

Hotwells and Cliftonwood Community Association – Newsletter March 2020

Welcome to this month’s newsletter for HCCA, sharing community news from Hotwells, Cliftonwood, Spike Island and wider Bristol. We hope that you find this material both interesting and informative and a diversion from the endless rain. Should you wish to send in a contribution, we would be very happy to hear from you.

Please check our website for further information
<https://www.hotwellscliftonwood.org.uk/>

Suggestions/queries should be sent to admin@hotwellscliftonwood.org.uk

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1.Update on Cumberland basin/ Western Harbour

As many of you will know our Chairman, Dennis Gornall, who also chairs the Cumberland Basin Stakeholder Group, was invited, in this latter capacity, by the Mayor, to sit on the Western Harbour Advisory Group. This Group met this week and Dennis reports as follows.

It is clear from this recent meeting that none of the Arup report options for roadway changes have yet been ruled out for certain. We know that the tunnel option would be hugely costly and an extremely difficult “fit” because of the gorge and is therefore unlikely to be progressed. There are other options likely to be ruled out on the basis that to build them along with the current road structure until it is replaced would be close to impossible. However there are still a number of options remaining – 1,2,3,4,7,8 and 10 – which I believe are still up for consideration.(If you saw the 3 road options published for comment last August you saw options 1,8 and 10). All of course have their upsides and their downsides depending on what you are looking for. The main thing I think is that there is more room for debate.

The other thing that everyone should be aware of is that this is a very early stage in the thinking around developing in the area. It is estimated that the whole process of planning and consultations will take a minimum of 4 years and that process has not begun as yet. There is a determination to meet up with, and talk to, as many people as possible in this early stage to allow people to better understand the thinking and for those responsible for progressing this to hear what people are saying. We hope to arrange a meeting with members of the Advisory Group in the next month.

More information can be found here <https://www.bristol.gov.uk/planning-and-building-regulations/western-harbour>

I invite and encourage anyone with ideas or concerns to use the online feedback form which is there on the above page. Of course if you want to send in comments to HCCA you are very welcome to do so.

Anyone interested in more background reading can look at a range of documents on this site. <http://www.bristolnbn.net/current-topics/cumberland-basin-western-harbour/>

2.Calling all local resident and equivalent groups

HCCA is asking all resident and similar groups in the area to get in touch and hopefully to give us contact details. This is important to us for two main reasons. Firstly we will have a better idea about more local groups within the Community in Hotwells , Cliftonwood and Spike Island area. Then we can better disseminate information, make enquires, ask for assistance and the like. **More importantly** - with the likely development of “**Western Harbour**” there will be the need to ensure that the maximum number of people are engaged in any preliminary discussions, have the opportunity to be involved in consultations and that we can disseminate information to as many as possible as and when matters progress.

So, if you belong to, or happen to organise a group within Hotwells and Cliftonwood, please get in touch with us or make sure someone from your group does. We will work out how we best communicate and hopefully find out how we can mutually help each other. Please contact admin@hotwellscliftonwood.org.uk or phone 0117 929 1883

3. Neighbourhood Forum News – opportunity to plant more trees!

We were pleased to hear at the last Forum meeting on the 24th of February that there is some £80,000 available for the planting of trees in Area 1. (Area 1 covers 6 wards in the NW of the city Avonmouth and Lawrence Weston, Stoke Bishop, Henleaze and Westbury on Trym, Clifton Down, Clifton and Hotwells and Harbourside).

This is still quite a substantial sum of money and we would love your ideas for where trees could be planted. As you might imagine planting in green spaces is considerably cheaper than planting in hard standing, but nothing should deter you from making suggestions. Please send your ideas into us: admin@hotwellscliftonwood.org.uk. Thank you

4. Hotwells Panto

The 40th pantomime, The Mardyke Mermaid will be on stage at Hope Chapel Hotwells from March 11th-14th 2020 starting at 7.30pm. Tickets are still available – Adults £10, Concessions £9 and Children £6. Friday night is already sold out. If you are still undecided – below is what the team write about the production!

