

BERA committee meeting 11th July 2023

Present: Mark, Danielle, Alasdair, Ric, Manda, Toby

Apologies: Amie, Sally, Wendy.

Recap from the previous meeting at Burdalls Yard (Mark)

- Hampton Row Greenspace. Ric has looked at this and believes there is a good case to get designation for Greenspace (means it could not be built on, currently owned by the council). Application needs to be in my Friday 14th and both Manda and Mark are assisting to get this application in on time.
- Alasdair and Amie are working on a planning document to include a toolkit etc. This will be discussed more at the next meeting when everyone has had time to look at the document created. **ACTION: Mark, Alasdair, Amie**
- Regarding enforcement, Toby mentioned that extra enforcement officers have been announced at a recent council meeting; the team has increased from 1 to 4.

New sub-groups have started

- Insulation – small but important group with some expert input.
- Electric car charging – has been hard to arrange first meeting but we are expecting this to grow in importance.
- Trees group has a new WhatsApp group and new recruits - a great success.
- Outreach group has many ideas and is planning how to engage with people who are not on social media. Great feedback has been received.
- Airbnb – This is not planned to be a sub-group, but the committee will keep it on the agenda. Manda has approached the estate agents marketing the problematic Airbnb that is currently for sale to say that there were issues and complaints. It is being sold as a going concern.

Cleveland pools

Ed (Wendy's partner) attended the latest meeting with the CPINS and reported that the pools will not open imminently. There are further issues with the jetty and the operating company, Fusion, has not signed the contract yet.

Hampton Row

- The dropped curb at the end has not been approved and instead the sunken curb will be built back and the entire street and footpath is currently being improved.
- The Houses at the end (which have been a problem for two decades) have three enforcement notices already.

Manda feedback

- The Bike hanger application was not successful, but we are hopeful of gaining one that doesn't get taken elsewhere.
- Cleveland bridge will have traffic lights until 17th July.

- Manda is still hopeful the bridge and road will be de-trunked, the issue is currently with the Secretary of State. This would mean that BANES could choose the weight restriction on the bridge.

Committee issues

- Nola has stepped down from the Committee. Do we need a replacement? Decision to leave as is for now, see how the next few meetings go and look to recruit over the next 6 months. Ideally, we could use representation from younger parents or younger people.
- Action point to put a note on Bathwick WhatsApp to ask if people have any issues they want raising before the next BERA meeting (Two weeks before). Invite people too. **ACTION: Danielle**
- Contact Martin at Burdalls yard to arrange an autumn community meeting there (and continue biannually) ensuring that the bar will stay open longer. **ACTION: Mark.**
- Ric suggestion a social! Discuss at next meeting. **ACTION: RIC to arrange an extravaganza.**

AOB

BE Trees Alasdair

- WhatsApp tree group, set up by Mel Clarke, is establishing well. Members post pics of work done, issues and updates, and 'get together' working sessions are advertised.

- First session was July 5, an evening of useful tree trim/weed in the Bathwick Boating area – other opportunities are planned to maintain momentum
Hour long sessions just after work, seem to suit more people than we expected - and a few more people seeing the work being done have expressed interest in joining

- Watering bags useful - now we know how to fill them correctly!

Summary, Group going well, looking to include new people, less activity during summer now, planning to ramp up again in the autumn.

BE Swifts Alasdair

- This year's 20 or so boxes up, making a total of approx 30 + 5 already existing = 35

- Good level of swift sightings (25 birds seen flying at the same time) this year
Callers (mini speakers with swift calls) - one on Ed's house, and Alasdair has one.

- Next Swift meeting Thursday Sept 21, previous meeting was May 3.

- **ACTION: Alasdair** to liaise with Charles D re advertising next Swift meeting to BEWApp groups

Clean and green project (Manda)

Manda - funding for Clean and Green project has been expanded and will be back in Bathwick 2nd week in August. What areas need work? WhatsApp again?

Bins (Danielle)

Request for a bin on the Bathwick side of Bathwick street near the Ambulance station.

Note: There are multiple bins on the opposite side of the road, but nothing the whole stretch from the Bridge to the park on Bathwick side – this leads to lots of litter and people having to cross a busy road to find a bin.

Next Meeting:

Tuesday 19th September – location TBC