

4 June 2013 - Management Plan workshop invitation

We have managed to come up with a date, Sat 22nd June, sorry about the short notice. Please note that you need to book if you want to go along...

Bristol Park Forum members are invited to attend a workshop to learn more about developing a management plan for a park or green space. The Forum and Bristol City Council have agreed that park groups can proactively lead and develop management plans for their parks providing they have the co-operation and support of the Council.

The workshop will be on Saturday 22nd June at Windmill Hill City Farm. The session will start at 10-00am and finish at 12-00 midday. Please arrive by 9.45am to ensure a prompt 10-00am start. Refreshments will be provided.

The workshop will be led by Sue Lutkenhouse, Environment & Leisure Projects Manager. The agenda is:

- 1 - Welcome.
- 2 - Purpose of workshop.
- 3 -How management plans will be taken forward – the role and responsibilities of both park groups and the Council.
- 4 - Types of plan: management plan vs development plan. Which do you need?
- 5 - Templates and sources of advice.
- 6 - Typical and potential content (break-out session).
- 7 - Feedback and questions and answers.

Spaces are limited. To book please contact Bristol Parks Admin team on 0117 9223719 or email bristolparks@bristol.gov.uk.

Richard Fletcher

(Interim) Parks Operations Manager

Environment & Leisure Services

While writing I must also mention that I was a bit ahead of myself with the last update. The Bristol 99 events I mentioned at the Downs, Snuff Mills, Long Cross Tip & Badock's Wood are this weekend the 8th & 9th of June, see <http://bristol99.org.uk>

You can also see a poster for the Badock's Wood event at www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/Badocks090613.pdf

Also we still need more volunteers for the Festival of Nature stand, please email

info@bristolparksforum.org.uk letting us know if you can man the stand for a 2hr slot. Festival details are at www.festivalofnature.org

Rob Acton-Campbell

<http://twitter.com/RobCrewsHole>

Bristol Parks Forum

www.bristolparksforum.org.uk

2013 meeting dates: Sat 29 June - Sat 12 October - Both 9.30am at Windmill Hill City Farm.

2014 meeting dates: Sat 25th Jan - Sat 12th April (venues tbc)

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BPF Meeting 29 June

The agenda for our next meeting is now on the website at www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/BPFAgenda290613.pdf

One of the issues on the agenda will be the current consultation on bye-laws for parks and green spaces in Bristol, you can find details about this at www.bristol.gov.uk/parksbyelaws

Hope to see you there.

Management Plan Workshop

A reminder that the workshop is this Saturday (22nd). Spaces are limited and you need to book. If you are interested please contact Bristol Parks Admin team on 0117 9223719 or email bristolparks@bristol.gov.uk to see if any spaces are left.

If you have already booked you should have received a confirmation email from Richard Fletcher.

Festival of Nature

You can see a photo of the BPF stand here: www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/festivalstand.jpg

Len from Northern Slopes manned the stand on Saturday morning, here are his thoughts:

As you know I did the first stint at the Festival of Nature.....

For the first time ever by 12 noon our selection of leaflets/information to be given out to the public was down to:

Friends of Brandon Hill, Northern Slopes Initiative, Kingsweston House AG and Avon Valley Nature Reserves events brochure – Troopers, Magpie , Avon Valley Woodlands, Nightingale Valley and Eastwood Farm etc

Plus info on the display boards – including links via BPF website – which couldn't be taken away.

With about 30 - 40 people being talked to in 4 hours – those areas that didn't have many copies of information on the table to hand out to start with soon disappeared.

Please don't think I am being critical for the sake of it as I know its difficult at times to get things organised especially when people are away – but are groups missing an opportunity to promote themselves?

I love talking to people about the Northern Slopes – but I would rather talk and be able to pass on information about parks/open spaces nearer to them and then broaden their experience if they want that information.

PS: Avon Valley area brochure – brilliant - gave a whole range of events from the different groups in one place.

yours

Len

May all your weeds be wildflowers

Enjoy your Green Spaces

Lots of events going on at the moment, start this weekend by joining Arnos Park Action Group for a Picnic in the Park on Friday (21st) from 5.30pm

www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/ArnosPicnic.jpg

Then on Saturday:

Lamplighter's Riverside Festival
Lamplighter's Marsh (off Station Road, Shirehampton)

Saturday 22nd June 2013 2pm to 5pm
An afternoon of fun activities for all the family alongside the River Avon.

www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/Lamplighters.pdf

Then you will just have time to get across the city to see the Ambling Band on Troopers Hill at 6pm

'Brass and Pink collide to create a rich cacophony of sights and sounds'

more details here: www.troopers-hill.org.uk/events.htm#220613

On the day after our meeting (Sunday 30th June) there is a walk and insect hunt at Old Sneed Park Nature Reserve www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/SmallThings.jpg and see more about the reserve at www.spnaturereserve.com/

Leading Activity Walks

A course that might be of interest if you lead walks in your green space:

Forest of Avon Trust

Leading Family activity walks – Friday 5th July - £75 - 10am-5pm - outdoors at Ashton Court Estate.