‘Once upon a time in Hotwells, a group of people were chatting about how to cheer up the dark days of winter. “Let’s do a panto” they cried, and in 1981 the first Hotwells Panto was born. It has become a great Bristol tradition attracting an audience from all over and even an article in the National Press!

Created, written, designed, produced and performed by the local community, this panto is like no other: the live 8-piece band; the dramatic sets; the lavish costumes; the sheer variety of cast, from small children to octogenarians (some folks have been in every show) and the locally-written scripts, always promise to make it a night to remember.

All profits are donated to local charities and good causes in the community.

“But why a Pantomime in March?” I hear you cry, well, that’s the easy bit; everyone’s busy in December – it’s Christmas!

Buy your tickets using the link below:

<https://www.tobaccofactorytheatres.com/shows/hotwells-panto-the-mardyke-mermaid/>

5.Update to new bus stop in Hotwell Road

The seat has been installed in the bus stop, but as yet there is no electronic plate to tell you which bus is due (and by default which one you might have missed!) Hopefully this will be rectified in the next few weeks.

6.Cumberland Closure and outlook for the future Since the collapse of part of the rail track/Chocolate path into the New Cut in late January – Cumberland Road has been closed to all traffic apart from cyclists and pedestrians. This has brought a lot of extra traffic into the centre and has meant the loss of M2 and A1 (airport bus) to this side of the river. The M2 is still using Coronation Road, but the A1 airport bus no longer serves this side of the river. It takes a route along Bedminster Parade and St. John’s Lane. Further details are below:
<https://www.firstgroup.com/bristol-bath-and-west/news-and-service-updates/current-issues/service-updates-cumberland-road>

The outlook for the opening of Cumberland Road is unclear. The road has its own retaining wall, so, once safety checks have been carried out, it may be possible to open it to a limited traffic flow. Further news is expected by the end of March. Full details and comments can be seen in the following link:
<https://www.bristolpost.co.uk/news/bristol-news/cumberland-road-closed-update-traffic-3867731>

7.Dates for your diaries – future Hustings

These meetings will give you an opportunity to see the candidates in action as they put forward their policies and answer questions from the audience. Further details will follow in the next bulletin.

- 27th April Holy Trinity Hotwells 7-8.30 Mayor election Hustings
- 29th April Holy Trinity Church room 7-8.30 Clifton Ward Hustings
- 4th May Pavilion Harbourside 7-8.30 Hotwells and Harbourside ward Hustings

8. Piazza News

Painting Days at the Piazza 1-6pm Friday 13th & Saturday 14th March

Many local people helped us to colour the pillars in 2015 and they now need a bit of refreshing. Please come down and help if you can, we had a lot of fun the first time round. Local UWE art students, Katya and Clara are painting a new mural on the Hotwells Voices and they're happy for you to join in if you'd like to. There's also a bit of gardening to do if painting's not your thing. Bring old clothes and a drink- we'll provide the biscuits! If you could let us know you're coming we can make sure we have enough rollers and gardening tools. You can tick 'going' on this Facebook event <https://www.facebook.com/events/664056741067752> or contact Anna via admin@hotwellscliftonwood.org.uk Look forward to seeing you there!

Eco Brick planters to celebrate Earth Day 25th & 26th April

Please save the date for a big weekend on the piazza when we'll be demonstrating a variety of sustainable creativity which you can join in with. Bricking it Bristol <https://www.facebook.com/brickingitbristol/> are hoping to join us and there'll be a variety of new planters from old materials, as well as screen printing. All free! So, save the date and there'll be more details in the next bulletin or like Friends of Hotwells Piazza Facebook page for regular updates <https://www.facebook.com/pg/FOHPArtUndertheFlyover>

9. Jacobs Wells Hub.

An informal story telling event will be held in the Café at St Georges just off Park Street. The event takes place at 5p.m. on March 20th and is hosted by the Jacobs Wells Community Hub which is using St. George's as a temporary venue. Please come along to support.

