

BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL

**DOWNS COMMITTEE
November 21st 2011**

Report of: Service Director, Environment and Leisure

Title: Downs Rangers Report

Ward: Stoke Bishop.

Officer Presenting Report: Robert Westlake, Downs Ranger

Contact Telephone Number: 0117 9736210

RECOMMENDATION

That the Committee approve £2000 from the reserve for the design, manufacture and installation of information panels describing the history and proposed works to the Hill Fort at Observatory Hill.

History Trails and Exhibition:

That the Committee authorise £1500 from the reserve for an additional trail guide. This is because it has been noted that due to the distances covered and the wealth of history and images available, separate trails for the two areas of the Downs divided by Bridge Valley Road is required. 10,000 copies of each will be printed on A5 folded sheets.

Summary

The significant issues in the report are:

The report reflects the objectives of the Downs Management Plan, which is a five year work plan and has six key themes.

- Enjoyment
- Access
- Landscape
- Wildlife
- Anti Social Behaviour
- Management and Resources.

Policy

1. Not Applicable

Consultation

2. Internal

Richard Bevan, Manager, Parks Estates, Play, Cemeteries & Crematoria.
John Williams, Estates Manager.
Tony Whitlock, Principal Accountant.
Amanda Grubb, Events team.
Vicki Abel, Project Development Officer.

External

Chris J Westcott, Natural England
Mandy Leivers, Avon Gorge and Downs Biodiversity Education Officer.

Context

3. Enjoyment:

A small steering group has been formed to consider how best to take forward the proposal to hold an annual Downs Day. Contact has been made with the organisers of the Diamond Jubilee to look at the possibility of combining the Downs Day with the celebratory beacon and a meeting has been arranged with the Lord Lieutenant to discuss further.

Bristol has been successful in winning the highest Gold Awards in both the local and National RHS Britain in Bloom competitions. In addition the RHS judges have conferred on the Downs and Avon Gorge a discretionary Britain in Bloom Conservation and Wildlife Award. (see appendices a,b, c) This accolade is in recognition of what has been achieved and is only awarded to one project a year.

In October the Netherlands National Circus enjoyed a successful run. There were no problems other than traffic issues at the start of the event. This was caused by a combination of the unseasonably warm weather leading to abnormally high visitor numbers and the Downs League fixtures. I have received one public complaint.

As part of the 150 year celebration of the Downs Act a series of information panels organised by Francis Greenacre and a small sub-committee have been installed near the water tower and at selected locations around the Downs.

The exhibition along with a history trail has been funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund. To reflect the importance and diversity of the Downs an additional history trail is proposed.(please see recommendation)

The event was launched by the Lord Mayor early in November and is already proving a popular attraction for visitors.

Access:

The Downs team completed all the required vegetation clearance to allow the reopening of Bridge Valley Road. At the same time Parsons Brinckerhoff carried out rock inspections and will forward their report in due course.

Vegetation clearance is programmed for the zig -zag path, the rock faces near the children's playground and at the Clifton end of the Suspension Bridge. Parsons Brinckerhoff will carry out further rock safety inspections of these locations.

Bristol Water update:

Bristol Water Plc proposal to install a new water main across the Downs.

Downs Committee were advised in July of the proposal by Bristol Water install a new water main across parts of the Downs.

Concern was raised about various sections which were considered inappropriate.

It was agreed that Officers would continue to negotiate with Bristol Water and to advise Downs Committee of progress.

Bristol Water have substantially amended the route in line with Officers request, see plan attached [appendix d] which also shows the location of a site compound. [appendix e] The section that was to go through the Downs parallel with Upper Belgrave Road has been deleted and now will run through the road and the section through Granny Downs has been moved to the other side of Westbury Road where the pipe will run alongside the water pipe installed in 2003. Whilst sections of the pipe still cross the Downs this arrangement appears to be the best negotiable compromise.

The next stages have been set out in a letter to Bristol Water dated 18th October, see attached. Outstanding issues include the S38 consent which Bristol Water need to progress, arrangements to minimising disruption during construction, detail associated with restoration of the land, arrangements for the site compound and its rent and consideration ie compensation with respect to disturbance and diminution in land value associated with the easement caused.

Officers continue to negotiate with Bristol Water keeping Downs Committee aware of these discussions.

