



TRESA Public Meeting

ArtPark, 143 Wells Road
7.30pm Tuesday 8th July 2025

Programme for the meeting

- Welcome and introductions
- Beekeeping in Totterdown
- Moths in Totterdown
- CIL funding update
- ***8.15-8.30pm Comfort break***
- TRESA directors' updates
- Planning updates
 - Totterdown Bridge towerblocks
 - Former Bart Spices factory site
 - Land south of Princess Street
 - BT advertising street hub
- Totterdown character assessment
- Residents' issues
- Any other business?



Beekeeping in Totterdown

Anne Silber

Totterdown Beekeeping

- Hive at the community orchard, Park Street
- Installed 2021 by non-Totterdown resident in conjunction with TRESA
- The hive is a 'nuc': a small, self-contained honeybee colony, a miniature version of a full-sized beehive
- The bee-keeper is no longer caring for the bees



Bee swarm in Park Street

- Swarming is a natural process
- the colony reproduces by the old queen leaving the hive with some of the bees
- Most swarms occur on warm sunny days from May to the end of July usually between 11am and 4pm
- The bees find somewhere to hang in a cluster until scout bees decide on a new home
- The bees normally settle into a cluster within 15 minutes.

[British Beekeeping Association]



TRESA beekeepers?

- Through Bristol Beekeepers it may be possible to buy some second hand equipment including a hive
- Beekeeping courses also available
- Orchard WhatsApp group are offering help
- TRESA as an umbrella organisation for the beekeeping activities

