

8 June 2010 No 17

Hi,

Help make Grove Wood a Local Nature Reserve

On Thursday June 10th from 4pm, Bristol City Council's Cabinet will be discussing whether Grove Wood should be declared a Local Nature Reserve and whether they should consider compulsory purchasing the woods to secure its future for wildlife and public enjoyment.

A Local Nature Reserve designation would ensure that Grove Wood was managed for wildlife, public enjoyment and educational use - just what the Snuff Mills Action Group have been calling for since 2008.

You can help make this happen by:

- 1) Emailing democratic.services@bristol.gov.uk no later than noon on Wednesday June 9th [sorry about the short notice] stating why you think the Council should declare an LNR and buy Grove Wood Title your email: Grove Wood - Cabinet Discussions or something similar
- 2) Asking to speak at the Cabinet Meeting on June 10th - you need to request this in the email you send the Council
- 3) Joining Snuff Mills Action Group outside the Council House on College Green on Thursday June 10th at 3.30pm to show how much you want this to happen - make and bring banners!

Check the Snuff Mills Action Group blog for more information at <http://snuffmills.blogspot.com>

The report to cabinet can be seen by following the links for the 10th June Cabinet meeting at www.bristol.gov.uk/meetings

There was also an article in today's Evening Post, see <http://tinyurl.com/24cvo6l>

Area Green Space Plan Consultation

As I mentioned in my last update, the AGSP consultation is starting on Monday (14th June). The details will be uploaded to the website at www.bristol.gov.uk/agsp during the day on Monday and should all be there by the evening.

This is a joint consultation on both the BDF Site Allocations documents and the AGSP. The dates for the drop in sessions in each Neighbourhood Partnership area have now been fixed and are on the Site Allocations website at www.bristol.gov.uk/siteallocations

The AGSP will also be the focus of the BPF conference on Sat 17th July.

There are more details on the Bristol Neighbourhood Planning Network website at: <http://www.bristolnbn.net/current-projects/site-allocations-dpd-neighbourhood-area-plans>

The BPF committee are working with the NPN administrators to try and make sure that the consultation is as effective as possible. The NPN has produced a model methodology for community involvement in Bristol which has been adopted by the Council; for more details see: <http://www.bristolnbn.net/in-the-news/networkcommunityinvolvementmodeladoptedamodel>

Stoke Park Walk 7pm Thursday 1st July

Steve who will be leading the walk for us next month featured in an article in the EP last week see <http://tinyurl.com/2fdszjp>

Town Green Enquiries

The Town Green Enquiry for Ashton Vale concluded last week and the inspector's report should be issued at the end of June. Meanwhile there was an update in the Evening post on the ongoing enquiry into 15 acres of land behind Asda in Oatlands Avenue, Whitchurch which can be seen at <http://tinyurl.com/27ys657>

Castle Park Vegetable Plot

This struck me as a good idea, the report in the Evening Post can be seen here <http://tinyurl.com/37fce5c>

Bristol Festival of Nature 12th and 13th June 2010 www.festivalofnature.org

We would still like more volunteers to man our stand, particularly for Sunday. This is a great chance to publicise your group and park as well as the BPF.

Rob Acton-Campbell

BPF

www.bristolparksforum.org.uk

BPF Meetings:

Saturday 17 July; Saturday 9 October - venues to be confirmed

Visit us at the Bristol Festival of Nature 12th and 13th June 2010 www.festivalofnature.org

18 June 2010 No 18

Area Green Space Plan Consultation

As promised Area Green Space Plan 'ideas and options consultation' information has been available at www.bristol.gov.uk/agssp since Monday lunchtime. You may also have seen or heard some of the publicity on Monday; believe what you see on the website not what you might have read in the paper!

As well as the documents for each Neighbourhood Partnership area there is a lot of information in

the Frequently Asked Questions section which can be found at <http://tinyurl.com/agsp-faq> In particular it is worth reading the 'method, process and principles paper' which can be downloaded from the 'background' page within FAQs. All the reports on the stakeholder process are also now available on the 'about Area Green Space Plans' page.

One thing that becomes obvious from looking through the plans is the amount of work that has gone into them. I think congratulations are due to Richard Fletcher for producing something that is very clear and easy to follow.

The committee will be meeting soon to discuss the agenda for the conference on 17th July which is intended to focus on the AGSP. Having seen the plans please let us know if there are any particular issues that you want discussed.

I have some leaflets promoting the AGSP process, let me know if you would like copies to distribute at meetings or events.

BDF Site Allocations and Bristol Central Area Action Plan

There are two stakeholder events in July to discuss these documents which also impact on the AGSPs. Representatives of park groups are invited but you need to book if you wish to attend.

Site Allocations and Development Management Options Document:

Thursday 8 July 6.00pm to 7.45pm - Broadmead Baptist Church, Union Street, Bristol (Light refreshments from 5.30pm). This meeting will be an opportunity to discuss the on-going community involvement process for the Site Allocations and Development Management DPD. Information on this emerging document is available on the Council's website www.bristol.gov.uk/siteallocations

To reserve places please e-mail bdf@bristol.gov.uk or call Janet Bush on (0117) 9036511 by 5 July. Please indicate any special access or dietary requirements.

Bristol Central Area Action Plan:

Thursday 15 July 12 noon to 5.30pm - Watershed, Canon's Road, Bristol. This is an opportunity to explore ideas for the central area as the Bristol Central Area Action Plan moves towards an options consultation. Feedback from the ongoing Cherish and Change exercise will also be available at the event. Lunch and light refreshments will be served.

To reserve places please email bdf@bristol.gov.uk or call the Strategic Policy team on (0117) 9036725 by 1st July. Please indicate any special access or dietary requirements.

