

## 08 October 2014 - No 160

In this update: BPF Meeting 11th October - Neighbourhood Partnership Parks Consultation - Green Volunteer Awards 2014 - Grow Wild Vote - In Harmony on the Downs - KWAG Bulb Plant - Rethinking Kings Weston

BPF Meeting 11th October

The agenda for Saturday is on the website at [www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/meetings](http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/meetings)

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### Neighbourhood Partnership Parks Consultation

The Neighbourhood Partnerships are currently running a consultation about Grounds Maintenance. You can see details here [www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/neighbourhood-partnership-parks-consultation](http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/neighbourhood-partnership-parks-consultation)

The survey is on Survey Monkey at [www.surveymonkey.com/s/groundsmain](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/groundsmain) There is also a paper version of the survey with a different final question. In the survey there is a list of nine items to prioritise and in the online version you are forced to give each of these a different priority (or show it as n/a), of course with the paper version you could several items the same priority.

We will be hoping to find out on Saturday how this fits with the conversations we have been having with Bristol Parks on this subject and how the results are going to be used.

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### Green Volunteer Awards 2014

The closing date for Green Volunteer Awards nominations is Sunday, October 26th, judging will start the next day.

Details, including links to the nomination forms and bookings for the 12th November presentation are at:

[www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/honouring-bristols-greenest-volunteers](http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/honouring-bristols-greenest-volunteers)

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### Grow Wild Vote

In my last update I mentioned funding available from Grow Wild for community groups: [www.growwilduk.com/community-project-funding](http://www.growwilduk.com/community-project-funding)

They are also now holding a vote for a larger project in which Bristol is in competition with Liverpool & Manchester; East London; Sheffield and Plymouth.

The £120,000 Bristol project is for the 'Peoples Plant Collection' and will include planting to brighten up Cumberland Piazza with wild flowers.

To vote go to [www.tinyurl.com/plants4bristol](http://www.tinyurl.com/plants4bristol)

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## In Harmony on the Downs

Helen Adshead, who worked with Paula Spiers on the Wild City Project, has found a way to combine her love of wildlife with her talent as a singer by leading a 'harmonious stroll on the Downs' with Nicola Ramsden on Sunday (12th October). The walk is organised by the Avon Gorge & Downs Wildlife Project. Tickets are £5, Call 0117 9747360 to book a place.

More details on the flyer here: [www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/InHarmony.pdf](http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/InHarmony.pdf)

[www.avongorge.org.uk](http://www.avongorge.org.uk) - [www.facebook.com/avongorge](http://www.facebook.com/avongorge)

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## KWAG Bulb Plant

If you want an alternative to the BPF meeting on Saturday the Kings Weston Action Group have a suggestion...

### BIG BULB PLANT 2014!

Our second annual FREE bulb planting event on the 11th October

After the success of last years Big Bulb Plant we are running it again this year, but with THOUSANDS MORE BULBS! The Big Bulb plant is a free, family-friendly event where you can get involved in one of our easier going working party events. The event is completely free with all the 8000 native wild flower bulbs provided!

This year we have a great mix of bluebells, narcissus, crocus and snowdrops all ready to be slipped in the ground in areas around the Echo folly. The event will run on Saturday 11th October, between 10:30am and 3:30pm and we'd love to see you there around the Echo. Please bring a spade if you have one, but gloves and some tools will be provided.

With so many bulbs we really need your help, whatever assistance you can offer, to get them all planted, so please forward this email to anyone you think might be interested in lending a hand.

The latest KWAG newsletter can be seen here: [www.tinyurl.com/ldot618](http://www.tinyurl.com/ldot618)

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## Rethinking Kings Weston

There has also been a lot of activity and meetings behind the scenes recently concerning Kings Weston. A few months ago KWAG put together a proposal to form a Trust to 'take on all aspects of running and maintaining the parkland and have the freedom to develop facilities and future income through a wider range of options than presently possible within the present scope of Parks management.' Full details of the proposal can be seen here: [www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/KWAG/RethinkingKingsWeston2.pdf](http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/KWAG/RethinkingKingsWeston2.pdf)

This proposal has been turned down by the Council and the Mayor in its current form, but no doubt

discussions will continue about some aspects of it and the possibility of an HLF bid. One of the issues for the BPF would have been how the sum of money allocated from the Parks budget would have been calculated and whether it would have set a precedent that other spaces may have wanted to follow - if they did where would that leave other parks?

In the current climate, ideas such as this and other possible routes to secure more funding for parks need to be discussed, it will be interesting to hear what has come out of today's conference in Exeter.

