

Bristol Tree Forum Committee meeting. Draft Minutes

2nd September 2019

Mark Ashdown (Chair) Andy Bryce, Vassili Papastavrou (notes) John Tarlton, Chris Wallace

Apologies: Stephanie French Sean Harding, Peter Creed, Jim Smith, Clive Stevens

1. Our next public meeting & AGM 4 November - format and theme.

The theme will be planting trees. Concern was expressed over the basis for the different canopy cover figures in the One City Plan. In addition the Plan does not take into account the current 14% contribution of ash most of which is expected to be lost.

Our general concerns need to be addressed over time. Use British stock, proper maintenance. Look after them properly

Action Point: Vassili agreed to liaise with Clive and find a venue (now done).

2. Status of accounts.

John Tarlton informed us that there has been no change to the accounts since the last meeting

3. Inform BTF re BTRS "chat"

The meeting will be with Jonathan Diamond to address our concerns regarding the way the Bristol Tree Replacement standard is not resulting in the replacement of like with like.

(now done - <https://bristoltreeforum.org/2019/10/02/changes-agreed-to-bristol-tree-replacement-standard/>)

4. Update BTF re Area Committee spending on trees - in general.

MA is continuing to work with Area Committees to get as many trees as possible using the backlog. From an additional £800K of section 106 money, we have now spent £250K. We have been less successful with CIL money. We expect to plant in excess of 400 trees this season and the BTF will survey the sites in order to help with this process. In addition MA has discovered that £610K of non-devolved section 106 money was potentially available for planting trees and other green infrastructure.

5. Inform BTF about meeting between BTF and BCC re TPOs.

Following the meeting with Richard Goldthorpe on 24th September. Applying for TPOs will be discussed and the cost of registering TPO trees with land registry. Also, how can trees be TPOd outside conservation areas, when it would only be possible to determine that the tree is threatened after it has been removed.

6. Muller Road Trees.

MA and VP are meeting to discuss the Highways proposal to install a protected cycle lane and the mitigation for the loss of a large number of trees and green infrastructure

7. Report on helping John Atkinson with surveying Tree Pits set for this season's planting.

A number of BTF committee members have helped with this surveying work which is now complete and we are set to plant the largest number of street trees in one year for the last decade.

8. Redland Girls School, Stoke Park, Hengrove Park.

These are examples of very big planning applications where the BTF was not consulted in pre-application phase. An additional problem is that geo-located data is not provided for these sites making the applications difficult to review.

9. Bristol Water. Suggest they attend and contribute to our public meeting

10. Tree of the Year 2019.

Given the small amount of publicity we'd obtained and the few entries we have decided to postpone

11. BCC's Urban Tree Fund Challenge bid.

BTF has contributed to submitting a £500K application to the Fund to plant trees in the most deprived areas of Bristol by surveying the sites online to assess their suitability for planting trees.

Vassili Papastavrou 24 October 2019