Wildlife:

Avon Gorge and Downs Wildlife Project:

The monitoring of the project continues, the six feral goats have enjoyed their first summer and continue to thrive. The keepers assisted by volunteers from FoD+AG continue with the daily checks.

Progress in reclaiming some of the scrubby slopes can now be observed and I anticipate that as winter progresses their browsing activity will become more evident.

One of the goat-keepers was interviewed by BBC television for a news broadcast that was screened in October and later in the month led a well attended 'Meet the Goat keeper' day.

In August a proliferation of Autumn Ladies Tresses were observed along Circular road, a testament to the hurdles that protected them from joggers.

An early Autumn produced an unusually high crop of fruits, nuts and berries as well as a profusion of Fungi in September.

Nine Ravens were spotted barrel rolling above Sea Walls as well as Swallows and Martins preparing for their annual exodus to warmer climes.

Landscape:

Tree works identified during the summer inspection have been completed by the Downs team and City Council contractors. A programme of stump removal is underway. The next tree inspection is booked for January.

The required assents from Natural England have been granted and the planned work to restore the viewpoint at Observatory Hill is due to start shortly.

Early in the New Year the Downs team will be starting the initial clearance works to remove scrub from the Iron Age Fort. The plan is to divide the area into six compartments and work on two non-adjoining sections, removing, scrub, and small saplings. The work is to be phased over several years and no significant trees will be removed. Additional scrub clearance is also planned at Zoo banks as well as ensuring previously cleared areas are retained.

Anti Social Behaviour:

The in-house security team continue with patrols across the Downs. Winter hours are now in force. It is intended to meet with the security manager during the winter to discuss further refining of the provision of the service.

Since our last meeting officers have ticketed or spoken to 41 motorists about parking illegally. 3 visitors have been asked to desist from barbecue use and 1 kite boarder advised to stop.

I have received 1 complaint about cycling on the Downs footpaths.

Following a city wide initiative to procure a wheel clamping and tow away service a new company has been appointed. They are BAS Parking Services. The warning signs around the Downs have been modified to reflect the change.

Concerns about a proliferation of unsightly advertising vans parked around the Downs has been raised. I have spoken to the Police who have advised that there is nothing that can be done providing they are parked legally and are not causing an obstruction. I have received similar advice from Parking Services. An opinion from the Legal section is also being pursued.

Following the theft of a small amount of lead flashing from the roof of the Downs changing rooms I have authorised repairs to prevent further damage caused by water penetration. This involved replacing and securing some sections of the roofing felt. Some additional internal repairs have also been completed.

A meeting has been arranged with Council Officers, National Trust and Network Rail to discuss how best to resolve graffiti and rubbish issues in the Avon Gorge.

FoD+AG organised the first of their deep litter clearance forays.

In October a quantity of dumped lorry tyres were removed from the Downs.

Management and Resources:

The Downs team continue with the Autumn programme of works carrying out day to day response maintenance in line with the Downs Management Plan and the Avon Gorge Management Plan.

Works include:

Final grass cutting rounds completed in November. Removal of summer bedding and replacing with bulbs and spring bedding, leaf clearance, managing the goats, sports pitch marking and dressing room maintenance, inspection and maintenance of play equipment, clearing litter and emptying litter and dog bins, cleaning signs and shelters, graffiti removal, and scrub clearance along Westbury Road.

To support the goat project FoD+AG volunteers continue to carry out additional weekend inspections.

The Probation team continue with the repainting of the Downs dressing rooms one day a week.

Proposal;

That the Committee authorise the transfer of £2000 from the reserve to fund the Hill Fort information panels.

That the Committee authorise the transfer of a maximum £1500 pounds from the reserve to fund an additional trail guide. This sum may prove to be

significantly less.

Other Options Considered

4.No other options considered

Risk Assessment

5.No risk assessment has been carried out.

