

Environment and Green Spaces Committee 23 April 2024

Agenda item 6 - Chair's Update

Written by Councillor Alex Kay



1. **Bradford on Avon Town Council (BOATC) traffic consultation:**
2. **Christchurch school biodiversity project: 06/03/24** painting bird boxes with older people and year-5 students
3. **River Detectives:** 3 months of testing at 5 sites; unfortunately, the test strips appear to 'go off' and have provided unreliable results. I have purchased a Hanna hand-held digital phosphate tester. This gave a 2.2mg/l reading (very high!) at the Rowing Club on 26/03/24, despite test strips being zero across the river. **Bristol Avon Rivers Trust (BART)** are aware and are changing the analysis strip distribution and I will continue to calibrate with the digital tester. This isn't as simple as it sounds and is quite fiddly. Freshwater nitrate testers are not currently available so using the strips is our best option.
4. **Nature Recovery Workshop at Wiltshire Council (WC), Trowbridge 19/03/24**, towards development of WC's Nature Recovery Strategy. Upbeat lively session with around 80 attendees, mostly not councillors, but members of nature and climate groups. Hard to see how they will get what they need from the collected input, but definitely hopeful.
5. **Freshford Nature Chain talk from River Action Group, 20/3/24** interesting if horrifying information on the state of the UK's rivers, especially the Wye and the Thames. We are so close to killing our rivers, we need action now.
<https://riveractionuk.com/>
6. **Running Out of Time (Root):** we've been invited to participate again next year: Bradford-on-Avon on Friday 28th June 2024; event upcycled fashion theme planned; Root team visiting one or more Bradford on Avon Schools and celebration of community climate action and passing on the Baton at the Tithe Barn.
7. [Great Big Green Week](#) is Saturday 8 June to Sunday 16 June. In BoA, we may consider community litter pick and promotion of River Detectives June analysis, tree planting, celebrating Clean up Bradford on Avon (CLUB), etc. UPDATE
8. **FairTrade Fortnight** in September, series of promotional and food events, including talk from Kenyan tea grower 16th Sept.
9. **Becky Addy Wood mediation 17/04/24 and preparation**
10. **GrowBOA:** is a great way to pass on any of your excess seeds or seedlings.
11. **Culver Close Pavilion:** Planning Submission Update from Preservation Trust, see Appendix A