to tell the BPF about let us know and we will try to fit you in.

Green Space Disposals

Links to the Evening Post reports of the Neighbourhood Partnership meetings are at www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/pgss.htm and I am adding links to the minutes as they appear. Three areas have deferred decisions to the next round of meetings.

Grove Wood Town Green

There was a celebration of Bristol's newest Town Green on Sunday - you can see a video on YouTube here: <http://tinyurl.com/7ytlhgf>

Other Town Greens

You may have seen in the press that the Judicial Review into the Ashton Vale Town Green is to go ahead in May or June.

The PROWG committee on Monday decided to refer two sites at Bracey Drive and Elderberry Walk to an independent inspector on the issue as to whether the land has been used 'as of right' (without permission) or 'by right' (with permission). In both cases the Council's position as landowner is that use was 'by right' for at least part of the 20 years because the land was held by BCC as public open space.

Details of all recent Bristol Town Green applications are at www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/BristolTG.pdf

Cleaner & Brighter Parks Weekend

The above is a combination of two suggestions I had for the litter picking weekend on 19th & 20th May. I want to add some details to the website next week if you are organising an event please let me have the details including the meeting point and time.

You will need to talk to your AEO to sort out details such as getting the litter collected, they should

also be able to sort out litter pickers etc.

Gordon Tucker, 1931-2012

We were sad to hear of the sudden death of long serving member of the Bristol Civic Society Gordon Tucker on 22nd March.

Hugh emailed me to say the following:

Gordon attended BPF meetings as BCS rep for several years and was a thoroughly decent and hard-working community volunteer. He was also the Downs Tree Warden for years, long before most people were aware of the need to protect and cherish trees, and was, I think, involved in the last burst of tree planting in Bristol in 73/4.

Kings Weston Action Group

This group is one of the newer members of the BPF but seems to have achieved a lot in a short time. The links below take you to their latest newsletter and a flyer for a Tree Gazing Walk on 5th May with Tony Titchen. They will soon be launching a walking guide to Kings Weston and Shirehampton Parks.

www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/KWAG/Newsletter6.pdf

www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/KWAG/TreeGazing.pdf

Bristol Garden Life Show

The Bristol Garden Life Show is taking place on 11th and 12th May.
For more information go to: <http://digital-thisis.co.uk/bristol/garden-life-show/index.html>
An application form for Community stalls, which are free of charge is here:
www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/2012GardenLifeForm.doc

Rob Acton-Campbell
BPF

www.bristolparksforum.org.uk

2012 meeting dates: Sat 21st April, Sat 14th July, Sat 13th October
(all 9.30 to 12.30)

15 April 2012 - No 96

In this update: BPF Meeting 21 April - Area Environment Officers Update - Bristol Central Area Action Plan - Events - Seeds of Change - Free Cycle Parking - Tea party in Fishponds Park

BPF Meeting 21 April

The agenda for Saturday's meeting is now on the website at www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/BPFAgenda210412.pdf

Area Environment Officers Update

A message from Richard Fletcher:

Dear Park Forum member

The Neighbourhood Engagement Team in Environment and Leisure services is going through a formal review process. As a result there have been some changes in those currently carrying out the role of Area Environment Officer.

We are currently recruiting to two Area Environment Officer vacancies and a Development Officer - who will support fundraising initiatives. It is hoped that the recruitment process will be complete by the end of May. However this could take longer if successful candidates are from outside the Council. Until then there is a temporary arrangement set out below:

Denise James (0117 922 4726, Denise.James@bristol.gov.uk)

Denise is the AEO for:

- Greater Fishponds
- St George

Denise is also temporarily covering Horfield and Lockleaze.

Greg Eynon (0117 922 4741, Greg.Eynon@bristol.gov.uk)

Greg is the AEO for:

- Ashley, Easton & Lawrence Hill

Greg is also temporarily covering Bishopston, Cotham and Redland.

Richard Gwyn (0117 352 1141, Richard.Gwyn@bristol.gov.uk)

Richard is the AEO for:

- Knowle, Filwood and Windmill Hill
- Greater Brislington

Richard is temporarily covering Cabot, Clifton and Clifton East.

Gary Brentnall (0117 922 4716, Gary.Brentnall@bristol.gov.uk)

Gary is the AEO for:

- Avonmouth and Kingsweston
- Henleaze, Stroke Bishop and Westbury on Trym

Gary is temporarily covering Henbury and Southmead.

Julian Cox (0117 922 2057, Julian.Cox@bristol.gov.uk)

Julian is the AEO for:

- Hengrove and Stockwood
- Dundry View
- Greater Bedminster

The Neighbourhood Engagement Team office will be staffed during working hours so that we can pick up enquiries at all times. We have also set up a Team email and phone number which are Neighbourhood.Engagement@bristol.gov.uk, 0117 922 1947. If you are not sure which of us to ring, please use that number or email and a member of the Team will respond.

I am the Neighbourhood Engagement Team Manager and my contact details are 0117 922 3896, Richard.Fletcher@bristol.gov.uk

If you have any questions you would like to ask me please do give me a call or drop me a line.