Public Sector Equality Duties

8a) *Before making a decision, section 149 Equality Act 2010 requires that each decision-maker considers the need to promote equality for persons with the following “protected characteristics”: age, disability, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, race, religion or belief, sex, sexual orientation. Each decision-maker must, therefore, have due regard to the need to:*

i) *Eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct prohibited under the Equality Act 2010.*

ii) *Advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it. This involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to --*

- *remove or minimise disadvantage suffered by persons who share a relevant protected characteristic;*

- *take steps to meet the needs of persons who share a relevant protected characteristic that are different from the needs of people who do not share it (in relation to disabled people, this includes, in particular, steps to take account of disabled persons' disabilities);*

- *encourage persons who share a protected characteristic to participate in public life or in any other activity in which participation by such persons is disproportionately low.*

iii) *Foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and those who do not share it. This involves having due regard, in particular, to the need to –*

- *tackle prejudice; and*

- *promote understanding.*

8b) Not Applicable.

Legal and Resource Implications

Legal

An opinion regarding the parking of vans with advertising boards attached is sought.

The Clifton and Durdham Downs Act (Bristol) 1861 provides that the Downs should remain as a place for the resort and recreation of the citizens of Bristol, and that a committee should be appointed to manage them. The recommendations of this report are within the powers conferred by this statute.

Financial

(a) Revenue

Depending on revenue spend during the year, up to £3500 could be required from the Downs reserve, £2,000 for the Hill Fort information panels and up to £1,500 for the additional trail guide.

The Downs reserve currently stands at £156,908, with existing commitments of £42,000

(b) Capital

None

Financial advice provided by Tony Whitlock, Principal Accountant

Land

The land is under the control of the Downs Committee.

Personnel

Not applicable

Appendices:

{a} {b} {c} {d} {e}

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

Background Papers:

None

RHS BRITAIN IN BLOOM 2011

Results:

- Gold Medal
- Winners of the Large City Category

Discretionary Awards:

- Conservation & Wildlife Award: Presented to the finalist that best demonstrated duty and commitment to sustainable development issues, including management of the flora and fauna in their local environment ~

Avon Gorge & Downs

- Community Champion Award: Presented to an individual or individuals who demonstrated exceptional commitment and dedication to the Britain in Bloom cause in their community ~

Monica Whyte

JUDGE'S COMMENTS

This large South Western city has made many improvements in recent years, and is a serious competitor in the Bloom campaign. The heritage of the city was well described, and the various improvements to the harbour-side and other areas reflected the heritage well. Tree cover throughout the city was good, and excellently maintained. Colour abounded in important areas, and it was well balanced with good sustainable planting. The attention paid to conservation work on the Avon Gorge and Downs was truly outstanding. The itinerary was wide ranging and covered all the core elements of Britain in Bloom well. The visit was a delight, and we left wishing to return to see areas visited in more detail.

Horticultural Achievement*Areas of achievement*

- We admired the work done by the management company at Temple Quay and there appeared to be good support for the campaign from many businesses. Many had colourful displays in this area.
- Overall standards of maintenance were good and the various agencies seemed to work together refreshingly well. The commitment of the contractor towards apprentices was inspiring.
- Russell Horsey was a very professional Arboricultural officer, forward thinking and proactive in dealing with all tree issues in Bristol. The city has an excellent tree cover, well cared for with many unusual varieties.
- There was significant impact with the colour and variety of the floral displays throughout the city.
- The plantings in the zoo gardens were inspiring, particularly the new introductions and special features, also the use of native species on the islands. All plantings were of a very high horticultural quality.
- The return to Victorian traditions with broad paths, trees and well-kept grass was especially relevant in Queens Square.
- There had been much attention paid to good sustainable planting, e.g. the Cathedral gardens, roundabouts, verges and parks.
- Residential gardens and enclosed open space were good, especially around Poole's Wharf.
- The quality of allotments seen was of a high quality and the city was well aware of the need to provide more plots.

Areas for development

- Whilst we welcomed the introduction of the new troughs there were isolated areas where the quality was not up to the standard seen elsewhere.
- We felt the planting at Temple Park churchyard could have been more appropriate to the surroundings and we will give further details on this, if required, at the surgery.

