



Minutes Bristol Tree Forum Committee Meeting on 5 July 2021 (held via Zoom)

Mark Ashdown (Chair), Dougal Matthews, Vassili Papastavrou (Secretary), John Tarlton (treasurer) Chris Wallace (for Agenda item 9)

Apologies, Stephanie French, Sean Harding, Jim Smith

1. Reports from Officers

John reported that there is £5,100 in the bank account. We have received our switch incentive money of £1,250 and there have been some small outgoings to run websites. Proposals for spending some of this money include the following items which will be properly costed soon. These are matched funding for tree sponsorship (led by Dougal, around £1,200), a second Oak Giveaway (led by John, probably £540) and moisture sensors (led by Chris/Mark, probably £400).

It was agreed to continue to commit up to £1,500 for a technical workshop to look at building housing around existing trees, which Vassili will lead on.

2. BTF Future Committee meetings.

Dougal suggested that when we return to in-person meetings which, we move the meetings around Bristol. And perhaps combine them with visits to local parks.

3. AGM.

This would be held on 1 November, either in person or via Zoom.

4. Meeting with the Council

John and Mark met on 22nd June with Stephen Fulham, and Councillors Craig and Beech. Some terms of reference were discussed and the latest draft was appended. The meeting was very positive and looked at a number of key areas for future collaboration between BTF and BCC. The BTF was encouraged to come up with some achievable goals for consideration by BCC.



5. Briefing note for new councillors.

This will be edited and sent out. It can introduce each councillor to their local tree champion. John will add to Stephanie's draft.

6. Zoom meeting for tree Champions plus linking tree champions with others in their areas.

Given that Stephanie and Jim were not at the committee meeting, it was agreed to make progress on this after the meeting

7. Displaying planning info on the BTF web site.

Mark will discuss directly with Stephanie how to improve the access to the excellent planning tutorials that have been prepared.

8. Third Party pruning of BCC trees for light.

We agreed to raise the issue with Councillors Craig and Beech in order to make the policy clear. Stephanie's blog is waiting for Vassili's comments.

9. Tree Moisture sensor project for newly planted trees.

Real-time data is being produced every two hours and transmitted from the tree. This allows the moisture retention of a tiny forest to be compared with that of an individual tree. Chris Wallace provided a short report and it was agreed to provide £400 to continue the work.

10: AOB

The very substantial failure of Metrobus trees has yet to be resolved. Mark has been trying to address this with replacements eventually planted on Hartcliffe Way (in June which is outside the normal planting season) but not elsewhere.

Now that the St Mary le Port planning application has been formally submitted, some thought needs to be given to replacement planting, should the application be successful.

Vassili Papastavrou 6 July 2021

