

## 11 Aug 2012 - No 104

In this update: Mayoral Elections - GreenSpace News - Community First Funds - Town Greens Latest - St Andrews Park Notice Board

### Mayoral Elections

With all the main parties having now selected their candidates for the election on 15th November the campaign will now get under way properly.

The BPF committee intend to submit some questions to the candidates to establish their views on parks and green spaces. If you have a question that you would like us to ask on behalf of the BPF please let us know.

You may also have seen that there is a '3 wishes' campaign aimed at creating a Manifesto for Bristol. This is to give everyone a chance to say what they think a mayor should be doing for Bristol. You can find out more at [www.bristolmanifesto.org](http://www.bristolmanifesto.org)

The current list of candidates is at [www.bristolmanifesto.org/candidates](http://www.bristolmanifesto.org/candidates) with links to the candidates own websites.

If your group is a member of Voscur then there is a chance to meet the candidates at Voscur's AGM on Wed 26th September, more details at [www.voscur.org/VoscurAGM2012](http://www.voscur.org/VoscurAGM2012)

If you want to stand as Mayor yourself, then details are here: [www.bristol.gov.uk/page/candidates](http://www.bristol.gov.uk/page/candidates)

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### GreenSpace News

The latest edition of 'The Bench' the newsletter from GreenSpace can be seen here:  
<http://tinyurl.com/bench80>

It includes more on the national 'Make parks a priority' campaign and the Early Day Motion that MPs are being urged to support.

The details of the EDL are:

Parliamentary Early Day Motion 219

Session: 2012-13 Date tabled: 18.06.2012 Primary sponsor: Roger Williams MP

### REDUCTION IN FUNDING FOR URBAN PARKS

" That this House is concerned about the damage being caused to Britain's urban parks and green spaces by disproportionate cuts to their maintenance in local government budget savings, the loss of skills in professional horticulture in the public sector through staff redundancies and the lack of investment in parks, negatively impacting on health, social well-being and community cohesion; notes that, for example, London parks budgets have fallen by 44 per cent in the past four years while Liverpool has lost a third of its parks budget in the last two years along with 65 parks staff; recognises the challenge for green space professionals with the absence of a national level department, body or function with a watching brief for the UK's urban parks; and calls on the

Government to address these concerns in a new inquiry into urban parks."

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### Community First Funds

Some wards in Bristol have been allocated money from the Government's Community First fund. Park groups are ideally placed to apply for this money since it is a requirement that grants are match funded, but this can be done using volunteer hours at the rate of £11.09 per hour. A panel to recommend grant awards has been set up in each ward.

The wards allocated money and links to their panel's websites are below:

Hillfields - [www.greaterbristol.com/fishponds/pages/hillfieldscommunityfirst.html](http://www.greaterbristol.com/fishponds/pages/hillfieldscommunityfirst.html)

St George West - <http://stgeorgewestcf.wordpress.com/>

Easton and Lawrence Hill - [www.eastonandlawrencehill.org.uk/?page\\_id=1862](http://www.eastonandlawrencehill.org.uk/?page_id=1862)

Ashley - <http://stpaulsunlimited.wordpress.com/ashley-community-first-grants/>

Avonmouth [www.myneighbourhoodbristol.com/1/](http://www.myneighbourhoodbristol.com/1/)

Bishopsworth - [www.dundryview.org.uk/bishopsworth-community-first-programme-fund/](http://www.dundryview.org.uk/bishopsworth-community-first-programme-fund/)

Henbury - <http://henburybrentrycommunity.org.uk/wordpress/?cat=32>

Whitchurch - [www.dundryview.org.uk/whitchurch-park-community-first-programme-fund/](http://www.dundryview.org.uk/whitchurch-park-community-first-programme-fund/)

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### Town Greens Latest

Following its withdrawal from the Judicial Review process, the Council has now referred the disputed northern part of Ashton Vale Field back to the independent inspector who originally recommended that the whole site should be a Town Green. Despite what has been said in 'The Post' this is not a return to square one. The registration of the southern part of the site as a TGV is not being reconsidered. There was an article about the latest developments on Bristol 24-7 here: <http://tinyurl.com/96hupsm>

The latest on the other ongoing Town Green applications can be seen in the papers for the 25th June PROWG committee meeting at <http://tinyurl.com/9gwql2v> This meeting agreed to refer issues on the following applications to an independent inspector: Wellington Hill; Okebourne Open Space; Higham St Green.

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### St Andrews Park Notice Board

A new stainless steel notice board has been installed in St Andrews Park which is also a work of art in itself. It was made by Julian Warren who is based in Redland and who is keen to supply boards to more parks. The cost is £3,000.

More information is at [www.metalgnu.com/news/](http://www.metalgnu.com/news/)  
Photos of the board being installed are on the Friends of St Andrews Park website via  
<http://tinyurl.com/9d6b66m>

Rob Acton-Campbell  
BPF  
[www.bristolparksforum.org.uk](http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk)  
Next meeting date: Sat 13th October  
(9.30 to 12.30)

## 22 Aug 2012 - No 105

In this update: Mayoral Elections - Minutes of BPF July Meeting - KWAG Walk - FoTH Walk

### Mayoral Elections

The BPF committee today emailed questions to the candidates you can see the questions on our website at [www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/#mayor](http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/#mayor) and we will also be posting the answers there as we receive them.