Environmental Responsibility

Areas of achievement

- The professionalism of Mandy Leivers was outstanding. Her knowledge of the area was immense and her commitment to the project excellent. It was also good to receive information on the Downs project from the friends group. There were many educational conservation initiatives. The sheep and goat grazing and Lichen trail were also high points.
- The various project, history and plant diversity at the Botanic Gardens was well documented and explained well by our guide.
- Resource management was well covered and there appeared to be few problems in this area. We applauded the proactive approach to all aspects, especially home composting and communal systems.
- Interpretation for heritage aspects was of good quality. We noted the interesting trail throughout the city. Our guide, Phil Williamson, was extremely knowledgeable on this aspect.
- There were virtually no instances of problems related to local environmental quality with the exception of the tree grids referenced below.
- Hard landscaping was of a superior quality in many areas and interpretation was very good. Street furniture was maintained generally very well but there are some areas that needed attention and which would benefit from a maintenance regime.
- We found little to criticise with regards to environmental responsibility and hope you can continue to keep up these very high standards.

Areas for development

- The tree grids in the Poole's Quay area needed topping up with gravel or similar material to prevent litter falling between the gaps.
- We would like to have seen more interpretation at Temple park churchyard.

Community Participation

Areas of achievement

- There was plenty of evidence of on-going projects. The work carried out by the Community Payback team appeared to be well structured and useful.
- The itinerary was varied and professionally executed. There appeared to be good liaison with schools and young people and publicity material was informative and well presented. It was good to see considerable interest in the campaign.
- The Blue Skies project to help tree watering was an excellent community scheme.

Areas for development

- Year round involvement was covered well in the portfolio but we felt more could have been said about spring displays.

- Considering Bristol's diverse population we would like to have seen or been informed of projects or initiatives in the various ethnic areas of the city. This may be an area you wish to consider for the future.

Judge's Surgery Notes

- Obvious attention had been paid to the judge's comments from last year, and these seem to have been carried out
- The overall entry was very good and the positive notes should be read very carefully
- Deal with the negative aspects indicated above ~ as 'putting the icing on the cake'
- A visit with a school would still be ideal even though we meet some at the presentation, any other youth groups?
- Planting in Temple Park churchyard is inappropriate ~ the use of roses under the trees does not work well. This area should be re-thought out; maybe the long bed in front of the ruins could have medicinal herbs in?
- Think about stopping to look at the residential front gardens passed (after the Botanic Garden) ~ maybe meet the residents?
- Always make sure if troughs or planters are used the quality is spot on
- Evidence of involvement of ethnic communities
- More to be given on spring activity

Our category competitors achieved:

Edinburgh ~ Silver Gilt and a Sustainable Landscape Award

Milton Keynes ~ Silver

SOUTH WEST IN BLOOM 2011

Results:

- Gold Medal
- Winners of the Tourism Trophy for the Large City Category

Discretionary Awards:

- The Sponsors Award: The Blue Ribband Award for the Most Meritorious Entry
- The West Country TV Cup: for an Outstanding Specific Project

The University of Bristol Botanic Gardens

- The Urban Communities Trophy: for Best Urban Community

Clifton, Bristol

- 30 'It's Your Neighbourhood' Awards (9 of which were Level 5 – Outstanding)

JUDGE'S COMMENTS

The enthusiastic, energetic 'in Bloom' group have to be praised for including all parts of the community, local business groups and being supported by the City Council. The continuity of high standards of horticulture/arboriculture and, in particular, the city's open spaces and cleanliness is a remarkable achievement. The geological feature of the Avon Gorge, green space and wildlife areas give an enhancement to the city's landscape. The community projects, Chapter House garden and Rownham Mead & Pooles Wharf redevelopment residential area and water frontage give a refreshing concept to redevelopment of what was an industrial area.

Great efforts have been made in the improvement of presentation in getting the message of heritage, business and community involvement – well done.

Horticultural Achievement

Areas of achievement

- The cultivation of floral units utilising peat free based compost are of a very high standard.
- Gorgeous river side residential gardens, allotments and the ascetically pleasing environment of the Chapter House Garden.

Areas for improvement

- Consider utilising whites and yellows within the floral theme to city streets, to give a lift of colour and focal point, to draw the eye to the floral displays.
- Potential opportunity to undertake a feature display ~ say of the SS Great Britain, as it is a piece of history linked with the heritage of Bristol.

Environmental Responsibility

Areas of achievement

- The trees and open space areas of the city have continuity of good management throughout the city ~remarkable.
- The vast areas of open spaces and the cleanliness of the standards within the inner city area ~ remarkable.
- The staff of the services should be particularly congratulated.
- The tour included a briefing by Phil relating to the city's heritage and redevelopment – A1.

