

THE DOWNS COMMITTEE

Clifton and Durdham Downs (Bristol) Act 1861

Reply to Norman Cornthwaite

To : Members of the
Downs Committee

Telephone 0117 92 22390
E-mail norman.cornthwaite@bristol.gov.uk

Date Friday, 13 January 2017

The Lord Mayor and 6 City Councillors

The Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor Councillor Jeff Lovell
Peter Abraham Donald Alexander
Nicola Beech Clare Campion-Smith
Barry Clark Martin Fodor

The Master and 6 Merchant Venturers

C McAlpine (Master) J Baker
A Brown F Greenacre
C Griffiths J McArthur
T Ross

Dear Member,

You are invited to attend a meeting of the **Downs Committee** to be held at **2.00 pm on Monday, 23rd January, 2017 at A Committee Room - City Hall, College Green, Bristol, BS1 5TR.**

The agenda for the meeting is set out overleaf and the supporting documents are attached.

Yours sincerely,

Norman Cornthwaite

Democratic Services Section

3rd Floor Deanery Wing
City Hall PO Box 3176
College Green,
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Shana Johnson

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Norman Cornthwaite.

Agenda

1. Apologies and introductions

2. Minutes of last meeting (Pages 4 - 8)

To agree the Minutes as a correct record of the Meeting for signature by the Chair.

3. Declarations of interest

4. Public Forum (Pages 9 - 11)

To consider items of public forum sent to the Downs Committee. Interested parties can submit a written statement of approximately one side of A4 to the Downs Committee by sending it to Democratic Services democratic.services@bristol.gov.uk no later than 12.00 noon on Friday 20th January 2017.

5. Finance Report (Pages 12 - 18)

The Committee is asked:

To note the contents of the report

To approve an additional finance meeting to discuss the contents of this report

To invite a status report on the Downs Committee to the next meeting in April including a suggestion of an operating framework and potential reduction in meetings.

6. Downs Management and Events Report (Pages 19 - 25)

The Committee is asked to:

Event (see 3c): Approve permission to be given for the 2017 Team Love proposed music concert at The Downs Sea walls location subject to a site fee and date being agreed, as recommended by the Events Sub Group (Appendix A).

Management Plan (see 4d): Approve that the plan be circulated to the management plan sub group for comment before being sent to full Downs Committee in April for approval to then go to public consultation.

7. Bristol Zoo Parking Update (Pages 26 - 35)

The Committee is asked to comment on and note the report.

8. Avon Gorge and Downs Wildlife Project Annual Report 2016 (Pages 36 - 39)

The Committee is asked to comment on and note the report.

9. Friends of the Downs and Avon Gorge (Page 40)

The Committee is asked to comment on and note the report.

10. Any Other Business

Norman Cornthwaite, Democratic Services Officer

Email: norman.cornthwaite@bristol.gov.uk or

democratic.services@bristol.gov.uk

Phone: 0117 92 22390

Bristol City Council Minutes of the Downs Committee

21st November 2016 at 2.00 pm



Members Present:-

Councillors: Jeff Lovell (Chair), Peter Abraham, Donald Alexander, Nicola Beech, Barry Clark and Martin Fodor; C McAlpine (Master), J Baker, A Brown, F Greenacre, C Griffiths, J McArthur and T Ross

Officers in Attendance:-

Melissa Inman, Sarah Tyler, Ben Skuse, Norman Cornthwaite

Also in attendance:- Tom Paine, Organiser of The Downs Concert 2016

1. Apologies and introductions

Apologies were received from Councillor Clare Champion-Smith

Everyone introduced themselves.

2. Membership of the Downs Committee

Resolved – that the revised Membership of the Committee be noted.

Membership of the Downs Committee

Resolved – that the revised Membership of the Committee be noted.

3. Confirmation of Chairing Arrangements

Resolved – that the appointment of the Master for 2016/17 be noted.

4. Retiring Members of the Committee

Resolved – that the retirement of Merchant Venturer Members and a letter of thanks be sent to them.

5. Dates and Times of Meetings



Resolved – that the Meetings be held on the following dates:

Monday 23rd January 2017 at 2.00 pm
Monday 10th April 2017 at 2.00 pm
Monday 3rd July 2017 at 11.00 am (at Merchants Hall)
Monday 25th September 2017 at 2.00 pm
Monday 20th November 2017 at 2.00 pm (AGM)

6. Delegations

Following a debate it was

Resolved –

Events on the Downs:

- (1) that the arrangements relating to the Events Sub Group specified in the report be agreed, except that the number of Members on the Group be increased by one Councillor and one Merchant Venturer;**
- (2) that the arrangements relating to Other Events specified in the report be agreed, except that the word “in consultation with” be removed and replaced by the word “by”;**

Catering Concessions on the Downs:

- (3) that the wording in the report be deleted and replaced by “Matters relating to catering concessions (between meetings of the Downs Committee) to be decided by the Master of the Society of Merchant Venturers and the Lord Mayor”; and**

Minor Maintenance and Access Matters:

- (4) that the Strategic Director of Neighbourhoods be authorised to enter into agreements in relation to minor maintenance and temporary access matters.**

7. Minutes of the last Meeting

Resolved – that the Minutes of the last Meeting be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Lord Mayor.

8. Declarations of interest

There were none



9. Public Forum

The following Statements were received and noted:

1. Susan Carter and Peter Weeks – Zoo Parking
2. Mrs G Evans – Use of The Downs
3. Vicki Cracknell – Cycling on The Downs
4. Robert Westlake - FODAG

A copy of the Statements is contained in Minute Book.

10 Downs Management and Events Report

Sarah Tyler and Melissa Inman introduced the report and summarised it for everyone.

Fees and Charges

Concerns were expressed about the level of fees charged for the use of The Downs for various events. It was considered that The Downs Committee should look to maximise the level of income that it can achieve and not be necessarily bound by the Council's Fees and Charges Policy.

In response Melissa Inman stated that the BCC Fees and Charges are being reviewed; negotiations are still taking place with event organisers for Events on the Downs in 2017; and the figures shown in the report relate to 2016.

Parks Budget

It was noted that Gemma Dando had met with some Members of The Downs Committee but that no conclusions have been reached. Members considered that proposals need to be brought to January Meeting of the Committee to enable the views of the Committee to feed into the Budget process and influence decisions.

Massive Attack Concert September 2016

Tom Paine introduced his report and summarised it for everyone.

Clifton Suspension Bridge Contractor's Compound

Concerns were expressed about the request for another compound being situated on The Downs. It was also noted that the Committee had previously agreed to a charge of £200 per week for allowing temporary compounds on the Downs be approved but that the Clifton Suspension Bridge Trust be



allowed an exemption from paying the £200 per week, provided that the specified period for a temporary compound to be in place is not exceeded.

