

02 October 2013 - No 134

In this update: BPF Meeting with Mayor - BPF Meeting 12th October - Castle Park - Brandon Hill Archaeology Day and Discovery Walk - Wild Fest 2013

BPF Meeting with Mayor George Ferguson

5th October

Last reminder, if you want to attend this meeting email info@bristolparksforum.org.uk saying you would like to be there and telling us which group(s) you will be representing and I will send you details including letting you know where it is!

BPF Meeting 12th October

Agenda is now on the website at www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/meetings

Castle Park

I have updated the posting at www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/central-area-plan-castle-park with links to the news reports that have appeared over the last couple of days. I understand that statements have also been submitted to tomorrow's cabinet meeting that will be webcast on the Council's website at 6pm.

More details of a possible alternative plan for the area are on the Castle Park Users Group website at www.castlepark.org.uk/St%20Mlp%20Plan.pdf (note this is a large file).

Brandon Hill Archaeology Day and Discovery Walk

Following my mention of the KWAG Big Bulb Plant in the last update:

If you would rather be outside on 12th October (part 2)...

Saturday 12th October 10:30am - 12:30pm

Come along and try geophysical surveying of Civil War defences on Brandon Hill. Join in the Discovery Walk with Peter Insole our local archaeologist.

For the first time, a geo-physical survey will be conducted at this key site in the civil conflicts of the 1640s.

You can help unlock the site's secrets with new technology to show what lies beneath the ground. Find out what happened in this costly war between king and parliament.

Archeoscan provide the equipment - you bring the questions and good footwear. Local experts as well as students at QEH Junior School will be on hand to help.

Civil War defences to be surveyed are below the path that runs between the Old Bowling Green from the Drinking Fountain.

Everyone welcome. See you there.

Poster: www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/BH121013.pdf

Hear Fraser from Friends of Brandon Hill talking about the event on today's 'Shepherds Way' here: www.bcfmradio.com/category/shows/shepherds-way

Wild Fest 2013

If you would rather be outside on 12th October (part 3)...

Wild Fest is on all next week, 7-12 October at the Northern Slopes, with a great public day on Saturday 12th. Lots of wildlife walks and fun activities for all ages. Food, music, fun times!

Poster with details of the public day: www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/WildFest2013.pdf

For more information contact Helen Adshead of WildCity helen.adshead@bristol.gov.uk

Rob Acton-Campbell

<http://twitter.com/RobCrewsHole>

Bristol Parks Forum

www.bristolparksforum.org.uk

BPF meeting with Mayor, George Ferguson - Sat 5th October

Next meeting (AGM): Sat 12 October - 9.30am at Windmill Hill City Farm.

2014 meeting dates: Sat 25th Jan - Sat 12th April - Sat 28th June - Sat 11 Oct(venues tbc)

10 October 2013 - No 135

In this update: BPF Meeting 12th October - BPF Manifesto - Lamplighters Marsh - Kings Weston Estate - Troopers Hill

BPF Meeting 12th October

A reminder about Saturday's meeting. The agenda is on our website at www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/meetings where you will also see minutes of last Saturday's meeting with Mayor George Ferguson.

Also discussed at the meeting was Bristol's Green Capital Project. Links to the Green Capital website are in the minutes. There is a Green Capital Pledge which Alex Minshull urged the Parks Forum and Park Groups to sign. Alex says, 'The Partnership is for every kind of organisation who can commit to the principles of the pledge - working together and taking action! So very much fitting with the Forum and your members.'

<http://bristolgreencapital.org/contact/pledge>

BPF Manifesto

A reminder that one of the items on the agenda for Saturday will be the adoption of the Parks Forum Manifesto. It can be seen at www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/manifesto

Lamplighters Marsh

The new management plan for Lamplighters Marsh, which is intended to support the designation of Lamplighters Marsh as a new Local Nature Reserve has now been completed and uploaded today to the following web page of Bristol City Council's web site from where it may be viewed and downloaded: -

<http://www.bristol.gov.uk/localnaturereserves>

Lamplighters is one of four sites planned to be designated as new Local Nature Reserves in the next few months. One of those is the Northern Slopes, which you can explore at Wildfest after our meeting on Saturday www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/WildFest2013.pdf

Kings Weston Estate

As well as the bulb planting event on Saturday KWAG are also launching their tree trail:

This Saturday sees KWAG's Big Bulb Plant at Kings Weston. We hope everyone will come and lend

their support by helping to plant hundreds of new bluebells in the woods leading up towards the Echo folly. The day will start at 10:30 and end at 4pm. Come along wearing suitable clothing. There will be free refreshments for all volunteers. Hopefully you will already have received a flyer for this event, but if you have any queries get in touch.

We will also be launching the Kings Weston Tree Trail, a self-guided walking guide of the most historic and interesting trees on the estate. We are grateful to Richard Bland who helped us put the guide together and we hope that everyone will enjoy finding out more about the history of the estate told through its trees.

You will find a preview copy of the guide here: www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/tree_trail_leaflet.pdf
Each of the trees on the estate is labelled, though unfortunately some have already been vandalised, but these should be replaced by the weekend. 5000 copies of the guide have been published and will be available on the estate and from local libraries and community venues. If you would like multiple copies please let us know and we can get some out to you.

Troopers Hill

There is also now a tree trail at Troopers Hill, together with an audio trail which you can download to you phone or ipad as an MP3 file and learn about the Hill as you follow the directions for a walk around the Hill. Information on these and other trails are at <http://www.troopers-hill.org.uk/trails>

The big news from the Hill this week is that work to the chimneys has been completed so that they are both structurally sound at least for the time being. Thanks to the BCC structures team and particularly Christina Raddon, they are probably now in better condition than they have been at any time for the past 50 years read more at <http://www.troopers-hill.org.uk/chimneys>

Rob Acton-Campbell

<http://twitter.com/RobCrewsHole>

Bristol Parks Forum

www.bristolparksforum.org.uk

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17 October 2013 - No 136

In this update: Central Area Plan - Northern Slopes Planning Application - Green Volunteers Awards

A short update today the minutes of Saturday's meeting should be on the web next week.

Central Area Plan

The response from the BPF put together after the meeting can be seen here:
www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/BPFResponseCAP.pdf

The closing date is tomorrow, if you or your group haven't had time to put together your own response then perhaps you might consider writing in support of the Parks Forum position.

The email address for responses is bdf@bristol.gov.uk

Northern Slopes Planning Application

The planning application that Bob spoke about at the meeting is:

KINGSWEAR/TORPOINT/MARKSBURY ROAD COLLEGE AND HALDON CLOSE
DEVELOPMENT: PLANNING APPLICATION – 13/04196/F

Use the reference 13/04196/F to search for the application at <http://planningonline.bristol.gov.uk>

Although the closing date is advertised as 16 October all written comments received up until the decision is made will be considered, so there is still time for you to comment.

The proposals means a net loss of around 1.42 ha of green space.

Find out more at www.northern-slopes-initiative.co.uk/Kingswear%20Development

Green Volunteers Awards

Details and links for these awards are on our website at www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/green-volunteer-awards

Lucy Gaze was also on Shepherds Way yesterday talking about them, you can listen again at www.bcfmradio.com/category/shows/shepherds-way

Lucy says 'I gave Parks Forum a plug on shepherds way - I wouldn't publicise it though - I got rather hysterical towards the end when we were doing the quiz!!!'

Sorry Lucy!

Rob Acton-Campbell

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