Image: Bristol Beekeepers



Moths in Totterdown

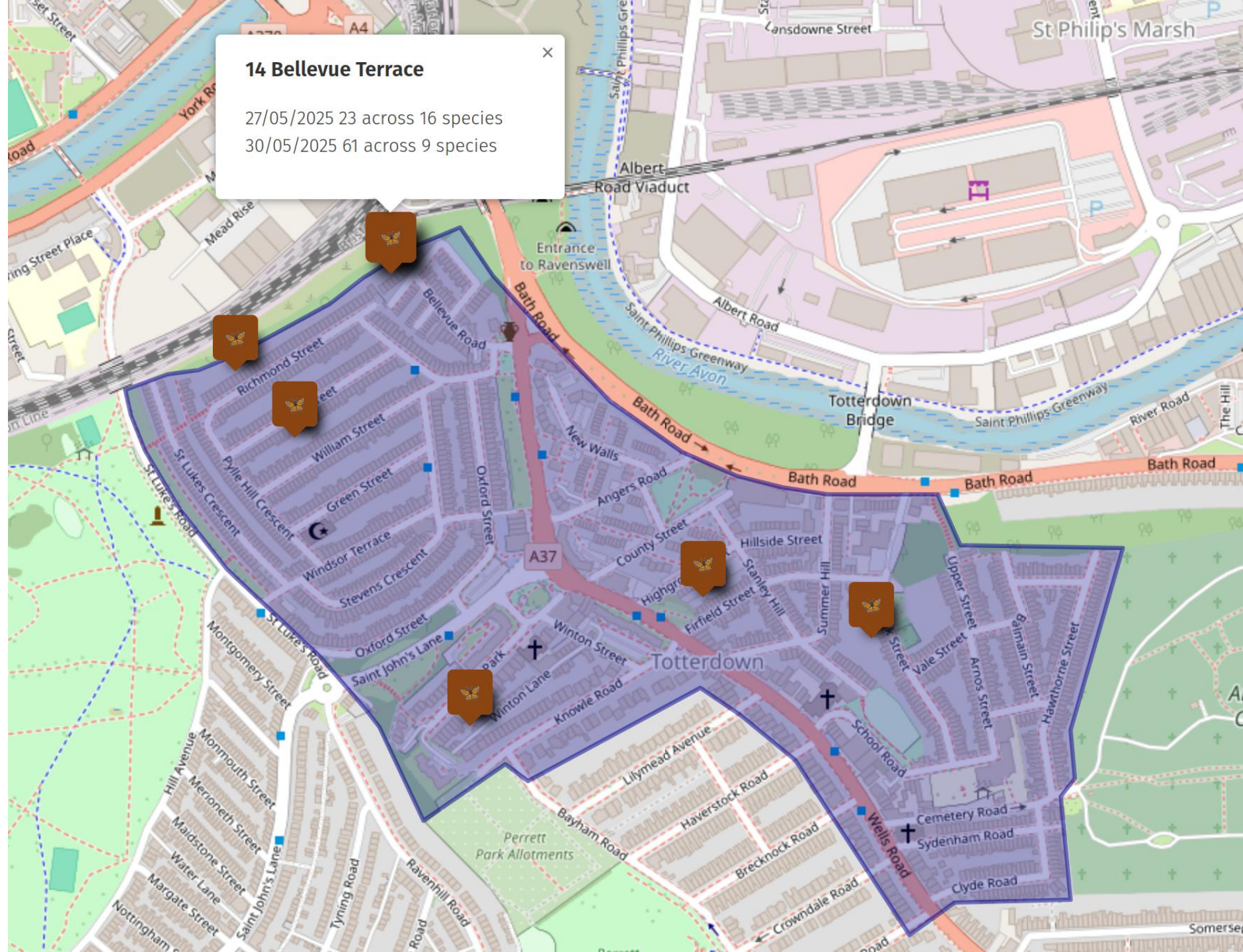
Simon Hobeck



The moth trap

- Moth trap loaned from BS3 Wildlife group (Ben Baker)
- Lamp left in a garden overnight
- needs electric supply and is too valuable for public spaces
- Identify moths in the morning before releasing them
- At the end of the summer, we'll report the result
- Aim to include a variety of gardens, including those with challenges for moths
- Moth numbers will increase in the warmer months

Map of Totterdown Urban Nature Reserve



Moth data									
Date	Who	T	Address	Total count	Species count	Species found	Garden has pond	Weather conditions	
06/04/2025	Alan		6 Firfield Street	3	3	Brindley Beauty Moth Lunar Marbled Brown Muslin Moth			
08/04/2025	Alan		6 Firfield Street	2	2	Brimstone Hebrew Character			
10/04/2025	Alan		6 Firfield Street	1	1	Muslin			
01/05/2025	Charlie		50 Hill Street	15	5	Muslin, Hebrew Character, Brimstone, Lunar tabled brown, Brindled beauty			
17/05/2025	Miranda		64 Richmond Terrace	64	10	Light Emerald Moth Brimstone Moth Green carpet Moth Common Marbled Carpet Moth Olive tree Beuaty Moth Eupithecia Moth Garden Carpet Moth Large Lace Border Moth Other			
18/05/2025	Miranda		64 Richmond Terrace	33	9	White Spring Moth American Idia Setaceous Hebrew Moth Common Marbled carpet Moth Bright Line Brown Eye Wormwood Pug Light Emerald Moth White Spotted Pug Moth			

Recording
the data



**Elephant
Hawk
Moth**

Hook Tip Moth



Brimstone Moth



Emerald Moth



**Dark Arches
Moth**





Ermine Moth



Ghost Moth



**Hawk
Eyed Moth**



**Green Oak
Tortix Moth**



**Pale Oak
Beauty
Moth**



Peppered Moth



**Riband
Wave
Moth**



**Scalloped
Oak Moth**

CIL funding – through to Stage 2

- Totterdown urban nature reserve, TRESAcic
- Secure dog-free picnic area in Victoria Park, Victoria Park Action Group
- Improvement of Higham Street town/village green, Angela Russell and TACA
- Improve accessibility of Victoria Park (install two park benches), Jenny Tozer and Victoria Park Action Group



Comfort break and opportunity to purchase drinks

After the break:

- TRESA directors' updates
- Planning updates
 - Totterdown Bridge towerblocks
 - Former Bart Spices factory site
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TRESA directors' reports

- Company secretary
 - Companies House require additional checks on directors
- Treasurer
 - Front garden awards 2025 to be funded from existing funds, but should be try to find a sponsor next year?
- Membership secretary
 - Currently 134 paid-up members and friends
- Totterdown Sprouting
 - Grant application submitted for new planters at the community orchard



Totterdown Bridge Towerblocks

Application to change 43 'conditions' still pending a decision. Recent updates:

- **Car club** provider (Co-wheels) willing to provide a car club spaces in basement car park (for minimum of 1 year). Other car club spaces/vehicles available at Paintworks and **'5 minute walk' away at Crowndale Road** (off Wells Road).
- **Steel supported cantilevered walkway**, rather than wall. **Driven by site conditions, bank slope and practicalities of safe construction, not considered by original applicants**



Environment Agency

- We maintain our objection / we require further clarification
- The developer must fully consider the implications of any need to raise the wall height over time due to the impacts of climate change. Would the loading allowances allow for any defence height increases to the cantilever upstand?
- We still need to understand how the design will prevent water from entering under the building/cantilever through seepage (normal water level up to design flood level)
- Will the tower crane foundations remain in situ and be able to be utilized for future emergency works, building repairs etc? If yes, we would need to know what are the loading details for these foundations.