Resolved – (1) that the financial context for the management of the Downs be noted;

- (2) that approval be granted for the BCC Legal Team draw to up an agreement between BCC and Merchant Venturers for zoo temporary car park on Ladies Mile, subject to planning permission for this car park being in place;**
- (3) that the proposals for future filming and events/interactions and de-briefs on events be noted and agreed, and that the listed small-medium scale events taking place on the Downs be approved in principle;**
- (4) that the application for the music event of The Downs 2017 be referred to the Events Sub Group for consideration and for the Event Sub Group to present recommendations at the next full Committee Meeting; and**
- (5) that the siting of the Clifton Suspension Bridge Contractor's Compound be agreed subject to the following:**
 - (a) The exact times to be specified, ideally 4 months not 6 months;**
 - (b) No charge to be made to the Bridge Trust for the compound however, if the compound remains beyond the specified end date a charge of £200 will be made per week (equating to £28.57 charge per day);**
 - (c) Solid cladding is to be painted dark green (no decorations by local school will permitted);**
 - (d) Any graffiti to be painted out by contractors asap.**

11 Finance Report

Concerns were expressed that the report was not received until the day of the Meeting and that nobody was in attendance to present it.

Resolved – that the report be noted.

12 Any Other Business

Following a discussion, it was agreed that it would not be appropriate to accept the offer of a £10,000 contribution from a member of the public.

13 Date of Next Meeting

Monday 23rd January 2017 at 2.00 pm.



Meeting ended at 4.05 pm.

CHAIR _____



Public Information Sheet Downs Committee

Emergency Evacuation Procedure

City Hall Emergency Evacuation Plan

If the fire alarm sounds, please start to exit the room via the way you came in and head for the main entrance lobby.

Fire Assembly Area

On the paved area in front of the building on College Green by the flag poles

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Please contact the Democratic Services Officer named on the agenda if you require further information regarding the following:

Attendance at Meetings - Local Government (Access to Information Act 1985)

Committee meetings are open to the public and a limited amount of seating is available in each meeting room. You may however be asked to leave the meeting if any “exempt” (private) business is considered. This will normally be shown on the agenda.

Inspection of Papers - Local Government (Access to Information) Act 1985

You can find papers for all our meetings on our website at www.bristol.gov.uk

You can also inspect papers at City Hall Reception, College Green, Bristol BS1 5TR.

Other formats and languages and assistance For those with hearing impairment

You can get committee papers in other formats (e.g. large print, audio tape, braille etc) or in community languages by contacting the Democratic Services Officer. Please give as much notice as possible. We cannot guarantee re-formatting or



translation of papers before the date of a particular meeting.

Committee rooms in City Hall are fitted with infra-red induction loops to assist people with hearing impairment. These can be used with either a neck loop (for hearing aid users) or with a headset. The Democratic Services Officer will be able to provide you with these. Hearing aid users need to switch the hearing aid to the "T" position.

Public Forum

Members of the public may make a written statement or present a petition to most meetings, provided that:

- the statement, or in the case of a petition the subject matter, is received by Democratic Services no later than **12.00 noon on the working day before the meeting** and
- the statement or petition is about a matter which is the responsibility of the committee concerned.

Statements and the subject matter of petitions should be e-mailed to democratic.services@bristol.gov.uk or sent to Bristol City Council, Democratic Services Section, 3rd Floor Deanery Wing, City Hall, PO Box 3176, Bristol BS3 9FS (Postcode for satnav purposes is BS1 5TR), or faxed to 0117 92 22146.

Any statement submitted should be no longer than one side of A4 paper. If the statement is longer than this, then for reasons of cost, only the first sheet will be printed for Members of the Committee and made available at the meeting. For copyright reasons, we are unable to reproduce or publish newspaper or magazine articles that may be attached to statements as supporting paperwork.

Please note that by participating in public forum business, it will be assumed that your consent is given to the recording of your name and the details of your submission in the documentation that is circulated to committee. This information will also be made available at the meeting to which it relates and placed in the official minute book as a public record (and is available for inspection upon request with the other documents for the meeting concerned).

Where appropriate, we will endeavour to remove other personal details such as contact details. However, because of time constraints we cannot guarantee this and you may therefore wish to consider if your statement contains information that you would prefer not to be in the public domain. Public Forum statements will not be posted on the Council's website.

Other committee papers may be placed on the Council's website and information contained within them may be searchable on the internet.

Process during the meeting:

- Public Forum is normally one of the first items on the agenda, although statements and petitions that relate to specific items on the agenda may be taken just before the item concerned.
- There will be no debate on statements or petitions.
- The Chair will call each submission in turn. When you are invited to speak, please make sure that your presentation focuses on the key issues that you would like Members to consider. This will have the greatest impact.
- Your time allocation may have to be strictly limited if there are a lot of submissions before the meeting.
- You do not have to speak or even attend the meeting at which your public forum submission is being taken. However, if you do not present it, then it will **not be read out**. It will nevertheless be noted by Members.

Register of Interests

The Register of Interests for Members is available on our website at www.bristol.gov.uk

If you wish to view the Register of Interest of any Co-optee please contact the Democratic Services Officer.

Webcasting/Recording of meetings

Members of the public attending meetings or taking part in Public forum are advised that all Full Council and Cabinet meetings and some other committee meetings are now filmed for live or subsequent broadcast via the council's [webcasting pages](#). The whole of the meeting is filmed (except where there are confidential or exempt items) and the footage will be available for 2 years. If you ask a question or make a representation, then you are likely to be filmed and will be deemed to have given your consent to this. If you do not wish to be filmed you need to make yourself known to the webcasting staff. However, the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014 now mean that persons attending meetings may take photographs, film and audio record the proceedings and report on the meeting. (Oral commentary is not permitted during the meeting as it would be disruptive) Members of the public should therefore be aware that they may be filmed by others attending and that is not within the Council's control.

BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL

DOWNS COMMITTEE

23rd January 2017

Report of: Service Director, Neighbourhoods

Title: Downs Budget Report

Ward:

Officers Presenting Report: Gemma Dando, Director Neighbourhoods and Communities

Contact Telephone Number: 0117 352 1090

RECOMMENDATION:

Members:

- To note the contents of the report
- To approve an additional finance meeting to discuss the contents of this report
- To invite a status report on the Downs Committee to the next meeting in April including a suggestion of an operating framework and potential reduction in meetings.

1. Policy

Not applicable

2. Consultation

Robin Poole, Neighbourhoods Finance Business Partner
Councillor Asher Craig, Executive Member for Neighbourhoods.