Grove Wood

The cabinet confirmed last week that they want to make Grove Wood a Local Nature Reserve and will proceed to a CPO if necessary. There were 105 statements in favour and only one against; from the landowners agent. All the statements can be seen on the Council's website via www.bristol.gov.uk/meetings

Grove Wood is of course the second significant green space that the Cabinet has committed to purchasing since the P&GSS was adopted. The other is Stoke Park and don't forget that there is a chance for BPF members to have a look at Stoke Park on 1st July at 7pm, let me know if you would like to come along.

Invasive Weed Clearing Events

The Avon Invasive Weeds Forum now has three Invasive Weed Clearing events planned. They are:
Frampton Cotterell on Saturday 26th June : www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/AIWFJune.pdf
Eastville Park on Saturday 17th July: www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/AIWFJuly.pdf
Manor Woods Valley LNR on Wed 28th July: www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/AIWFJulyMalago.pdf

Email info@aiwf.org.uk for further information on this event or if you or members of your group would be interested in assisting with future events or invasive weed surveys in the local area. There is also further information available on www.aiwf.org.uk

News from Troopers Hill

We have our Music on the Hill event on Troopers Hill tomorrow (19th June) we are hoping we will get a good turnout, especially given the number of our leaflets that went from the BPF stand at the Festival of Nature. You can read more about Troopers Hill, including the new feature 'the hole on the hill' in our Newsletter 'The Hill' at www.troopers-hill.org.uk/news/Summer10.pdf

Rob Acton-Campbell

BPF

www.bristolparksforum.org.uk

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Saturday 17 July; Saturday 9 October - venues to be confirmed

26 June 2010 No 19

Area Green Space Plan / Site Allocations Consultation

There are now online surveys available for responses to both the Area Green Space Plans and the Site Allocations. You can save your responses at any point in the survey to come back to complete the survey later - they will email a link to resume where you left off. Going through the survey is probably the best way to get to understand what the documents are saying. All the details that are in the documents are either on the survey pages or available via links from the relevant survey page.

The surveys are available through:

Area Green Space Plans: www.bristol.gov.uk/agsp

Site Allocations: www.bristol.gov.uk/siteallocations

The first of the drop-in sessions is on 30 June, this supposedly covers Filwood, Knowle & Windmill Hill, however approximately 50% of this Neighbourhood Partnership is covered by the Knowle West Regeneration Framework and so just appears as a greyed out block on the plans. This also

means that the plans showing access to green space based on the distance standard are also incomplete since they don't take account of spaces in the Framework area. This of course also applies to the neighbouring areas. The consultation on the Framework plans is due to start next month so only then will the full picture be available. There was a letter in yesterdays EP pointing out that the plans do not cover the whole of the City, see <http://tinyurl.com/3xucda8>

The full list of drop in sessions is below. The final two are City wide sessions. There is an extra session for St George on 26 July that wasn't on the original list, this is because the venue for the session that was supposed to cover St George on 4 Oct is outside the area and the Neighbourhood Partnership considered this to be unacceptable.

30 June Knowle Community Centre, The Square, Crossways Rd, Knowle, BS4 2SS
05 July South Bristol Sports Centre, West Town Lane, BS14 9EA
12 July Clifton Down Shopping Centre, Whiteladies Road, BS8 2NN
14 July The Cameron Centre, Cameron Walk, Lockleaze, BS7 9XB
26 July Summerhill Methodist Church Hall, 5 Air Balloon Road, St George, Bristol, BS5 8LB
01 Sept The Vassell Centre, Fishponds, BS16 2QQ
02 Sept Arnos Manor Hotel, 470 Bath Road, Arnos Vale, BS4 3HQ
06 Sept The Gatehouse Centre, Hareclive Road, BS13 9JN
13 Sept Redland Parish Church Hall, Redland Green Road, BS6 7HE
15 Sept Portway Rugby Development Centre, The Portway, Sea Mills, BS9 2HS
20 Sept Trinity Henleaze United Reform Church, Waterford Rd, BS9 4BT
22 Sept Salvation Army Hall, Hassell Drive, Lawrence Hill, BS2 0AN
27 Sept Greenway Centre, Doncaster Road, Southmead, BS10 5PY
29 Sept Southville Centre, The Beasley Room, Beasley Road, BS3 1QG
04 Oct Rose Green Sports/Leisure Centre, 65 Gordon Road, Whitehall, BS5 7DR
City Wide Sessions
06 & 07 Oct Bristol City Council, Brunel House, St Georges Road, Bristol, BS1 5UY

Sharing Resources

Kathy Derrick of what was the Bristol Livings Rivers Project has suggested that it might be useful to find out what resources parks groups have that might be shareable and has given a list of what she has to start us off:

- wellies (range of sizes for children)
- polystyrene kneeling pads for outdoor activities x 30
- pond dipping nets
- litter pickers
- sweep nets x 2
- portable pa systems (speaker and microphone), for guided walks

Contact : Kathy Derrick, Sustainable City Group, Bristol City Council. Tel: 0117 3525894 Email: kathy.derrick@bristol.gov.uk

If you have anything that you would be willing to share with other groups, or anything you need that you think other groups might have then please contact me. If I get enough responses I will add the list to the website.

Climate Squad Free Community Leaders' training - Summer 2010

We have been contacted by this organisation who found us at the Festival of Nature. They are organising a Community Leadership training project aimed at 16 to 25 year olds including a session in Bristol on 13/14th July. If you know anyone who might be interested more details are at www.climatesquad.org.uk

Stoke Park Walk 7pm Thursday 1st July

Don't forget this chance to learn more about Stoke Park from Steve England. Please email me if you want more details.

Rob Acton-Campbell

BPF

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