Voscur are helping to organise a number of public Question Time events with Bristol Mayor and Avon and Somerset Police Crime Commissioner candidates. They will be taking booking and have printed postcards for these events from the beginning of September.

Avon and Somerset Police Crime Commissioner Question Time  
Thursday 18 October, 7 - 9pm  
The Council House, College Green, Bristol, BS1 5TR

Candidates for the Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner election will take part in a public Question Time debate on Thursday 18 October, 7 - 9pm at The Council House in Bristol. The event organised by Voscur as part of the Safer Future Communities project is free but booking is essential. To book your place visit <http://www.voscur.org/content/police-crime-commissioner-question-time-event> or call Voscur on (0117) 909 9949. If you'd like to submit a question for the event you can post these online at [www.tinyurl.com/PCCquestions](http://www.tinyurl.com/PCCquestions) or call Matthew Symonds at Voscur. A range of questions will be chosen to be asked at the event.

Bristol Mayor Election Question Time (Southmead)  
Monday 22 October, 6.30 - 9pm  
The Greenway centre, Doncaster Avenue, Southmead, BS10 5PY

Candidates for the Bristol mayoral election will take place in a public Question Time debate on Monday 22 October, 6.30-9pm at the Greenway Centre in Southmead. The event organised by Voscur and Southmead Development Trust is free but booking is essential. To book your place visit <http://www.voscur.org/content/bristol-mayor-election-question-time-southmead> or call Voscur on (0117) 909 9949. If you'd like to submit a question for the event you can post these online at

[www.tinyurl.com/mayoralquestions](http://www.tinyurl.com/mayoralquestions) or call Matthew Symonds at Voscur on (0117) 909 9949. A range of questions will be chosen to be asked at the event.

#### Bristol Mayor Election Question Time (Clifton)

Friday 2 November, evening exact time to be confirmed

The Great Hall, Wills Memorial Building, University of Bristol, Queens Road, Bristol

Candidates for the Bristol mayoral election will take place in a public Question Time debate on Friday 2 November, evening time tbc at the University of Bristol, Clifton. This event is being organised by The University of Bristol Students Union, the University of Bristol and Voscur. For more details visit <http://www.voscur.org/content/bristol-mayor-election-question-time-clifton>. If you'd like to submit a question for the event you can post these online at [www.tinyurl.com/mayoralquestions](http://www.tinyurl.com/mayoralquestions) or call Matthew Symonds at Voscur on (0117) 909 9949.

#### Bristol Mayor Election Question Time (Ashley, Easton and Lawrence Hill)

Thursday 8 November, 6.30 - 9pm

Trinity Centre, Trinity Road, Lawrence Hill, Bristol

This Question Time event is being organised for residents and community groups in Ashley, Easton and Lawrence Hill wards in partnership with Ashley, Easton and Lawrence Hill Neighbourhood Partnership, St Pauls Unlimited, Easton and Lawrence Hill Neighbourhood Management and Voscur. For more details visit <http://www.voscur.org/content/bristol-mayor-election-question-time-ashley-easton-and-lawrence-hill> or call (0117) 903 9975. If you'd like to submit a question for the event you can phone (0117) 903 9975, email [stacy@eastonandlawrencehill.org.uk](mailto:stacy@eastonandlawrencehill.org.uk) or post these online at [www.tinyurl.com/mayoralquestions](http://www.tinyurl.com/mayoralquestions)

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#### Minutes of BPF July Meeting

These are now on the website at <http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/BPFMin140712.pdf>

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#### KWAG Walk

KWAG are organising a third walking tour of the historic Kings Weston estate on Saturday 29th September 10am to 1pm. To anyone who hasn't had the opportunity before, these walks take-in four hundred years of history on a guided tour through some of the park's familiar, and not so familiar, landmarks.

The walk usually lasts for about two and a half to three hours with plenty of stops along the way and finishes at Kings Weston House. Full details are on the flyer at [www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/KWAGWalking3.pdf](http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/KWAGWalking3.pdf), but spaces are limited and should be booked in advance through KWAG. The tour costs £4 per person with all money going towards KWAG's future projects to help promote, conserve, enhance the historic parkland.

If you'd like to go along and learn more about the fascinating history of the estate and its people please email [kwactiongroup@gmail.com](mailto:kwactiongroup@gmail.com) to reserve a space.

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## FoTH Walk

Friends of Troopers Hill are organising our annual Avon Valley Walk on Sunday 23rd September. This walk is free but booking is essential. There will be an opportunity for lunch at Beeses. More details at [www.troopers-hill.org.uk/events.htm#230912](http://www.troopers-hill.org.uk/events.htm#230912)

If you can't get a space on that walk, then maybe I will see you at Beeses Beer Festival?  
[www.beeses.co.uk/beerfest.php](http://www.beeses.co.uk/beerfest.php) - some of the proceeds are going to Friends of Troopers Hill and Friends of Eastwood Farm.

Rob Acton-Campbell

BPF

[www.bristolparksforum.org.uk](http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk)

Next meeting date: Sat 13th October

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