3. Context

3.1 A meeting took place on 17th November 2016 to talk about the finances of the Downs and a number of other matters. The outcomes of the meeting and the actions were as follows:

- a) Finances – needs to be more open and transparent. There is a need for some clarity on budgets, forward planning, and an appetite for some collaborative working (Page 12) the council meet financial

challenges **and also** b) enable the downs to have more money to spend within the confines of the downs. There is a joint appetite for better finances as long as there are mutual advantages.

- b) Organisation of the Downs Committee, decision making, conversations, reporting – this needs looking at and a really clear arrangement for the future.
- c) Management plan – a really clear management plan will help to direct the finances, direct the spend of any additional money created by the downs, and direct the work of volunteers, BCC employees and other people involved in making the downs a fantastic city asset.
- d) Legal clarity – this is important in terms of context but the desire is to have a collaborative relationship without needing to refer too much to the details of the Act. It is important for clarity for all that we do have a joint understanding of this individual legal context though so this does not take away from the uniqueness of this area.

Specific actions are as follows:

- e) Budget building conversation for 2017-18 – collaborative way to look at the finances.
- f) Investigate some of the opportunities for different models, income, etc. and share information with all of the committee for discussion.
- g) Look at constructing an agreement (the Downs Committee agreement) which defines financial and operational agreements.
- h) Finish the management plan as soon as possible to inform some of the above discussions.

3.2 This work commenced after the November meeting, but the finance and operational work was put on hold temporarily until the council's budget context and any potential impact on the Downs budget was understood.

3.3 On 12th January, the council published updates to the draft Corporate Strategy consultation and the current plans to balance next year's budget, as well as future plans for savings from council budgets which will be further consulted on and form part of the 5 year financial strategy.

3.4 The budget plans include a proposal called "**New ways of delivering parks and open spaces**". This has been defined as follows: "We want to work towards making the cost of running our Parks Service cost

neutral to the council. There will be a robust exploration of the options available resulting in a detailed plan for the long term future. This might include looking at commercial business models, increasing our income and working with communities.” The proposal sees all of the parks budget removed by 2020 and at this point the intention is that the service is self-funding. There is also a proposal to remove the subsidy of £25,000 for salary costs for the Avon Gorge and Downs Wildlife Programme.

- 3.5 This proposal affects the Downs budget as there is a council contribution towards the management of the Downs of £262,000, and also the £25,000 subsidy for the Wildlife programme also comes out of the Downs budget.
- 3.6 It is recognised that the Downs Act 1861 makes provision for the Downs Committee to requisition the council for “up to £300 a year” for execution of the Downs Act. This would translate as around £25,000 - £30,000 in 2016 if RPI (relative pricing index – i.e. comparing the value of goods and services in 1861 and 2015) was used as the indicator for calculating the potential increase in the council’s maximum obligation under the Act.
- 3.7 The Downs budget is contained as Appendix 1 of this report. It should be noted that the budget does not contain the true costs of management of the Downs, only the direct operational costs and income. For example, the budget does not contain any management costs for the teams that work on the downs or the teams that support the committee, nor does it contain any contribution to machinery, equipment, premises for staff. An accurate reflection of the cost to the council of managing the Downs is being produced.
- 3.8 It is recognised that the Downs has unique income generation potential in Bristol, and also has a unique relationship between the council and the Merchant Venturers. There are also many active residents that have an interest in the management and sustainability of the site. This may put the Downs in a good position to consider a different operating model (for example a Trust or another model that can generate enough income to cover the full operational and maintenance costs).
- 3.9 In order to meet the significant financial challenge that the council is facing, there will need to be a significant reduction to the council’s contribution to the Downs budget across the next three years.

- 3.10 It is proposed that an additional finance meeting is held to discuss detailed proposals for a reduction in the council contribution to the Downs budget in 2017-18, as well as a future financial model for the Downs. Things to consider would be a reduction in the security services that currently work on the downs and are unique to this area, an increase in income that might include football, concessions, events and any other ideas. 2018-19 would look for a further reduction in council contribution, with the Downs being fully or mostly self-funded by 2019-20.
- 3.11 During the meeting on 17th November it became clear that there are different thoughts, opinions and interpretations of the role, legal status, financial responsibilities and decision-making responsibilities of the Downs Committee. Members of the Downs Committee are all very busy people, and as such it is proposed that a status report about the Downs Committee complete with recommendations about an operating framework and a potential reduction in meetings comes to the next Downs Committee meeting. This report should be co-produced and could be led by members of the Downs Committee rather than council officers.

5. Public Sector Equality Duties

5a) 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.

The proposals for reduction of budgets across the parks department will require a full and detailed Equalities Impact Assessment. Proposals related to the Downs will form part of this EqIA.

6. Legal and Resource Implications

The Clifton and Durdham Downs (Bristol) Act 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.

Appendix 1: The Downs budget

This is the budget as it appears on the finance system. It does not reflect the true costs of the management of the Downs – this piece of work is underway.

Downs 10359		Annual Budget	Spend	Notes
R1000	Salaries - Basic Pay	148,010	148,010	1 supervisor, 7 staff. No other costs of other staff included
R1001	Salaries - National Insurance	29,456	29,456	
R1002	Salaries - Superannuation	9,081	38,552	
R1003	Salaries - Other Pay	0	4,428	
R1004	Salaries - Noncontractual Overtime	40,176	40,176	This is paid for by the football income
R1100	Agency Staff	25,692	0	
R1200	Other Indirect Employee Costs	18,217	1,000	
R1800	Redundancy Payments	0	0	
R2000	R&M - Departmental planned (internal)	124	0	
R2002	R&M - Departmental response (Internal)	6,775	7,000	Repairs for buildings, walls, property services works
R2003	R&M - Departmental response (external)	0	0	
R2004	R&M - Building Practice planned	10,967	10,000	
R2005	R&M - Building Practice response	3,058	3,000	
R2076	Grounds Maintenance - Non Contract	1,575	8,000	Additional grounds works not done by team
R2100	Electricity	0	2,213	
R2101	Gas	0	3,234	
R2103	Solid Fuel	500	0	
R2300	Business Rates	0	4,000	
R2400	Water Services - Unmetered	0	2,000	
R2703	Waste Management	3,035	4,000	
R2900	Contribution to Premises provision	9,992	0	
R3001	Diesel	683	0	
R3020	Vehicle Maintenance - Contract	236	1,000	
R3201	Hire of Plant	150	0	
R4000	Equipment - Purchase	3,642	8,000	Grounds maintenance equipment
R4001	Equipment - Hire	0	0	
R4007	Materials	1,596	1,596	
R4200	Protective Clothing	250	250	
R4300	Printing	35	35	
R4304	Photocopier Operating Lease	20	400	
R4305	Photocopier Charges - Usage	100	400	
R4306	Photocopier Charges - Consumables	0	0	
R4308	Stationery	156	0	

