

Bristol Tree Forum AGM

Minutes 06 November 2023

City Hall 18.00 to 19:30

1. Introduction from Mark Ashdown. Mark welcomed the committee, participants and our guest speaker.
2. Tim Foster, our guest speaker spoke about about trees and urban gardening. Following his talk there was an informal discussion of many of the aspects that he had raised. Tim has been teaching organic gardening courses in and around Bristol for 25 years. He has extensive experience of horticulture, gardening, landscaping, nursery-work, garden centre-work, tree-work and market gardening as well as a degree in horticulture and a BEd. He also has a keen interest in growing trees, wine-making and drawing.
3. BTF Activities through the year. Mark summarised some BTF activities through the year as follows:
 - 2022 Local Plan consultation – detailed submissions made.
 - Brislington Meadows Appeal.
 - Yew Tree Farm Meadows designated as an SNCI – the first in at least 13 years.
 - 14 major new planning application comments submitted.
 - Numerous further comments on pending applications.
 - Around 30 smaller planning application comments submitted.
 - The 2022/23 Great Tree Giveaway – 2,100 + 300 surplus fruit trees.
 - Working with partners to develop the One City Tree Strategy.
 - 2023 Local Plan consultation just starting.
4. Tree Champions. Jim Smith, our Tree Champion Coordinator announced that he would be handing over the role to Chris Wallace. The meeting thanked Jim for his work over several years.
5. Election of Officers The existing committee (first elected in November 2018) was re-elected unopposed and unanimously: Mark Ashdown (Chair) Jim Smith (Vice-chair) Vassili Papastavrou (Secretary) John Tarlton (Treasurer) Stephanie French (Planning Advisor) Chris Wallace (Datasmith)
6. Treasurers Report. John Tarlton indicated that the current balance is £1392. There was a considerable expenditure of £4263, with a total income of £1290, representing a net loss of £2973 during the year with a balance remaining of £1392.
7. AOB. There was no AOB