

7 July 2008

Bristol Parks Forum - Sat 12th July 9:30am - 1pm Windmill Hill City Farm

Bristol Parks Forum members on Bristol Parks' emailing list should have received the agenda by email earlier today. It is also now available on our website at <http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/BPFagenda.pdf>

Area Green Space Plans

Work on the AGSP for Brislington has already started and the first meeting was held last week. The latest timetable for the production of AGSPs across the city (which has been slightly revised from the one produced last month) can be seen on our website at: <http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/AGSPprogramme.pdf>

Malago Greenway walk: Sunday July 13

The day after the Parks Forum meeting there is a good opportunity to explore this riverside path, from Bedminster to Dundry Hill, part of which is under threat as part of the Rapid Transit Bus Route proposals. The Malago Trek is an annual walk organised by Bristol Living Rivers, and takes 3-4 hours at a gentle stroll. It follows the Malago up to where it rises on the Dundry Slopes.

Starts 10am Meet at Asda Bedminster entrance

Approx 4m

Bring a picnic for the end.

Tel Helen Adshead 0117 9224331

Full details: <http://tinyurl.com/55sdgv>

This is part of a series of river walks organised by Bristol Living Rivers in partnership with community groups (including Park Groups) and organisations with talks from guest speakers. Leaflets are available to download at www.bristol.gov.uk/rivers other walks are:

Sunday 13th July : Oldbury Court to Huckford Quarry near Winterbourne,
River Frome

Starts 10am Meet at Oldbury Court Estate car-park, Fishponds

Approx 4m

Return transport available - booking essential £2

Tel: Paula Spiers 0117 922 4325

Sunday 27th July : Ashton Vale to Hanging Hill Wood, Colliters Brook

Starts 10am Meet at CREATE Centre car-park

Approx 2m

Bring a picnic for the end.

Tel Helen Adshead 0117 9224331

Wednesday 13th August : Exploring Frampton Cotterell to Iron Action,
River Frome

Starts 10.30am, free refreshments at 10am

6m circular walk

Tel: Paula Spiers 0117 922 4325

Thursday 11th September : Cotswold Edge, River Frome
Starts 10.30am Wickwar Road Public Car-park, Chipping Sodbury
5m circular walk
Tel: Paula Spiers 0117 922 4325

Sunday 5th October : Avon Valley Walk, River Avon
Starts 10am Conham Vale Car-park, Crews Hole Lane
1 hr stop for a picnic lunch at St Anne's Well.
Finish approx 4pm at Beeses Tea Garden
25p for ferry crossing required
5m
Tel: Sally Oldfield 0117 922 4429
(leaflet not yet available)

Brislington Brook Trek - date to be arranged.

If you are in any doubt about weather or arrangements please contact the person named below the walk details.

Rob
BPF
www.bristolparksforum.org.uk

9 July 2008

Some more information for Saturday and another couple of events that might be of interest.

Are your group's needs being met by Parks? - What needs to change?

Some of the responses we received can be seen here:
<http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/SupportComments.pdf>

This sheet will also be available on Saturday and the issue will be discussed as part of the agenda item about the Community Action Toolkit. You can find a copy of the Toolkit here:
<http://tinyurl.com/6pe8gt>

Events...

Castle Park

As you may know the Town Green application for Castle Park is currently being considered. There is a chance to look at Castle Park in a way you perhaps haven't before by joining a "Herbalist" Health Walk planned on Monday 14th July, 6pm - 7.30pm. Meet at Castle Park Band Stand.

This was originally arranged for Health Walk Volunteer walk leaders and organised as a Thank you walk, but many leaders / helpers on the project can't attend, so it now open to others who may be interested in learning about plants and herbs. Max Drake will lead the walk.

If you would like to go please email nicola.ferris@bristol.gov.uk or phone Nicola on 07810506738 by Friday (11th). Nicola is the Groundforce Co-ordinator and Health Walks Worker based in east Bristol.

Sneed Park Nature Reserve

20th September 2008 Open Day with exhibition in Stoke Bishop Village Hall.

A display to celebrate the Reserve and the on-going work with the Heritage Lottery Fund grant.

This is an example of the type of project that would be covered by the protocol that was discussed at the last meeting.

Guided walks around the Reserve will be at 12 noon, 2pm and 3pm starting from the village hall or 15 minutes later start from the Reserve entrance.

Official opening 11.30 by local Member of Parliament, Stephen Williams.

Doors open 10.30 to 4 pm.

Stoke Bishop village hall is on the 40 bus route.

Friends of Old Sneed Park Nature Reserve now have a web site www.spnaturereserve.com

Don't forget Bristol Parks Forum - Sat 12th July 9:30am - 1pm Windmill Hill City Farm - <http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/BPFagenda.pdf>

Rob

BPF

www.bristolparksforum.org.uk

18 July 2008

Some good news about Bristol's Parks...