R4317	Marketing \ Non-staff advertising	700	0	
R4400	Services - Professional Fees	8,388	0	
R4401	Services - Fees and Charges	10,255	70,000	Replacement fence for gorge, wildlife project officer
R4404	Services - Consultants	0	0	
R4405	Services - Security	33,811	33,811	Patrols
R4504	Comms - Telephone Rental	600	600	
R4507	Comms - Mobile Telephones	0	1,000	
R5000	TPP - Grounds Maintenance	(7,592)	1,000	
R5010	TPP - Other	1,800	6,500	
R5028	TPP - Sports Facilities	422	500	
R5301	TPP - Payments to other Departments	35,400	5,000	
R7004	Internal Trading Charges - Accountancy	3,400	0	
R7007	Internal Trading Charges - Legal Services	8,000	0	
R7009	Internal Trading Charges - Grounds Maintenance	60,000	1,500	
R7010	Internal Trading Charges - Facility Management	3,262	8,600	
R7011	Internal Trading Charges - Printing	1,703	1,700	
R7014	Internal Trading Charges - Transport	2,412	6,000	
R7020	Internal Trading Charges - Other	14,685	20,000	
R9140	Donations	(5,000)	0	
R9141	Sponsorship Income	(1,400)	0	
R9151	Balances brought forward	(262,090)	(262,090)	This is the council contribution to this budget
R9157	Road Maintenance	0	0	
R9201	Sale of Plants / Floral Displays	(700)	0	
R9215	Concessions	(57,500)	(40,000)	This is the income from ice cream vans etc.
R9216	Events	(45,000)	0	
R9217	Room Hire	0	(200)	
R9307	Fees - Licensing	0	(4,000)	
R9308	Fees - Other	(43,500)	(3,000)	
R9310	Fees - Leisure Services	(18,000)	(110,000)	This is where the events income appears - Massive Attack etc
R9312	Fees - Car parks	(34,600)	(34,600)	
R9404	Rents - Other	0	(400)	
R9408	Rents - Commercial	(18,000)	(18,000)	
R9410	Rents - Controlled Shops	(1,399)	(200)	
Total 10359 Downs		3,583	471	

BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL

DOWNS COMMITTEE

23rd January 2017

Report of: Service Director, Neighbourhoods and Service Director,
Culture

Title: Downs Management and Events report

Ward: N/A

Officers Presenting Report: Melissa Inman, Arts and Events Manager
Sarah Tyler, Operations Co-ordinator
North Parks

Contact Telephone Number: 07736640955

RECOMMENDATION:

Members:

- **Event (see 3c):** Approve permission to be given for the 2017 Team Love proposed music concert at The Downs Sea walls location subject to a site fee and date being agreed, as recommended by the Events Sub Group (Appendix A).
- **Management Plan (see 4d):** Approve that the plan be circulated to the management plan sub group for comment before being sent to full Downs Committee in April for approval to then go to public consultation.

Summary

This report brings together information about the council's management of the Downs, including income generation updates.

1. Policy

Not applicable

2. Consultation

a) Internal

John Williams, Area Manager North.

Becky Belfin, Nature Conservation Officer

Sarah Tyler, Operations Coordinator North

Gemma Dando, Service Manager

3. Context

3a) Concessions:

Awaiting outcome of street trading application for Parrys Lane. If this is approved a tender specification will be put together for Downs Committee approval before the tender is advertised.

3b) Temporary car park:

Planning application for temporary car park was submitted and is still with planning to make a decision.

3c) Filming and Events

An Event Sub Group meeting was held to discuss the proposal for a music concert in 2017. See Appendix A .

Recommendation: Approve permission to be given for the 2017 Team Love proposed music concert at The Downs Sea walls location subject to a site fee and date being agreed, as recommended by the Events Sub Group.

The following fees and charges structure will be applicable to events taking place after 1st April 2017. Please note this is the proposed fees and charges structure for the city and is currently still in review.

Fee Type	Event size	Amount
Application Fee		
	Commercial	£120.00 + VAT
	Community	£60.00 (Inclusive of VAT and with 50% discount applied)
Commercial Site Hire Fee per day		
	Small	£1,400.00
	Medium	£4,500.00
	Large	By negotiation
	Major	By negotiation
Additional event day(s) (30% of basic hire fee)		
	Small	£420.00
	Medium	£1350.00
	Large	By negotiation
	Major	By negotiation
Set up/Clean up breakdown days (15% of basic hire fee)		
	Small	£210.00
	Medium	£675.00
	Large	By negotiation
	Major	By negotiation
Damage Deposits (Bond)		
	All Events	£500.00 or 20% whichever is greater

	assessed on an individual basis if a bond is required	
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Presently the following applications and expressions of interest have been made to use the Downs:

- Funderworld (in principle) March – April, 4 weeks operational.
- Foodies Festival 12th-14th May
- Ladyboys of Bangkok (in principle) 9th – 24th June
- Large scale Music concert, Team Love (in principle) 2nd September
- Student Union Fresher Fair (in principle) late September

Downs Management update

3d) Enjoyment:

Bristol City Council officers met with the Friends of the Downs and Avon Gorge on the 9th Jan and will be continuing to develop the current successful partnership with the group.

3e) Access:

To confirm permission has been given to the Bridge Trust for a compound on the Downs whilst they paint the suspension bridge, as agreed at the November committee meeting.

- The compound will be onsite for 6 months from March. Exact dates TBC.
- Any extension over this time will be charged at £200 per week.
- Fence is to be heras fence panels with green screening, this is a change to the cladded fence originally proposed. The heras fence option will reduce the size of the compound and is to be maintained in an 'as erected' pristine state.

3f) Movement and Place Framework subgroup

A sub group meeting is due to take place in February.

Movement and Place sub group members are: Lord Mayor, Councillor Peter Abraham, Councillor Martin Fodor, Anthony Brown, Francis Greenacre, Tim Ross, Richard Ennion, Richard Goldthorpe, Sarah Tyler, Mark Sperduty, Ed Plowden, Oliver Coltman, Mandy Leivers, Becky Belfin.

4. Landscape:

4a) Avon Gorge and Downs Wildlife Project education programme for November and December 2016; Mandy Leivers will provide a separate report.

4b) Tree safety works

In December there was a report of buses striking trees overhanging the bus lane on the Portway and a 3 man team spent a day pruning vegetation. The Downs team have severed ivy from the trees within falling distance of the depot and when the ivy has died off **Page 21** will be inspected.

The Downs team highlighted a tree within the Goat enclosure with basal decay which may damage the fence if it falls and so the contractors will fell it. The tree officer continues inspections for dead or high risk trees and tree removals follow as required.