- The wildlife areas and the bio diversity of the natural landscape of the Avon Gorge – superb.
- Councillor Gary Hopkins ably gave an explanation of aspects of the cleansing and recycling services.

Areas for improvement

- There is a clear opportunity to include operatives and their equipment, vehicles etc. on site – operatives could support Councillor Gary Hopkins in giving the message of the cleansing services, together with fact and figures, tonnages in meeting the European recycling requirements.

Community Participation

Areas of achievement

- Impressive number of IYN groups, schools, allotments, involvement of sponsors eg Mr Mohammed's floral bed.
- Bristol Botanical gardens, university botanical programme of redevelopment and support group including educational programmes.
 - The recent Chinese herbal garden project.
 - Bristol Zoo's educational programme.
 - The inclusion of many community projects – Sea Mills Allotments – very good standards achieved.
- The community involvement in relation to Friends of the Downs led by Mandy Leviers, Helen Hall and Martin Collins – excellent.

Areas for improvement

- Consider DVD presentation, showcase, schools, allotments, community groups, environmental group activities.

Our category competitors achieved:

Plymouth: Gold

South West Tourism Salver: for Best Portfolio

APPENDIX C



**RHS BRITAIN
IN BLOOM**

Supported by



The Royal Horticultural Society is proud to present

Avon Gorge & Downs, Bristol

with the

RHS Britain in Bloom Conservation & Wildlife Award

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elizabeth Bents".

Royal Horticultural Society President

APPENDIX D

BLACK & VEATCH
Black & Veatch Limited

DRAWN BY: S WINWARD
CHECKED BY:
APPROVED BY:
DRAWING NUMBER: 169934-M-DRG-30075

NOTES

- LIMITED TREES ARE SHOWN FOR CLARITY, TREE LOCATIONS ARE INDICATIVE BASED ON TOPOGRAPHICAL AND ARBORICULTURAL STUDIES.

OWNER & OCCUPIER
BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL

KEY

- PROPOSED CONTRACTOR COMPOUND WITH COMBINATION OF 2.4m HIGH PLYWOOD BOARDING AND CHESTNUT PALE FENCING.
- PROPOSED WORKING STRIP WITH POST AND WIRE FENCE 1.2m HIGH.
- COMMON LAND BOUNDARY
- PROPOSED PIPE ROUTE

