

Bristol Tree Forum – 7th January 2013, 18.00 – 20.00 Council House – AGENDA

1) Public Statements – opportunity for anyone to make a 1 minute statement (must be summarised in writing and sent to the Chair in advance please, by Sunday 6th, for acceptance).

Then discussion on....

2) Mayor's Statement to the Tree Forum; either an updated one, or his October statement pre-election, see Q1, Q2 & Q3 below (The Mayor and the Executive Councillor for Parks and Green Spaces have been invited, I hope one of them can come):

Q1) On tree canopy - I would like to aim for doubling it in a generation.

Q2) On tree protection - It is a key proposal of mine both to protect and plant new trees – and if trees have to be replaced for whatever reason that they are done with enough trees to get early equivalent benefit.

Q3) On use of Public money - I support strongly in principle am not making any irresponsible revenue promises until I am able to juggle with the budget for which there are inescapable cuts of £28m in Council spending this coming year. Tree planting by communities with special reference to school children is a key policy. I would like every school child in this city to feel ownership.

3) Tree Bristol BPF brief (attached) – discussion on issues regarding Parks Planting Plans and Street Tree stump replacement opportunity (see bottom page 2, top page 3).

- Raising private money for stump replacement?

- Update from the Council on their Big Tree Plant grant application – success or otherwise?

4) The setting up of Sub Groups (technical and communication – we need volunteer members, a number have already come forward)

Setting up of a working group to review the Tree Forum Constitution review (to report back for summer 2013?) e.g. corporate membership, Councillor membership, BTF relationship with the Council...

5) “Tree protection and private money” – a personal view by Clive Stevens, Chair.

6) Elections for Chair and Vice Chair. Candidates please email Richard Ennion by 9am on 7th Jan 2013. Richard.ennion@bristol.gov.uk Candidates must be a representative from a community group.

TO BE ABLE TO VOTE: At the moment our constitution states that to be a voting member of the BTF you must be a representative of a community group e.g. a parks group, neighbourhood partnership rep, residents' association rep or other (we are reasonably flexible). If you are unsure, ask the chair of your group to send you an email saying you can vote on their behalf! Councillors are not allowed to vote. Sorry but the constitution dates back to 2008 and is modelled on the Parks' Forum who have these rules too.

Next meeting: presentation by Bristol Water and Wessex Water on 8th April, 2013 at 18.00 Council House. I am meeting with them soon to discuss the detail but my current working title for this is, “Do the utilities still hate trees?” (I abandoned the other draft title; “waterboarding trees”).

Clive Stevens, Chair