4c) Management and Resources: Downs Team Report

Daily duties continue on an ongoing basis; litter collection, football pitch provision and goat monitoring.

Other works through the Winter include:

- 1 new memorial bench has been installed and a further 2 benches planned to be installed.
- A damaged dog bin has been replaced.
- Leaf clearances continue to take place.
- Scrub management plan work continues to be carried out.
- Scrub clearance on Bridge Valley Road (road closure) will take place when the road closure is in place on Sunday 29th Jan, Sunday 5th Feb and 12th Feb.
- There is also plans for further tree clearance on the banks around the Observatory in Clifton also opening up more viewpoints through the woodland edge along the cliff tops next to the Promenade in Clifton.

4d) Management Plan

The first initial draft is currently being edited.

Recommendation: that the plan be circulated to the sub group for comment before being sent to full Downs Committee in April for approval to then go to public consultation.

Management plan sub group members are: Councillor Fodor, Councillor Alexander, Anthony Brown, Francis Greenacre, Mandy Leivers, Becky Belfin, Ben Skuse and Sarah Tyler.

4e) Health and Safety:

- On Sunday 29th Jan, Sunday 5th Feb and 12th Feb, Parsons Brinkerhoff will be carrying out their annual inspection of rock faces at Bridge Valley Road, the Zig Zag Footpath and the Downs Playground, this is during the same time that the road will be closed to clear vegetation in Bridge Valley Road.
- Contractors are aiming to replace the Black Rock Quarry Catch fence in Jan/February 2017.

5. Public Sector Equality Duties

5a) 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.

6. Legal and Resource Implications

The Clifton and Durdham Downs (Bristol) Act 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 (b) Capital

Financial advice provided by Mike Allen. Business Partner.

Council budget update will be provided as a separate paper.

7. Land

The land is under the control of the Downs Committee.

8. Personnel

Not applicable

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

Background Papers: None

**Downs Committee
Events Sub Group Meeting
21st December 2016 at 2.00 pm**

Present:

Lord Mayor Councillor Jeff Lovell
Councillor Peter Abraham
Councillor Barry Clark
Anthony Brown
Francis Greenacre

Also in attendance:

Becky Belfin
Norman Cornthwaite
Victoria Holden
Melissa Inman
Sarah Tyler
Tom Paine – Event Promoter

Apologies were received from:

Councillor Martin Fodor
Cullum McAlpine
Tim Ross
Ben Skuse

Proposed Music Event on The Downs in 2017

Tom Paine, Team Love outlined his organisation's application for a Music Event on the Downs in 2017 based on the paper they presented to the Downs Committee at the Meeting on 21st November 2016. His organisation is in negotiations with a number of bands to perform at the Event. It is planned to again sell 30,000 tickets with a target audience of 30 years old plus. There will be three stages – Main, DJ and Information (non-musical). All lessons learnt from the 2016 Event would be incorporated into the 2017 event.

Site

It was agreed that the most suitable site for the event is Sea Walls.

Noise

It was noted that should the Event go ahead in 2017, acoustic adjustments will be made to benefit the residents of Seawalls Road.

BCC had allowed a level of 70 dbs for the 2016 Event. Sound measurements are taken over a 5 or 15 minute period and are gauged by expensive and sophisticated equipment.

Licensing

Should the Downs Committee approve the application for the Event, a Licence will be required from the Licensing Authority, involving consultation with the local residents.

The Promoters of the Event will give preference to local traders and suppliers, although more capacity will be required than for the Event in 2016.

Environmental Considerations

These will be taken into account by the Promoters during the planning and execution of the Event.

Fee for the Event

It was noted that the Downs Committee would like to see an increase in the Fee it received for the 2016 Event. The Promoters suggested that a voluntary levy of £1 be added to each ticket sold which would be passed directly to the Downs Committee.

It was agreed that the Events Team negotiate a suitable Fee with the Promoters taking account of the comments from the Downs Committee.

Date

It was noted that the preferred date for the Promoters is 2nd September 2017. It was also noted that this impinges on the Football Pitches and the start of the Season, and that the Parks Staff would prefer a date in August – although not the Bank Holiday Weekend when the Downs are particularly busy. However a date in August impacts more heavily on other users of the Downs.

It was agreed that the date be negotiated with Promoters bearing in mind the preferred date of the Sub Group is 2nd September. The Sub Group also requested that the situation of two large Events on the Downs on successive weekends – as happened in September 2016 - be avoided.

Recommendation

The Sub Group recommended that the Downs Committee give its permission for a Music Event on the Downs in 2017 subject to the Fee and the date being agreed.

The use of land off Ladies Mile

2016 Annual Report to the Downs Committee

Bristol Zoo Gardens

1. Use of the land

In 2016 Bristol Zoo Gardens (BZG) used the designated area of land off Ladies Mile for car parking on 41 days during the Easter Holidays, May half-term period, summer school holidays and October half term. This is within the agreed 45 days allowed in 2016. These were all days at which BZG visitation was around, or exceeded, 3,000 guests per day. On the days that it was used, an average of 302 cars were parked, thus reducing congestion and emissions caused by driving around the surrounding area for longer. The car park is staffed from opening to mid-late afternoon when the car park is no longer needed and guests have stopped arriving. BZG is sensitive to causing damage to the land and avoids use of the land when the ground is wet, even if the weather is fine on the day.

Note – others may drive across the land in wet weather; e.g. Bristol City Council contractor's vehicles working in the area.

2. Sustainable travel, Travel Plan and Incentives

2.1 Physical measures:

- a. Covered guest cycle parking racks provided in the North Car Park.
- b. Secure cycle parking for staff in the West Car Park, Education Centre and Gardeners' Yard.
- c. Changing facilities, shower facilities and lockers for staff.
- d. 6no. Electric car charging points in both the North and West Car Parks.
- e. In 2016 BZG paid for the Sunday/Bank holiday Portway Park and Ride service over the May half term. The public Park and Ride service has now been withdrawn by Bristol City Council.

2.2 Marketing measures and incentives for guests

- a. 20% off with proof of cycling to BZG (a cycle helmet say).
- b. 20% off with Bus ticket. Bus travel (Safari Ticket) available on First buses combining the cost of bus travel and entry with a discount providing an approximate 20% saving on the cost of entry.
- c. 33% off with Train Travel. 33% discount off entry when visitors travel by train and 2 for 1 entry with GWR.
- d. £3 off with Park & Ride (P&R) - £3 off entry per person on production of valid P&R ticket (average 22% discount).
- e. 20% off with National Express ticket.
- f. 20% off with tourist bus 'hop-on hop-off' ticket.
- g. Discounts are promoted through the website and member e-newsletters. The 'How to find us' button on the home page states that discounts are available for travellers by bike, bus and train. A single click takes you to the 'Getting to Bristol Zoo' page where the travel options and discounts are specifically promoted with, where appropriate, links to third party websites for ticket sales.
- h. Social media is used to promote alternative transport and P&R.

