

## Environment Working Group notes – Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> January 2013

**Present:** Clare Champion-Smith, Alan Aburrow, Sue Boyd, Sheila Preece, Alan Preece, Tim Clarke, Sylvia Kelly, Stephanie French, Gary Brentnall, Andrew McGrath

**Apologies:** Hilary Long, Gill Brown, Eileen Stonebridge, Susan Mayer, Val Bishop, Gerry Arnold, Eileen Poad, David Mayer, Sue Boyd

### Notes and Actions:

#### 1. Matters arising.

Grass verge near mini roundabout on Druids Hill needs reconstituting. Gary checked and seems okay. Group members asked Gary to re-check the site, as they believe the ruts are still there. **Action:** Gary

Wall left of Premier Homecare has graffiti. Should be reported via BCC reporting procedure. Alan checked the spot and there seems to be no graffiti. If any appears, please report either on-line or phone BCC (9222100)

Bike racks in W-o-T village. Sue reported that they're in.

New bin outside Premier Homecare. Reported that it is in.

Public Liability Insurance is a city-wide issue being looked at by senior managers. **Action:** Andrew. A policy exists and is being updated. Briefing note to be sent to the group for comment.

Bins in W-o-T keep catching light, probably due to cigarettes being thrown in main bin because ashtray isn't cleared regularly.

**Afternote:** Street cleaners appear to be emptying the ashtrays on a regular basis.

Community Payback to attend Stoke Lodge to do bramble clearance (including Knotweed clearance) in November.

**Afternote:** CP attended Stoke Lodge and cleared about two thirds of the Knotweed. Gary informed the meeting that a plan is in place to remove the rest. It needs to be destroyed (burnt) on site as it is illegal to transfer it unless done so in a secure manner.

The group agreed to submit an application to the small grants fund for 4 Community Payback sessions in each ward (£1,200).

**Action:** Stephanie French to draw up the application.

Request that Vicki Abel and Nigel Sands provide an update on where they are re the Canford Park projects. **Action:** Andrew.

**Afternote:** Project managers have met with the Friends of Canford Park and progress is on-going.

Request for action on the trees in West Dene and South Dene. What is the schedule? Gary reported that the inspections have been done but no work yet. **Action:** Gary to provide web link of tree inspection and maintenance schedule. **Afternote:** Web link:

<http://www.bristol.gov.uk/page/tree-management>

## **Stoke Lodge**

Following the decision in November to formally agree the site of the play ground on Stoke Lodge, progress is being made. A Project Manager has been appointed – Andrew Thomas – who will plan the consultation process and arrange for the tenders to be sent to appropriate providers of play equipment. Gary will liaise with Andrew Thomas in order to arrange a meeting with the Save Stoke Lodge Parkland Group.

David Mayer was not at this meeting as he had a meeting with legal representatives regarding the TVG application for Stoke Lodge. **Afternote:** Please see Stoke Bishop notes for an update on the TVG status.

Clare voiced some concerns that Stoke Lodge is too open and suffers from dog mess problems. There followed a discussion about the possibility that the mess was, often, from foxes. Alan Preece also mentioned that another application for a dog bin was being submitted to the Well Being Panel. The one at the north entrance to SL has proved very popular with dog walkers. The plan is to eventually have all the entrances/exits to SL covered.

Trees on the Shirehampton Road side of SL have recently been cut back.

The signs in the car park pointing to the overflow car park need re-siting. They do not warn drivers early enough. **Action:** Gary to organise. Gary also to get a costing for posts to stop parking on the grass verges in the car park area. **Action:** Gary

The Knotweed spraying will take place in May/July/September

Stephanie informed the meeting that she would like to tidy up the gas installation, with the help of volunteers. It needs significant clearance work. Gary can provide the tools for this

## **Waste Plan**

Gary asked the group to get back to him with comments on the waste plan (attached).

## **Parks**

A consultation plan for Fallodon Way is already underway.

Tree Bristol want to plan 2 trees in Old Quarry Park. However, there is a little confusion regarding whether another promise of trees in the park (from a previous Well Being application) is the same or in addition to this offer. **Action:** Gary to check with Josie Sadler

A brief discussion was held regarding identifying which park would next be subject to a tree plan. The NP can choose one plan per year. Trymside was chosen by the group last time. There aren't many options: Canford, Fallodon Way, Old Quarry, Sneed Park Nature Reserve and (possibly) the tiny slither of Horfield Common that lies in Henleaze ward. No decision was reached on this.

## **Any Other Business**

The Phoenix Hedge Group showed the meeting the plans for the information sign that has been funded by the NP. There were two examples. Both offer excellent and accessible information relating to the hedge. Andrew requested to send the 'My Neighbourhoods' to the group to put on the sign. **Action:** Andrew. **Afternote:** Done

Alan described a problem in Baddock's, where the Trym is disappearing in to a sewage pipe. Work to repair this is expected soon.

Has work on the trees in Baddock's that was tendered for been done yet? **Action:** Gary to find out and report back

The land at the bottom of a garden backing on to Baddock's Wood (Alan gave the exact details) has a tree overgrowing on to the private property. **Action:** Gary to investigate

Clare mentioned dog fouling on Lawrence Grove. Andrew will get some (temporary) signs put up in the area. **Action:** Andrew

The plan to get May Gurney to litter pick after waste collections doesn't appear to be happening. **Action:** Gary to check with MG

**Date of Next Meeting** TBC