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Rob Acton-Campbell  
[www.twitter.com/RobCrewsHole](http://www.twitter.com/RobCrewsHole)  
Bristol Parks Forum  
[www.bristolparksforum.org.uk](http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk)  
Next meeting Sat 11 Oct 2014

Meeting dates for 2015: 31 Jan - 18 Apr - 27 June - 10 Oct (subject to confirmation)

## **15 October 2014 - No 161**

In this update: BPF Meeting 11th October - Green Capital Strategic Grant Bids - Green Capital Partnership - Quality Fruit Trees - Earthed Project

BPF Meeting 11th October

The minutes from Saturday's meeting will appear on the website at [www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/meetings](http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/meetings) in due course. In the meantime some updates

Mark Logan was elected as Chair and Sam Thomson as Vice Chair, the other committee members can be seen here [www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/contacts](http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/contacts)

Since the meeting Nancy has decided to stand down from the committee because she does not believe she can give the role the time it deserves. I'm sure you will join me in thanking Nancy for the effort she has put in over the last three years.

With Nancy's departure we now don't have any committee members from South Bristol, nominatins / volunteers would be welcome!

The revised BPF terms of reference adopted at the meeting can be seen at [www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/ToRAAdoptedOct14.pdf](http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/ToRAAdoptedOct14.pdf) As well as the changes proposed before the meeting, two paragraphs have been added to allow the BPF to operate its own bank account. Committee members will be appointed to the roles of secretary and treasurer to be signatories on the bank account along with the Chair and Vice Chair.

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Green Capital Strategic Grant Bids

As mentioned at the meeting the parks Forum has submitted an intent to bid for funds from the Strategic Green Capital Grants fund under the following headings:

- 1) iTree – map city wide tree canopy to determining environmental services that trees provide including pollution reduction impact.
- 2) Urban Greenways – develop strategy and plan for creation of network of walking (and/or cycle) urban greenways, initiate the work on priority routes and make details available digitally.
- 3) Green / Park / Nature Volunteer skills training programme.
- 4) Excluded groups skills training programme for green and sustainable construction.
- 5) Creation of a North Bristol Urban Greenway
- 6) Promotion and engagement with all of the cities nature reserves.
- 7) Introduce recycling in all city parks.
- 8) Community (Street or fruit) tree planting in every NP to compliment tree pips.

We are now working up the detail of the bids which have to be in by 5th November.

There is more information about the various grants available at [www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/green-capital-2015](http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/green-capital-2015) and details of the planned events programme (which includes the designation of additional Local Nature Reserves) can be seen here [www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/green-capital-2015-events](http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/green-capital-2015-events)

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### Green Capital Partnership

The latest news from the Green Capital Partnership can be seen here: [www.tinyurl.com/nq9g9pe](http://www.tinyurl.com/nq9g9pe) including a reminder about the sessions Voscur are running about getting Awards for All funding.

The Partnership is soon to update their website. They are also simplifying the process to join the Partnership by signing the pledge. They have removed the requirements for Action Plans and reports etc that were aimed at businesses and I know discouraged some park groups from joining earlier in the year. [www.bristolgreencapital.org](http://www.bristolgreencapital.org)

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### Quality Fruit Trees

Something that may be of interest if you are proposing tree planting as part of a project; it would be worth contacting Jon to talk about prices for next year for inclusion in grant applications.

Local tree charity: the Forest of Avon Trust, can order from a wide range of quality potted fruit trees and bushes. Trees are approximately 1.2m tall and are available on a range of rootstocks. Because it fits with our charitable objects we sell trees and bushes at prices significantly less than local garden centres.

Fruit trees and bushes can be ordered up to 24th October, with collection from Ashton Court in November. Delivery of small numbers of trees can be arranged for a small fee.

To find out more, please go to: [www.forestofavontrust.org/services/buy-fruit-trees-and-bushes/](http://www.forestofavontrust.org/services/buy-fruit-trees-and-bushes/)

Jon

[jonclark@forestofavontrust.org](mailto:jonclark@forestofavontrust.org)

Jon Clark  
Executive Director- Forest of Avon Trust

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### Earthed Project

The Earthed Project is looking for Park Groups interested in taking part in an exciting arts and discovery project in 2015. Earthed is a giant piece of green story telling highlighting the heritage of the site and leading to conversations about its future. The project will lead to a celebration event and the creation of a piece of of land art in the spaces involved.

More information and contact details are here [www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/EarthedParks.pdf](http://www.bristolparksforum.org.uk/EarthedParks.pdf)

If you are interested you need to email Julie Guerrin at [hello@partexchange.co.uk](mailto:hello@partexchange.co.uk) by 31st October so that they can finalise their Green Capital bid by the closing date of 5th November.

Please do not be put off by the requirements for insurance etc mentioned in the letter, if you are interested still get in touch with Julie who will see if she can work something out with you.

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