2.3 Staff measures

- a. Support for cycle purchase.
- b. Provision of lockers, showers and changing facilities.
- c. 10% reduction in bus season tickets available.
- d. Interest free loan scheme for annual season ticket purchase.
- e. Emergency cycle repair kit and high visibility vests available.
- f. Bristol City Council Travel Roadshow.
- g. Walk and Cycle breakfasts.
- h. Staff parking in car parks is limited through a seasonal and annual pass system.
- i. Telephone and video conferencing facilities available to avoid unnecessary travel.
- j. Staff email system to promote initiatives to all staff.
- k. Staff intranet with travel information available.
- l. 'BZG Green Team' made up of a selection of staff to promote sustainable initiatives including travel.

3. Travel survey

An annual travel survey is carried out which shows:

- a. Average guest car occupancy of 3.3 people. This level of occupancy would be envied by Bristol businesses and the wider city and means that the car, in this instance, is a sustainable mode of transport. Zero guests surveyed arrived as single car occupants.
- b. Throughout the year an average of 60% of guests visit from BS post codes, 40% from outside the city. During the travel survey, in the peak summer season, this was reversed with 75% travelling more than 20 miles to visit the Zoo.
- c. The large catchment of BZG's guests, together with a large number travelling with children, means that only a relatively small proportion expressed an interest in travelling by public transport, cycle or walking. Non-car travel is not a viable option for most BZG guests.
- d. The level of single car occupancy by staff travelling to work is 39%. This is significantly below the Bristol average of 50%.



4. Stewardship of the land

- a. An independent ecological survey is carried out annually and the results of the 2016 survey indicates consistently that there is no year on year deterioration of the sward ecology. 'The composition of the vegetation has been broadly stable since the surveys began' (in 2006). The car parking area, when compared to the control area, has a 'similar diversity of plants of unimproved grassland' and 'there is no evidence of any decline in the nature conservation value'.
- b. BZG maintain close contact with the City Council, in particular the Downs Rangers, on management of the land, carrying out maintenance work using agreed seed mixes and to an agreed method. BZG have also repaired damage to the area caused by overnight joy-riders, who are not associated with BZG; this is of benefit to BZG and the City Council.
- c. External groups, such as Friends of the Downs and Avon Gorge (FODAG), have commented positively on our management of the land.

5. BZG request

- a. The current agreement with the Downs Committee to use this area of land extends to the end of 2018. The planning consent to use the land expired at the end of 2016. Accordingly, Bristol Zoological Society has applied to extend the planning consent by a further three years to the end of 2019.
- b. BZG is seeking this temporary consent to continue to responsibly use this area of the Downs for a limited number of days (40 days in 2017, 35 days in 2018 and 30 days in 2019) which, as part of our wider ongoing transport strategy, will allow us to continue to further develop our transport solution incorporating public transport and on street parking.
- c. The continued ramp down in use of days and the request of a 3 year temporary permission is considered by BZG as a well thought out and reasonable approach to the situation.

6. Why three years?

- a. Previous consents have been for three year periods. There is a proposed step-down in the limit of the number of days the land can be used, by 5-days a year (40 to 35 to 30). This reduction is also in line with the previous consents that have been granted.
- b. We believe that this is a reasonable approach. We have been working hard on promoting non-car use among both zoo guests and staff and will continue to do so, however it must be acknowledged that public transport or cycling is not a viable option for most families with young children. Consequently, on busy days, traffic and congestion need to be managed through a multitude of measures, with overflow parking on those busiest days being an important component of those measures.

