



# Stepping Forward Timeline

## 2010

**Spring** Jamie Roberts, Bristol City Council Area Parks Manager suggests Friends of Troopers Hill might qualify for a Community Spaces grant



**August** Bristol City Council Landscapes team provide costs for works on Troopers Hill for use in the grant application

**Sept** Agreement at Friends of Troopers Hill meeting on items to include in the grant application and for Rob Acton-Campbell to work on it. The project is called "Stepping Forward".

**Oct** Rob sends off the grant application for £32,320 to go through Stage 1 of the grant application process, using our membership secretary, Kit, as the secondary point of contract.

**Dec** News that Stage 1 approval had been received. Meeting arranged with grant facilitator Ruth Allen and 3 committee members, Rob, Susan and Kit.

## 2011

**January** Rob starts work on Stage 2 of the grant application process:

- requests necessary letters from Bristol City Council to show permission has been given by the landowner for the works, no planning permission needed, etc.
- applies for £1,000 to support the consultation process.

Susan (the Chair) starts to work on paper and online questionnaires, displays and timing the consultations.

- March** Susan starts asking for letters of support to show community support for the project.
- Online questionnaire goes live and volunteers put together 2,000 questionnaires with 2,000 envelopes and 1,500 flyers for the St Aidan's Community Fair and then deliver 1,700 by hand. 300 reserved for community events.
- Proposals put on display at:
- the St George Neighbourhood Partnership Forum,
  - St Aidan's Community Fair.
- A Year 3 class of Summerhill School visit Troopers Hill to give their views on is needed to improve access.
- Interim ecological report produced by Rupert Higgins.
- Visit and accessibility report from BPAC (Bristol Physical Access Chain). They pointed out the need for interpretation boards to be at a height suitable for wheelchair users and the need for an accessibility information sign at the Malvern Rd entrance. They confirmed that handrails were not appropriate or needed.
- April** Proposals put on display at open air Good Friday service on Troopers Hill, a drop in consultation session was held at Summerhill Methodist Church, a guided walk arranged to show people where work would be done. Evening Post reports the consultation.
- May** Survey closes. 95% of responses in favour of improving steps, 94% wanting entrances to the Field made less muddy and 86% supporting waymarking. Response was high for a questionnaire, there were 467 responses.
- June** Final ecological report produced showing improved steps are the best option for wildlife and plants.
- Designer Fiona Sharman allocated by Bristol City Council (BCC) to draw up specification for steps and drainage to use as part of a request for tenders.
- July** Specification for woodland trail work prepared, reviewed by the committee and sent out for quotations.
- August** Quotations for woodland trail work received.

**Tender responses received. Classic Landscapes made the best tender.**

**Sept Area Environment Officer, Denise James, briefs the Friends at their meeting about work that can be done by Community Payback and costs.**

**Final quotations collated (interpretation boards, dropped kerbs, accessibility sign, bench, woodland steps etc).**

**Application reviewed with facilitator and committee members. Stage 2 application submitted.**

**Nov News that we have been succeeded with our Stage 2 Application minus publicity costs and a range of small celebration events instead of one weather dependent one. Evening Post reports the success. Vicki Abel appointed Project Manager for BCC.**

## **2012**

**Jan Rob, Susan, Kit, Helen, Margaret, Clare meet to review woodland trail quotes to choose supplier. The team of Ruth Coleman and Michael Henderson are selected.**

**Site meeting with Classic Landscapes to go through detail of planned works.**

**Community Payback cut back existing woodland path and install contractor's gate on Troopers Hill Rd.**

**Kerbs dropped on Greendown and Troopers Hill Rd to indicate safe crossing points to Troopers Hill.**

**Feb Classic Landscapes start work in the Field. Land drains and matting installed at the muddy entrances. Evening Post reports progress.**

**Committee members Kit, Margaret, Susan and Rob meet to discuss items to include in a bid for £3,500 sustainability grant money from the same scheme.**

**March Classic Landscapes work continues on the steps.**

**Display at St Aidan's Community Fair of work done and work to do.**

**2 new gazebos bought, Friends practise putting them up and down, ready for Good Friday display.**

**Community Payback cut back scrub and gorse on Troopers Hill.**

**Agreement reached at Friends' meeting on items to include, particularly to benefit children, in the application for a £3,500 sustainability grant from the same scheme.**

**Meeting with grants facilitator to agree content of sustainability grant application.**

- April**      **Family "Walkshops" held to gather ideas from local people for carvings on the woodland trail waymarkers.**
- BTCV improve the woodland steps known as the DOE path.**
- Susan and Rob meet with teachers from Air Balloon Hill and Summerhill schools to discuss how the sustainability grant can best be used for schools.**
- May**        **Classic Landscapes works continue - bad weather (both too dry and too wet) had caused some delays.**
- June**        **Classic Landscapes work complete.**
- Bench, particularly aimed for use of those accompanying wheelchair users, installed on Troopers Hill Field.**
- Project coming in under budget so agreement reached with Groundwork to spend contingency money on lower chimney interpretation board, replace upper chimney interpretation board and repair information board at Field entrance to the Hill.**
- July**        **Field and upper chimney interpretation boards installed.**
- £3,500 sustainability grant awarded.**
- Aug**         **Woodland Trail waymarkers installed by Community Payback.**
- Sept**        **Appeal for copper piping for celebration event in Post and FOTH newsletter.**
- Lower chimney interpretation board installed**
- Oct**         **Community Payback open up path from "lay-by" near the Lamb Inn on Crews Hole Rd to the lower woodland path. Rubbish clearing, tipped stones used to fill holes and rustic steps installed.**
- Accessibility sign installed at the Malvern Rd entrance to Troopers Hill Field.**



**CELEBRATION**

