

# RHS It's Your Neighbourhood Assessment Form

Name & Area. Troopers Hill - (St George) - Bristol

Judge Stevie Rogers

Date 21 st July 2015

LEVEL ACHIEVED

Outstanding

## Feedback

**Areas of achievement:** The introduction and tour of the Site by Susan was excellent and informative.

An AONB in an urban environment which is iconic. The unique geology, plants and animals and history set this aside as a very special area.

The 'Friends' group is very active and well informed. The work parties have direction and everything is done to preserve the character of the area, from removing bracken to oak seedlings. As this is a popular dog walking area, it was good to see more inaccessible areas of shrubs being left as wildlife habitats and refuges.

The site is obviously well used by the public. On the day of the visit wide range of people were enjoying the open space.

The signage on site was very informative and the information leaflets produced by the 'Friends' were excellent. Events at Troopers Hill which are planned for the year are educational, imaginative (Star Gazing on the Hill), plentiful and well-advertised.

The planned play area, achieved and designed through public consultation, will add a new dimension to the public enjoyment of the space.

**Areas for development:** There is very little to say here as the Hill is so well tended and watched over by the very informed, members of or the 'Friends' group.

However, maybe one or two points could be considered....

The problems relating to L.A. cutbacks are yet to be realised and lack of funding concerns may well arise in the future. To secure the future of the site (at present owned by Bristol City Council), it may be a possibility that a request for transfer of ownership is required. The potential for ownership by (for example) a newly formed Charitable Trust could be considered.

Issues relating to increasing urban dog ownership and public open spaces/wildlife reserves, are likely to become greater in the future. Some plans could be made before small issues become problems. Bio-degradable poo bag dispensers/bins at the gates? 'Dogs on leads only' areas on the Hill?

As is already recognised - the need to ensure the area is not used for mountain bike or scramble bike trails (unlawfully) is crucial. Any gaps in the entrance ways which would allow these to access the site must be secured.

## Results

Level	Description	Points
Level 1	Establishing	0-35
Level 2	Improving	36-52
Level 3	Developing	53-68
Level 4	Thriving	69-85
Level 5	Outstanding	86-100