Tom Hedges MRICS
Director of Estates
Bristol Zoological Society

9th January 2016

APPENDIX

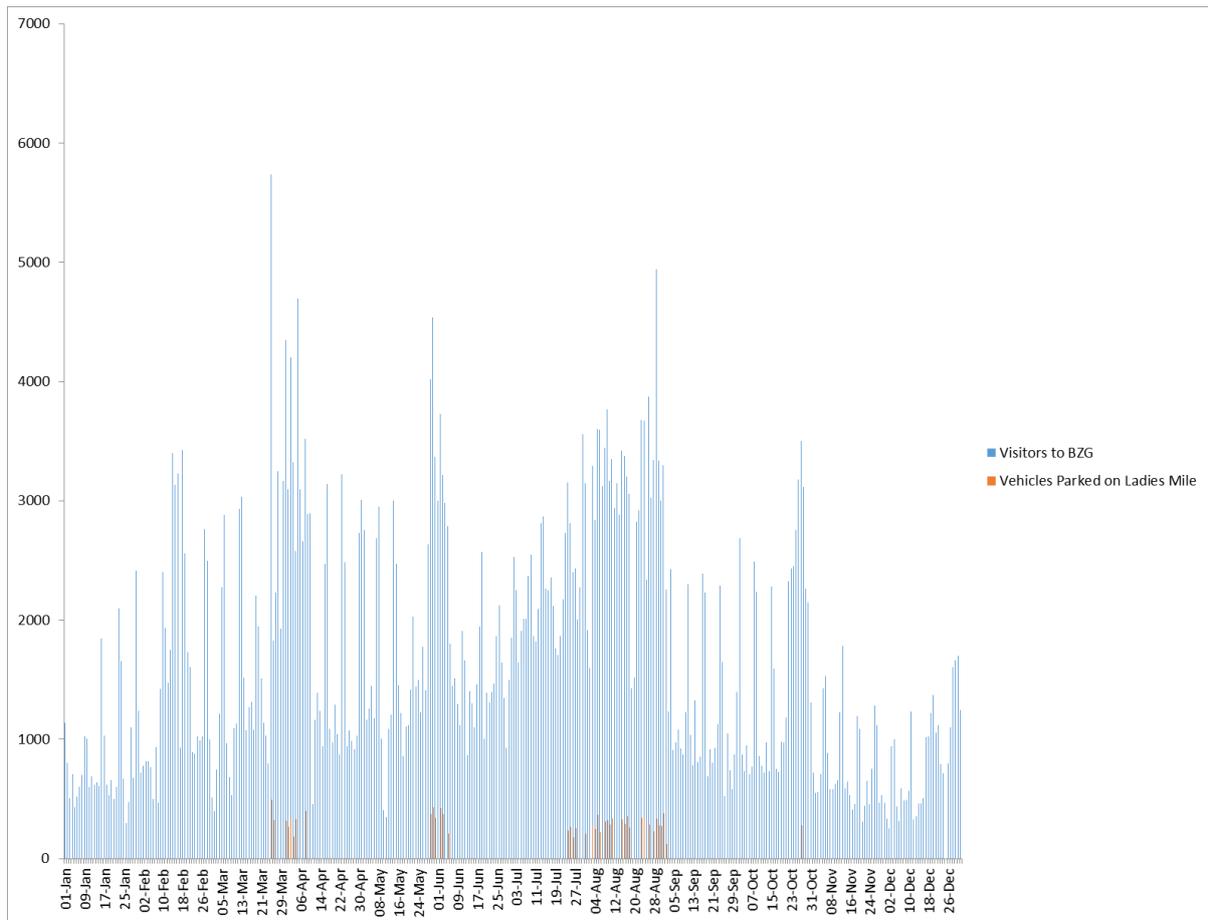


Fig 1. The 2016 use of Ladies Mile in comparison to BZG visitor numbers

Ladies Mile Supporting information

1. Introduction

Bristol Zoo is the most popular paid for attraction in the greater Bristol area. It is also of great conservational, educational and economic value to the city and greater Bristol region.

It's the fifth oldest Zoo in the world, first opening its doors to the public in 1836. Since then it has welcomed six generations of visitors, established over 30 field conservation and research programmes all over the world, showed 40 million school aged children the value of nature and has given more than 90 million visitors a great day out.

The Zoo employs around 200 staff and has 250 volunteers. Its team engages with local community groups and schools, and supports conservation projects within the field.

Bristol Zoo Gardens is operated by Bristol Zoological Society - a conservation and education charity. The Zoo is completely self-financing and whatever profit is realised at the end of the year is always invested back into saving wildlife and enhancing the experience for the visitor.

The Society's mission is to *'save wildlife through conservation action and engaging people with the natural world'*, with its vision being *'a sustainable future for wildlife and people'*.

2. Parking on Ladies Mile

Bristol Zoo Gardens has applied for temporary planning permission to continue parking cars on an area of The Downs, off Ladies Mile, on busy days. The application, which seeks to use 0.4% of the Downs, has not been submitted without a considerable amount of hard work and consideration.

At 180 years old, Bristol Zoo far pre-dates the car and, as such, parking has not been an issue for the majority of the Zoo's existence. However, as the suburb of Clifton grew around the Zoo and with the increase in popularity of cars in more recent years, parking has become increasingly vital - not only to the Zoo's success and viability but for the convenience of Zoo visitors, local residents and for easing congestion and traffic pollution in the area.

Bristol Zoo Gardens has, with the permission of the Council and with a licence granted by the Downs Committee, used a 1 hectare (2.5 acre) area of land off Ladies Mile, Clifton Down, since the 1970s for temporary, overflow parking on peak days when its permanent parking areas are full. The parking area represents less than half a per cent of the total area of the Downs and the Zoo has maintained the site throughout this time.

Bristol City Council has granted temporary planning permission to use the land in that way since the 1990s subject to various conditions and controls plus annual monitoring. These permissions have generally been for two or three years.

For the last decade Bristol Zoo has commissioned a series of technical studies exploring all the alternative options to parking at Ladies Mile. These have been discussed over an extended period with Council officers and transport consultants.

The conclusion of these studies has repeatedly shown that there is no practical alternative to using the land off Ladies Mile for overflow parking at the present time but that Park & Ride from the Portway may reduce the need to use the land. The Zoo has since financed and implemented numerous Park & Ride arrangements over the past five years with limited success.



In 2015 Bristol Zoo used the designated area of land off Ladies Mile for car parking on 38 days during the holidays (Easter, May and the summer school holiday). This is well below the 50 days allowed in 2015. These were all days at which Zoo visitation was around, or exceeded, 3,000 guests per day. On the days that it was used, an average of 343 cars were parked, thus reducing congestion and emissions caused by driving around the surrounding area for longer. This year the Zoo has parked cars on Ladies Mile for 41 days of the 45 permitted.

The overflow car park is staffed from opening until mid-late afternoon when the car park is no longer needed and guests have stopped arriving. The Zoo takes great care to minimise any disturbance to the land where cars are parked and has implemented robust measures to maintain the site. It avoids use of the land when the ground is wet, when high numbers are expected, even if the weather is fine on the day.

3. Why is Ladies Mile important to Bristol Zoo?

For three main reasons:

- *Huge financial loss to the Zoo.* It is estimated that the Zoo could lose £500,000 in income each year if it did not have the use of overflow parking at Ladies Mile on busy days. This is the equivalent of funding the Zoo's entire award-winning education team for more than three years.
- *Even greater financial loss for the city.* The knock-on effect of not being able to park over 300 cars for up to 40 days of the year means the city of Bristol will lose out on nearly £2 million of economic benefit to the city.
- *Families travel in cars.* The Zoo's core audience is families. And the vast majority of families travel in cars due to the amount of items they bring with them. Research has shown they prefer to travel via car and other sustainable travel options are not viable for them. And car transport is green; with nearly four people in every car and lower emissions than ever before. Put simply, if a family cannot drive to the Zoo and park, they will simply choose to go elsewhere.









This is Gerry.
Help build him a house
and save his cousins in Africa.



Giraffe
House
Appeal

WILD PLACE

BRISTOL CITY COUNCIL

Downs Committee

23rd January 2017

Title: Avon Gorge and Downs Wildlife Project Annual Report 2016

Ward: Citywide

Officers Presenting Report: Becky Belfin Parks Development Officer, Parks Development Team
Mandy Leivers, Avon Gorge and Downs Biodiversity Education Manager

Contact Telephone Number: (0117) 3525656

RECOMMENDATION

That the report be noted.

Summary

To report, for information, on the activities of the Avon Gorge & Downs Wildlife Project during 2016.

The significant issues in the reports are:

A summary of the Project's main achievements with regards to conservation management, wildlife surveying and monitoring and the education programme.

1. Policy

Not applicable

2. Consultation

Internal:

Ben Skuse, Area Supervisor Downs, Blaise, Kingsweston estates

External:

Chris Westcott, Natural England

Jen Nightingale, Bristol Zoological Society

Sarah Tyler, Operations Co-ordinator North Parks

3. Context

The Avon Gorge and Downs Wildlife Project was launched on 23rd October 1999. It is a partnership of Bristol City Council, the Downs Committee, Merchant Venturers, Bristol Zoo Gardens, Natural England, the University of Bristol, and Bristol Zoological Society. We also work with the National Trust, Forestry Commission and other landowners on the North Somerset side of the Gorge, as well as the Friends of the Downs and Avon Gorge.

The aim of the project is 'to secure the future of the outstanding wildlife interest of the Avon Gorge and Clifton and Durdham Downs and to raise awareness and understanding of this unique location and its importance to people and wildlife'.