A day to explore a range of inspiring sensory activities that can be used on walks to engage family groups with nature. We will explore a range of outdoor spaces and a variety of hands-on activities that can engage groups of any age with the natural environment. We will also look at how to manage groups safely and effectively in the outdoors through suitable planning and practice. To book - goto - <http://forestofavontrust.org/training/calendar/leading-family-activity-walks/>

or call 01179633383 or email jonattwood@forestofavontrust.org

Tree Forum 1st July

Dear Friend of Bristol's Trees - Just to let you know there is a Tree Forum meeting on 1st July (6pm, City Hall) where we will be discussing, amending and deciding on our 6 point plan - see www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/BristolNeedsYourHelp.pdf.

For those projects we chose to adopt, we will then discuss the first steps to take for each. As Chairman Mao supposedly said, "a journey of 1000 miles requires the first step" (Not that I liken myself to Chairman Mao of course – although others may?). It will be brilliant to see you.

All the best – Clive Stevens (Chair Bristol TreeForum)

Keep Britain Tidy saves Love Parks Week

Keep Britain Tidy is proud to announce we have taken ownership of the flagship campaign 'Love Parks Week'.

We took the decision to save the popular campaign following the news in March that national parks charity GreenSpace had been forced to close due to funding cuts.

We are delighted to confirm ownership has now been secured ahead of this year's Love Parks Week, which runs from July 27 until August 4.

Excitingly, it is also our intention to use Love Parks Week as the launch pad for building a new coalition of key partners to develop the week of action and, beyond this, build it into a year-round 'Love Parks' campaign.

The partnership is in its infancy, but it is likely to include Groundwork, the Federation of City Farms and Community Gardens, as well as partner organisations in Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

By bringing together Love Parks Week and the Green Flag Award programme within Keep Britain Tidy, our goal is to encourage millions more people to visit, enjoy and take pride in their local parks and green space.

Despite the tight timescale to deliver this year's campaign, it is our hope Love Parks Week will be another huge success, encouraging hundreds of thousands of people to celebrate the country's fantastic green spaces.

We need your help to achieve this.

We are currently still in the process of finalising the hand-over, but we expect this to be completed very soon. While we would please ask for your patience in the short-term, we will be in touch as soon as this is done and, once completed, we would urge you to please upload all your events to the website as usual.

It is our intention to make Love Parks Week bigger and better than ever by also announcing all the winners of Green Flag Awards during the same week. So please feel free to plan all your flag-raising events during the Love Parks Week.

While it's still early days, we believe Love Parks will be a rallying call to bring the sector together in the face of substantial budget cuts and threats to park services so that we can all continue to demonstrate just how valuable our parks and green spaces really are.

Many thanks for your patience and we really hope you will help us in making Love Parks Week the best yet.

We will post further updates about Love Parks Week on the Keep Britain Tidy website shortly.

Himalayan Balsam

Hopefully you know all about this invasive weed. It can be defeated by repeatedly pulling it up before it has chance to spread its seeds.

But there are two sites in Bristol where it should be left to grow this year; these are in Blaise Castle Estate and Eastwood Farm. This is because of a project investigating the impact of this alien plant on native foodwebs. The question is whether as well as out-competing native plants for space it also attracts pollinating insects to the extent that native plants don't get pollinated.

You can read an outline of the project here:
www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/Balsam_outline.pdf

If you have invasive weeds in your area and you want advice on how to get rid of them contact

neil.green@bristol.gov.uk We are hoping Neil will be able to come to talk to us about invasive weeds at our October meeting.

BPF Directory

One of the things that we were doing at the festival was pointing people at the BPF website to get contact details for their local park group.

Could you please check the details for your group at www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/directory.htm to make sure they are up to date.

If not please email us the updated details, you can download the forms from www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/index.htm#membership or just send me the corrections if they are straight forward.

I would also like to have details of any facebook pages or twitter accounts that park groups have. Twitter in particular seems to be becoming an important way of publicising things happening in Bristol.

Rob Acton-Campbell

<http://twitter.com/RobCrewsHole>

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