Green Flag Awards

All four sites in Bristol that were put forward for Green Flag Awards this year have been successful the four are Troopers Hill LNR, The Downs, Blaise Castle Estate and Queens Square - the first two of these also won flags last year while Blaise and Queens Square have them for the first time.

Information about the Green Flag Award scheme can be found here: www.greenflagaward.org.uk

If you would like to know more about what is involved in winning a Green Flag I will be leading a walk at Troopers Hill on Friday 25th July 10.30am and will be happy to talk about it. It is also a chance to see the purple heather on Troopers Hill at its best. The walk is organised as part of the Nature in the City Project so please call Sally on 0117 922 4429 or email sally.oldfield@bristol.gov.uk to book your place. We will meet on Troopers Hill Field at the Malvern Road gate.

St Paul's Park comes top in national design award

Anyone who has visited St Paul's Park recently will know just what a fabulous park it is - and now it has won a national design award...

BCC press release here:

<http://www.bristol.gov.uk/redirect?oid=PressRelease-id-26673001>

Eastville Park Consultation

Bristol Parks is applying to the Heritage Lottery Fund's (HLF) 'Parks for People' programme for money to make improvements to Eastville Park. Details of the proposals and other information about the consultation can be found here: <http://tinyurl.com/45q832>

Even if Eastville Park is not in your patch it is worth looking at the proposals which might give you some ideas for improvements that could be made to other parks.

Change of CPM

As you may know John Threadgold, CPM for the east area is retiring at the end of this month I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank John for all the work he has put in over the last couple of years. Claire Adams who was acting as assistant CPM is now taking over John's role.

Parks Listing

The Park Listing at <http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/parks.htm> has been updated to include references to the Neighbourhood Partnership Areas in which the parks can be found. I have also included links to the maps from the P&GSS which show the locations of all the green spaces managed by BCC. Let me know if you find any errors.

Rob

BPF

www.bristolparksforum.org.uk

30 July 2008

An update on Castle Park and some other bits and pieces that might be of interest...

Castle Park

A public inquiry is being planned to rule on a campaign to give town green status to Castle Park. More details can be found on the This is Bristol website here: <http://tinyurl.com/6yo57f>

We will let you know of any further developments and no doubt the issue will be discussed at our next meeting.

A New Parks Group for Brandon Hill

Cllrs Alex Woodman and Mark Wright are hoping to restart a community group dedicated to the upkeep of Brandon Hill and are planning to hold a first meeting in early September. If you or any one you know would like to get involved please email mark.wright@bristol.gov.uk

Tai Chi on Brandon Hill

One thing the new group might get involved in is the establishment of a Tai Chi space on Brandon Hill. Flyers with details were available at the last Parks Forum meeting and can be downloaded here: <http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/BrandonTC.pdf>

If you would like to know more about Tai Chi visit the Bristol School of Tai Chi website: <http://www.bristoltaichi.com/> or come along to Troopers Hill on Sunday 10th August to try it details here: <http://www.troopers-hill.org.uk/events.htm#100808>

Malago Greenway

A "Save the Malago greenway from development as rapid transit route" e-petition has been created on the Bristol City Council (BCC) web-site. The link to the petition is

<http://epetitions.bristol.gov.uk/view/malago>.

In addition to this, over the next few weeks, the Save the Malago Group will be leafleting some of the areas which may be impacted by any rapid transit route and collecting signatures on a formal petition.

The intention with these dual petitions is to present them to BCC as evidence of public support for the aim of preventing any part of the Malago Greenway from being expropriated for use by any rapid transit projects.

If you support this aim please sign either petition!

St Philips Greenway

This is the section of the River Avon Trail from Cattle Market Rd at Temple Meads to St Philips at the back of the Avon Meads retail park (where the Showcase Cinema is). This cycle route through a green space is not under threat but the green space and river bank could be better managed for wildlife. There is also a missing link on the River Avon Trail from the end of this path to the continuation of the River Avon Trail in Netham Park. There was a path here once but it has fallen into disrepair. It is hoped to hold a meeting with interested parties, including Bristol Living Rivers, in early September to consider the options. Please email me at rob@bristolparksforum.org.uk if you would like to get involved or if you know anyone else who might.

Area Green Space Plans / Neighbourhood Partnerships

The Area Green Space Plan (AGSP) programme that is currently posted on our website is being revised by Bristol Parks. This is due to a number of issues to do with staffing, and changes to the BDF programme. We will post the new programme once it is finalised. In the meantime if your park group is not already involved with your Neighbourhood Partnership then do get involved. As was mentioned at our last meeting as well as being the focus for the AGSPs the partnerships may be a source of funding for groups. They are also a good way to bring any issues to the attention of councillors and the police. Find out more on the BCC website here: <http://tinyurl.com/6o6qm6>

Bristol Harbour Festival

Friends of Troopers Hill will have a small unmanned display in the Eco Zone in Queens Square and will include some information about the Bristol Parks Forum so look out for it if you visit at the weekend.

Rob

BPF

www.bristolparksforum.org.uk