Annual review

This report provides a review of progress and key achievements of the Avon Gorge & Downs Wildlife Project between January and December 2016.

Habitat management works throughout the Gorge and Downs

The winter conservation works on the Bristol side of the Gorge continue to focus on the removal of scrub and invasive species, in order to protect the rocky limestone outcrops, and restore them back to species-rich grassland. In the Gully, the goats are still effectively controlling the regrowth of scrubby species and they appear to be in fine health. The regular monitoring of the goats by the Council's Downs' Team and the Friends of the Downs and Avon Gorge (FOD+AG) is continuing to ensure that they are well looked after.

At the beginning of the year a habitat management day took place in Great Quarry, with the University of Bristol's Conservation Group, and members of ClimbBristol (the local climbing group). About 30 people took part, and a substantial amount of scrub was removed to benefit the dry grassland species that are important in the Gorge.

On the Downs, implementation of the Scrub Management Plan is continuing. The areas managed as wildflower meadows on the Downs have been extended this year, to increase their area, and better connect existing meadows. This has received positive feedback from people using the Downs.

Silky wave moth monitoring

The Avon Gorge is the only site in England for the silky wave moth (*Idaea dilutaria*). A total of 12 silky wave moth sites within the Avon Gorge were surveyed this summer by the Bristol Zoological Society. The survey season ran from the third week of June to the first week of July 2016. For the majority of the sites the peak flight week was the first week of July. All sites showed a presence of silky wave moth.

This year the maximum peak count was 181 moths, which was the lowest count since the base line surveys began in 2011, however this was comparable with the low figures in 2014. Most sites showed a decrease in moth numbers in comparison to last year. On the Bristol side both Black Rocks and Walcome Slade numbers continue to be on the decline, whilst the Gully moth number was comparable with last year. On the Somerset side the priority sites Donkey Slide and Quarry 3 both had lower numbers than last year but Blockhouse showed a slight increase. Most figures for both the priority and satellite sites were comparable with the cyclical trends we tend to see for silky wave within the Gorge.

The education programme

Overall, 9,586 people took part in one of our events, activities or educational visits this year.

Events programme

The events programme continued to be popular, with something for all ages and interests. New events included; a talk about solitary bees, a 'Birdsong and bubbles' walk around the Observatory, a 'Needle felt your own British butterfly' course and a 'Spring detectives' family walk.

Education sessions, playschemes and community events

The full 'Report of the Activities of the Avon Gorge and Downs Seasonal Education Officer 2016' was presented at the November Downs Committee. In summary:

- 1,805 school children and higher education students took part in education sessions during 2016.
- 352 playscheme children visited the Downs for sessions.
- 5,461 people visited the 'Be fantastic, save wildlife from plastic!' tent over the Bristol Festival of Nature weekend. A further 160 children were taught by us at the festival schools' day.
- 917 people came to family, community and children's events.

Other educational activities

The Avon Gorge & Downs biodiversity education manager gave a lecture to students on the University of the West of England Foundation Degree in Integrated Wildlife Conservation. She also co-lectured on three Wildlife Conservation evening course sessions run by the Bristol Zoological Society.

Your Downs - Widening the Audience

In partnership with FOD+AG, the Downs supervisor and Walking for Health, we continued to develop and deliver the Your Downs initiative (a series of events to widen the range of people who visit and enjoy the site).

As well as running activities at the Peaceful Portway Sunday events we also ran two walks for the Bristol Walking Festival. We continued to work with the Bristol City Council Inner City Health Improvement Team, and in May, folks from the Easton Family Centre joined us for a lovely half-term walk (only three people in the group had been to the Downs before).

We also ran guided walks for the Heartful Dodgers (a group of people recovering from heart attacks and strokes, plus nurses, from Southmead Hospital) and Headway (a charity that works with people recovering from brain injury).

Talk and guided walks for other community groups

The education manager gave a talk or guided walk to 418 people from 16 community groups. Groups ranged from the University of Bristol Retirement Association to the Lincombe Barn Natural History Society, and Woolavington WI to Eastwood Gardeners' Club.

Interpretation

The interpretation signs for the Avon Gorge and Downs exhibit in the Zoo were rewritten, redesigned and installed in time for Easter. The exhibit takes the form of a little garden which showcases some of the rare plants of the Gorge, highlights the work of the project and encourages Zoo guests to visit the Gorge and Downs.

Three of the old 'Welcome / gateway' interpretation signs on the Downs were re-drafted, re-designed, printed and installed (by the Observatory, by the Water Tower and by White Tree roundabout). They were jointly created by Bristol Design, Francis Greenacre, the Downs supervisor and Avon Gorge & Downs biodiversity education manager.

As we had almost run out of copies of the popular Downs Bird and Downs Tree trail leaflets, (and we had lost a few of the trees on Christchurch Green), both trails were reviewed and amends made. 4,000 copies of the bird and 2,000 of the tree trail leaflets were printed.

Volunteer support

Many of our events couldn't take place without the support of volunteers and work experience students. We're grateful to the 29 people who gave 615 hours of their time over the year.

South West in Bloom

The Avon Gorge & Downs biodiversity education manager gave a presentation to the South West in Bloom judge as part of his tour of Clifton. The special wildlife of the Avon Gorge, the work of the Project, and the Brunel garden and Zoo rare plants displays were highlighted. In November we were delighted to hear that Clifton Village had been awarded a Gold medal and 'The Most Meritorious Urban Community Silver Salver Award'. Bristol Zoo also won a Gold Award.

Proposal:

Other Options Considered

1. Not applicable

Risk Assessment

2. Not applicable

Public Sector Equality Duties

- a) *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.*

Legal and Resource Implications

Legal

Not applicable

Financial

(a) Revenue

None

(b) Capital

None

Land

The land is under the control of the Downs Committee.

Personnel

Not applicable

Appendices: None

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

Background Papers: None



Report to the Downs Committee January 2017

2016 was a year of growth in number and diversity of our activities

examples of activities include

- monitoring Goats, plant and bird species, gully species, impact of weather changes
- walks and talks broadening knowledge
- planting two whitebeams and two Beech trees
- maintenance Victorian steps, dead hedge laying, removing alexanders seed heads
- restoration the haven
with Maggie Shackland received Gold Star award

Litter collection

built up associations with like minded groups

UWE Bridge over Bridge Valley Road

Your Downs increase in accessibility for the underprivileged and disadvantaged
Cycle Sunday training and education for young riders

over the next twelve months we will be preparing.

Position papers in order to provide consistency and clarity as well enabling others to be aware of our position on a wide range of issues

examples will include ,concerts,non Downs user parking to food and drink outlets , enforcement, drones

for our 10th anniversary in February 2018

Continue to Develop

our year planner