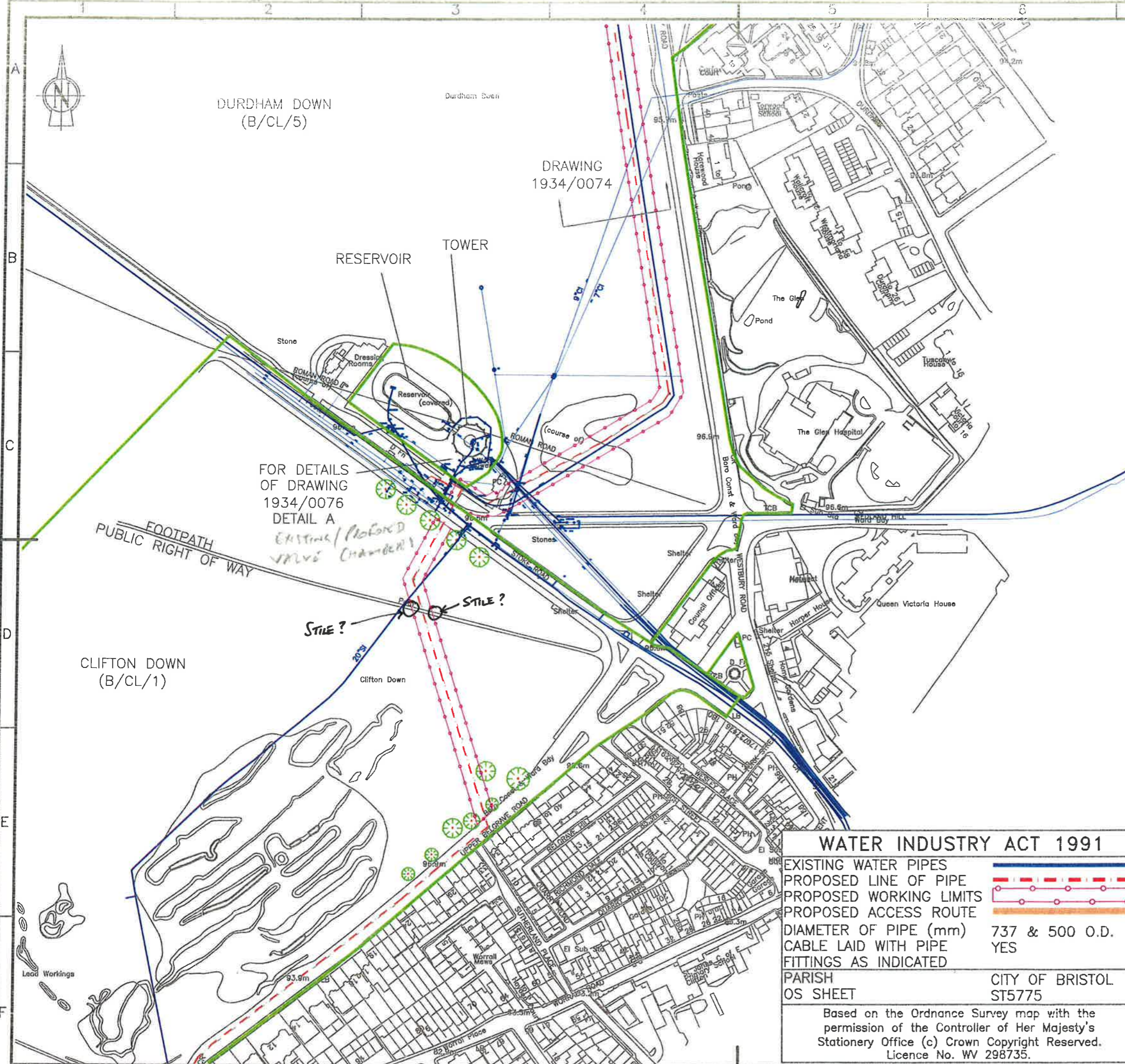
A	/10/2011	FOR NOTICE		
REVISION	DATE	NATURE OF REVISION	REV. BY	APP'D
VICTORIA TO HORFIELD MAINS				
700mm HORFIELD TO DURDHAM DOWN MAIN				
LAND NOTICE DRAWING				
DRAWN	S WINWARD	DATE		
CHECKED		SCALE	1:2500	
APPROVED			OR AS STATED	
CONTRACT No.	9-34			
BRISTOL WATER		FUNCTIONAL LOCATION Not Applicable		
An AGBAR Company		DRAWING No.	1934/0075	REVISION
Plot: SW2 13/10/2011 12:20		SHEET 1 OF 1 SHEETS		.1

WATER INDUSTRY ACT 1991

EXISTING WATER PIPES
PROPOSED LINE OF PIPE
PROPOSED WORKING LIMITS
PROPOSED ACCESS ROUTE
DIAMETER OF PIPE (mm) 737 & 500 O.D.
CABLE LAID WITH PIPE YES
FITTINGS AS INDICATED

PARISH CITY OF BRISTOL
OS SHEET ST5775

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N:\1934_0075_1 (SW 13.10.2011)

DRAWN BY: S WINWARD
 CHECKED BY:
 APPROVED BY:
 DRAWING NUMBER: 169934-M-DRG-30074

NOTES

1. LIMITED TREES ARE SHOWN FOR CLARITY, TREE LOCATIONS ARE INDICATIVE BASED ON TOPOGRAPHICAL AND ARBORICULTURAL STUDIES.

OWNER & OCCUPIER
BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL

KEY

- PROPOSED CONTRACTOR COMPOUND WITH COMBINATION OF 2.4m HIGH PLYWOOD BOARDING AND CHESTNUT PALE FENCING.
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A	/10/2011	FOR NOTICE		
REVISION	DATE	NATURE OF REVISION	REV. BY	APP'D
VICTORIA TO HORFIELD MAINS				
700mm HORFIELD TO DURDHAM DOWN MAIN				
LAND NOTICE DRAWING				
DRAWN	S WINWARD	DATE		
CHECKED		SCALE	1:2500	
APPROVED			OR AS STATED	
CONTRACT No.	1934			
BRISTOL WATER		FUNCTIONAL LOCATION Not Applicable		
An AGBAR Company		DRAWING No.	1934/0074	REVISION
Plot: SW2 13/10/2011@12:23		SHEET 1 OF 1 SHEETS		.1

WATER INDUSTRY ACT 1991

EXISTING WATER PIPES

PROPOSED LINE OF PIPE

PROPOSED WORKING LIMITS

PROPOSED ACCESS ROUTE

DIAMETER OF PIPE (mm) 737 & 500 O.D.