Best wishes

Richard

Bristol Central Area Action Plan

The consultation on the Central Area Action Plan closes on Friday. Links to this and to the Site Allocations consultation can be found on the Development Framework website at www.bristol.gov.uk/bdf

Events

A reminder that for all events with over 50 people in Bristol Parks you need a Parks Permit and a Site Licence if you expect attendance to be over 200. Park groups organising events with the support of Bristol Parks will not be charged for Park Permits and the event will be covered by BCC insurance - but you do still need to apply.

Links and more details here: <http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/#events>

Seeds of Change

A call for volunteers - Seeds of Change: A Ballast Seed Garden for Bristol - Maria Thereza Alves

Part of the Cultural Olympiad

Seeds of Change is an on-going investigation of ballast flora in European port cities by artist Maria Thereza Alves. The project was part of the 2007 Arnolfini exhibition Port City, with the artist undertaking a period of research to find and photograph possible ballast sites around the river Avon and Bristol's Harbourside.

For hundreds of years, earth and sand was used as ballast in Bristol's ships as they followed the Triangular Trade Route from Africa to the US and the West Indies, and back to the UK. As they unloaded their cargo and ballast in Bristol docks, exotic plants began to flourish on the Avon's banks, a testament to these journeys, and to the people who made them, many of whom never arrived.

Alves says: "Seeds of Change: Bristol is an attempt to re-establish the histories of complexities of ballast flora and the potential of individual histories that these plants were witness to, previously isolated from their intimate connection to the economic and social history of Bristol."

What we need volunteers for

The site for the Ballast Seed Garden is a grain barge that had been docked at Finzel's Reach (Castle Park). With permission granted by the Bristol City Council and the Harbour Master, it is ready for work to begin. The plants to create the garden will be seeded from the original ballast and grown off site whilst the barge is cleared and the artists' concept design is initiated. On completion the seedlings will be transported to the barge and the garden planted. We are now recruiting volunteers to help us:

- 1) Clear the grain barge of debris ready to construct the artists design
- 2) Plant and grow the seedlings from the original ballast

If you are interested in taking part in this exciting project and becoming part of the Cultural Olympiad then please respond to: learningintern@arnolfini.org.uk

All Best
Claire Sharpe, Learning and Participation Intern
ARNOLFINI

Free Cycle Parking

Life Cycle UK have funding from Bristol City Council to be able to continue to offer free cycle parking to community groups, small businesses and the like.

The basic deal is 'we supply, you install'.

We can offer up to 4 sheffield stands (the hoops you see in most high streets in Bristol) per application, and can apply by downloading a form from our website www.lifecycleuk.org.uk, Ffi admin@lifecycleuk.org.uk, 0117 353 4580

Charlie Bolton
Life Cycle UK

0117 353 4580
www.lifecycleuk.org.uk
'the Cycling Promotion charity'
Normal working days: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

Tea party in Fishponds Park

If you want to relax in a park after our meeting, Activate are holding a St Georges Day tea party in Fishponds Park on Saturday 21st April 2pm. Fun includes Morris Dancers, A punch & judy Show, local band Cannon Fodder and tea and cake. Free event.

Rob Acton-Campbell
BPF
www.bristolparksforum.org.uk
2012 meeting dates: Sat 21st April, Sat 14th July, Sat 13th October
(all 9.30 to 12.30)

24 April 2012 - No 97

In this update: BPF Meeting 21 April - Festival of Nature 16/17 June - Cleaner & Brighter Parks Weekend 19/20 May

BPF Meeting 21 April

Most of the papers and information referred to at the meeting are now on the website at www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/#meetings

As discussed at the meeting, Councillors have been asked to submit their bids for a share of the £3.5m that is available this year for spending on parks and green spaces. Where this is spent will be a Cabinet decision based on a recommendation from Bristol Parks but Councillors have been asked to submit their ideas for projects in their wards. It was disappointing to hear at the meeting that very few Councillors seem to have consulted with Park Groups or Neighbourhood Partnership environment sub-groups before making these bids. Councillors now have until 30th April to submit these bids.

Apologies again for the fact that we didn't get through all the agenda, especially as it was some of the good news that we missed out. You can see some the work that the Kings Weston Action Group are doing on their facebook page at <http://tinyurl.com/6vjxubj>. An update on the Troopers Hill Stepping Forward Project is at www.troopers-hill.org.uk/steppingforward

We would like some feedback on our meetings. It always seems to be difficult to fit in everything we want to, so should we make the meetings longer or more frequent? Should we just accept that we can't cover everything in the meetings and restrict the agenda so that there is more time for discussion? What do you think of Windmill Hill City Farm as a venue? Can you suggest an alternative venue?

Festival of Nature 16/17 June

As we mentioned at the meeting BPF will again have a stall at this year's event, but we need volunteers to man it. This is a good chance to publicise your group and your park.

If you can cover a 2 hour session please let us know your preferred day / time and we will put together a rota.

For general enquiries about the Festival email ben@bnhc.org.uk

If you have any ideas or want more information about the garden area that was mentioned then email matt.h@bnhc.org.uk

Cleaner & Brighter Parks Weekend 19/20 May

I have now put details about this and the events that I know about on the website at www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/#clean

Rob Acton-Campbell

BPF

www.bristolparksforum.org.uk

2012 meeting dates: Sat 14th July, Sat 13th October
(all 9.30 to 12.30)