JWH is also planning two short walks this spring. They will explore the area between Bristol Central Library and Jacobs Wells Baths. The idea is that people should come and share their memories of the area. The walk will be short and therefore suitable for people of limited mobility. The start location has toilets that people can use. There are cafes and public houses close to the walk.

For more information on either of the above – please contact:

heather4jwrhub@gmail.com

10.'Should Bristol become a High Rise City?

This event is organised by the Bristol Civic Society and will take place at the Arnolfini on March 5th at 7 p.m. It will be an open discussion with talks by four of Britain's best-respected experts on the topic of high-rise buildings, followed by a discussion between the audience and speakers. The Civic Society writes

'Please come to this major event to discuss the future of Bristol. Support you community, learn the facts, be equipped with knowledge and keep Bristol beautiful.'

Tickets are £6 and can be bought via. The link below:

<https://www.bristolcivicsociety.org.uk/should-bristol-become-a-high-rise-city-5th-march-2020-now-booking/>

11.Hotwells School fundraiser Bizarre Bazaar !

This grand event is described as 'a night of fun, music and general silliness. Teachers, parents and governors will be taking to the catwalk ! The event is hosted by Gill Loats from Recession Clothing and clothes will be for sale later in the evening. A bar will be open and nibbles will be served. They even promise singing and dancing.

All monies will go directly towards projects benefiting the children in the school.

- Venue: Holy Trinity Church
- Date : Friday March 27th
- Time: 19.30 – 23.30
- Click [here](#) for more information and to buy tickets !

12.Pop up Community Cafe

Tuesdays at Holy Trinity, 10:30am to 2:30pm.

All ages welcome, pop-in for a coffee & chat, bring friends or come to make friends. We will be serving soup & rolls from 12:00. **It's all free of charge.** Help us to help you make connections within the local community. Come and tell us about your ideas. This pop-up café will run until 31st March

If you would like to know more, get involved or volunteer please pop along any Tuesday to say hello.

Please support this endeavour to reach out to the local community.

13.Travel West Transport Consultation

Here is an opportunity to make state your feelings about travel solutions in our wider and local region. The date of the final consultation is March 15th.

‘We want your views on bus services, cycling and walking in the West of England. We’re holding two consultations over the course of the next six weeks for the region’s Bus Strategy and Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure plan.’

<https://travelwest.info/projects/transport-consultations>

14.Bristol and Urban Tree Challenge

Bristol has been awarded a share of £10 million from the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs and Forestry Commission in the first round of the Urban Tree Challenge Fund. Over 500 street trees and 10 small woodlands (an additional 3,000 trees) will be planted as a result of the project involving local communities in the selection of the trees, and encouraging volunteers to plant them and help with care and watering.

More details here <https://news.bristol.gov.uk/news/bristol-wins-share-of-urban-tree-challenge-fund>

15.International Women’s Day

Come and celebrate the women of Bristol with over 50 free events, including talks, theatre, workshops, art, discussions, live music, storytelling, Women’s Question Time with the Mayoral Candidates and much more.

This event is on Saturday 7th March from 11a.m to 5.30 p.m. Please click below to see the extensive range of activities that will be taking place.

<https://www.bristolwomensvoice.org.uk/international-womens-day-2/>

16. Bristol Parks Forum ‘Bristol Future Parks’

There will be meetings across the city in the next couple of months. These are discussions not only about the importance of parks to our city, but how we can use them for our communities. These meetings will be held in fourteen different venues across the city. Please see below to read about the meeting most relevant to our area. It will be held on Tuesday March 31st at Bristol Students’ Union in Queens Road. Full details are here <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/bristol-future-parks-clifton-cabot-conversation-registration-96644070015>

17. Possible development in Millennium Square

Here is a link to a proposed development in the empty spaces near Millennium Square. Canada Life are the investors and are actively seeking comments from people in the area. They are proposing the creation of a bowling alley and three mini-golf courses on the site of what was Cuban Restaurant, Flingers Party World and the Triathlon Shop. More details below.

<https://www.bristolpost.co.uk/whats-on/whats-on-news/city-council-bowling-golf-course-3780526>