CABLE LAID WITH PIPE YES

FITTINGS AS INDICATED

PARISH CITY OF BRISTOL

OS SHEET ST5775

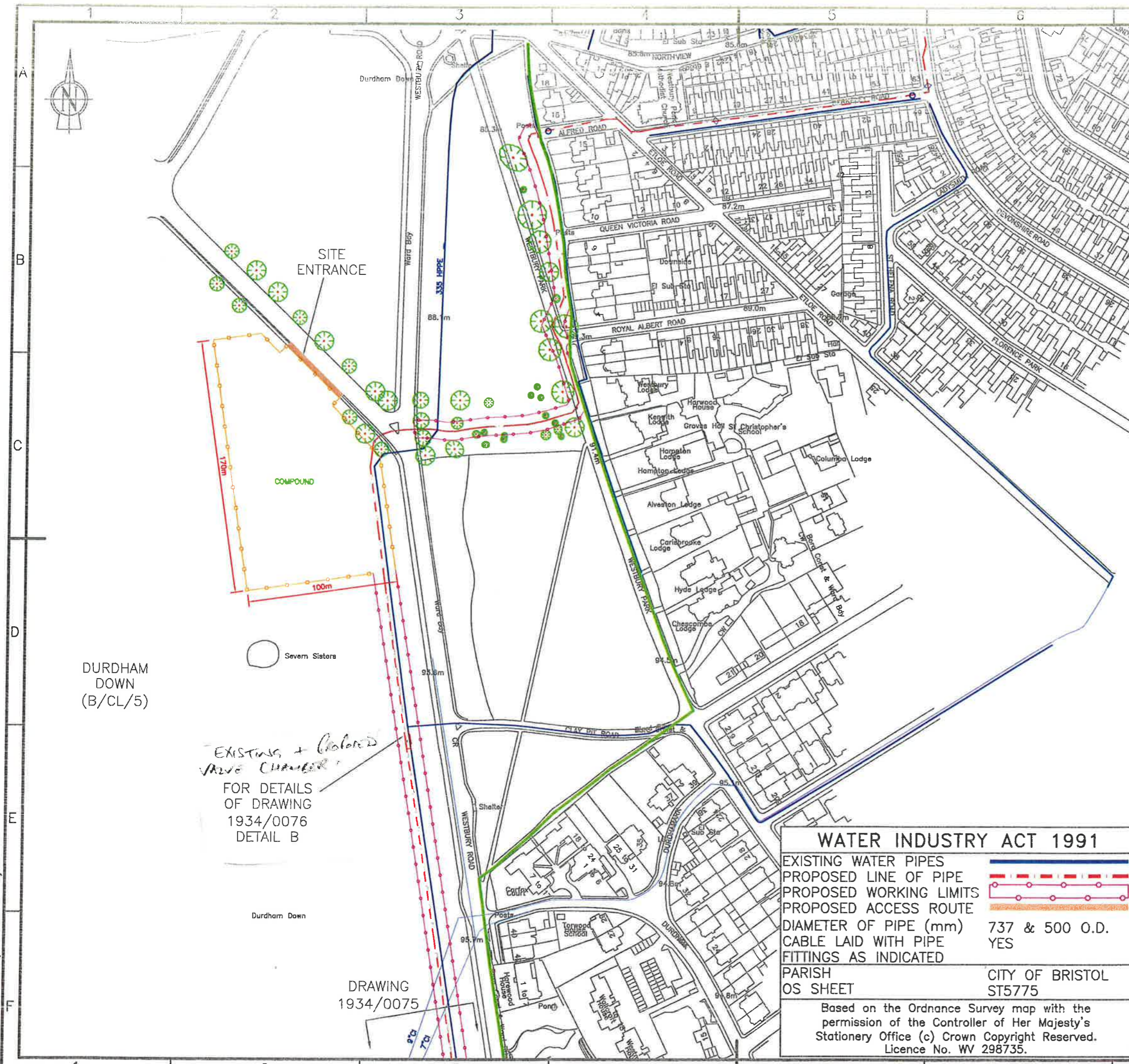
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EXISTING + Colored
PIPE CHANGES

FOR DETAILS OF DRAWING 1934/0076 DETAIL B

DRAWING 1934/0075

N:\1934_0074_1 (SW 13.10.2011)





APPENDIX E

Stuart Cleland
Bristol Water Plc
PO Box 218
Bridgwater Road
Bristol
BS99 7AU

Reply to
Telephone
Minicom
Fax
E-mail
Our ref
Your ref
Date

Richard Ennion
(0117) 922001

(0117) 9223744
richard.ennion@bristol.gov.uk
BristolWaterDowns181011
SC/045
18th October 2011

Dear Mr Cleland

Water Industry Act 1991 - Section 159 and 168 Bristol Resilience Scheme - Clifton and Durdham Down

I refer to your email dated 14th October 2011 regarding the above. By coincidence I was just about to contact you about outstanding issues, of which some have been answered in your most recent email. I would be grateful for your response to the following:

1. I refer to your intention to submit a S38 notice and the requirement to serve this on relevant parties as prescribed by the Commons Act, 2006. I will inform Downs Committee, at their next scheduled meeting on the 22nd November, of the revisions to the route. I will recommend acceptance subject to a satisfactory conclusion to the matters of controls during works, reinstatement and your offer of consideration reflecting occupation, disturbance and harm to land value resulting from works. As we negotiate these points, I hope that I can advise Downs Committee that we have reached a satisfactory conclusion;
2. Further to the issue of you gaining landowner consent I would be grateful if you could indicate whether you wish to seek this via a 'deed of easement' or 'wayleave agreement';
3. I take your latest plan (Dwg 1934/0075) to show the extend of the compound and means of access. You will need to liaise with Highways to deal with any consent associated with a point of access across the highway. We will need to consider a Compound Licence which will take account of the area and period of occupation. Please can you indicate what period you intend to occupy the compound? (I note that you intend it to be used until July 2012). Regards fencing, along with all aspects of site controls and reinstatement please liaise directly with Robert

Neighbourhoods

Environment & Leisure
33 Colston Avenue, Bristol, BS1 4UA

Tracey Morgan
Service Director
Environment & Leisure



Website
www.bristol.gov.uk

2005-2006
Promoting Racial Equality
2006-2007
*Transforming the Delivery of
Services Through Partnerships*
2007-2008
*Healthy Schools
Preventing and Tackling
Anti-social Behaviour*



INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Westlake, Downs Ranger: robert.westlake@bristol.gov.uk Telephone 9736210. My observation is that any boarding surrounding will likely attract graffiti / tagging: it will be your responsibility to remove this as it occurs. If the compound requires planning consent then you will be responsible for gaining any such consent.

4. Downs Committee will anticipate your offer of consideration reflecting disturbance caused to the Downs and its users during construction and the diminution in land value associated with any easement / wayleave. To take this forward, I suggest that a representative of Bristol Water meet with the Merchant Venturers' Land Steward and a representative of Bristol City Council. Assuming that you are in agreement, we will arrange for this meeting.
5. Clearly, we expect harm and disturbance to be kept to a minimum and for the land to be restored to the same condition. To this effect, please liaise with Robert Westlake. He will detail our requirements including consideration of how you intend to minimise disturbance to users of the Downs in general and consideration of impact on any planned event / activity. I note your suggestion that we take on the responsibility of restoration subject to adequate payment. Robert will advise you as to whether this is our preferred option for all or part of the restoration.
6. Regards any disturbance to the public right of way. Again, Robert will be able to advise you of our preferred approach. You may need consent to close or disrupt the public right of way. I suggest that you contact the council's public right of way team, try Christine Pouncett, Senior Public Rights of Way Officer: chris.pouncett@bristol.gov.uk Tel. 9036481.

Yours sincerely,

Richard Ennion
Horticultural Service Manager

Copy to: Christopher Ward (Osborne Clark), Robert Westlake (Downs Ranger), Alastair Martin (Merchant Venturers Land Steward) and Joanna Mellors (BCC Portfolio Management)