Former Bart Spices factory site, Mead Street

- **Section 73 planning application** submitted July 2024: reduction in the provision of **affordable housing** secured within the Section 106 agreement from **30%** of the units (rented at Local Housing Allowance rates) to **20%** of the units
- **New submission** April 2025: “the provision of **10%** Section 106-secured affordable housing.. is the maximum amount of affordable housing that could be provided by this development while allowing it to be viable.”
- **Bristol City Council commissioned viability report:** **11%** affordable housing



Princess Street

Tallest tower is ground+18 storey (student accommodation)

TRESA has objected

There are 393 objections, so far



Plate 22 Verified view of proposed development from viewing point in Victoria Park

Other objectors include:

Victoria Park Action Group, Windmill Hill City Farm, Bristol Civic Society, The Bristol Conservation Advisory Panel, WHaM Planning

TRESA concerns about L&G plans for Temple Island



- The **height of the buildings** will harm views to and from the Totterdown escarpment (an important local landmark).
- Although Totterdown is close to Temple Island, we have no easy **access onto the site**. The proposed stairway and lift is not considered essential for the transport plan.
- For many years we have been told by Bristol City Council that the **dangerous walking and cycling route from Three Lamps junction to Temple Meads** could only be addressed if there was major development/investment in the area. We now have major development/investment but there are no plans in place to improve the walking/cycling route between Three Lamps and Temple Meads
- During early consultations, we were told there would be a **building accessible for use by residents from local neighbourhoods**. This is no longer part of the plans.

BT advertising street hub



- DEMAND IS NEGLIGIBLE: use as a communication hub is affected by lack of shelter and privacy, and adjacent road noise
- EXCESSIVE SIZE is for advertising, since the communication function could be provided on a much smaller unit
- PUBLIC SAFETY. Causing distraction at a busy junction on a major road (Wells Road and St John's Lane) where pedestrians are also directed to cross.
- VISUAL IMPACT. Visually jarring impact beside the nature-friendly planting of Bushy Park green space.
- VISUAL IMPACT. Detrimental impact on setting of one of the most attractive Victorian buildings in Totterdown (old YMCA / Lloyds Bank) that survived the demolition of the 1960-70s.

Bristol City Council refused planning permission but BT has appealed to the government planning inspectorate...

Totterdown character assessment and design code

- Work has been undertaken on history, land use, historic assets and some character assessments
- Volunteers to help with local surveys welcome



Stages:

- Set up a **STEERING GROUP**
- Summarise the area's **HISTORY AND HERITAGE**
- Map the BASICS: land uses, routes, landmarks, open spaces etc. etc.
- Define the **CHARACTER AREAS**
- Undertake **AREA/STREET SURVEYS**
- Start the **DRAFTING** – lots of maps, diagrams and especially photos
- **POLISHING AND PRODUCTION**
- **CONSULTATION SUBMIT**



Totterdown Postboxes

The custom of including a royal cypher on letter boxes dates back to the earliest roadside boxes from the reign of Queen Victoria.

The monarch has the right to choose their cypher and work with the College of Arms on its design

Queen Victoria (1837 – 1901)

There was no standard cypher used by the Post Office during the Victorian period. However, in the 1880s, a consistent cypher for Queen Victoria began to be seen.

The letters VR are interwoven in a flourished typeface. VR stands for Victoria Regina. Regina is Queen in Latin.

Unlike the cyphers of later monarchs, Queen Victoria's cypher usually did not include a crown.



King Edward VII (1901-1910) chose a traditional cypher which was used widely during his reign on documents, buildings, by the military, and by the Post Office.

His cypher takes the classic approach of interwoven letters, ER for Edward Rex (Rex is Latin for King) with his regnal number for seven in Roman numerals VII.

On post boxes, you can see this is topped by a crown, unlike Queen Victoria's cypher.



George V (1910-1936)

During the reign of King George V, the cypher used on post boxes was different to the cypher used elsewhere.

The letters GR are not interwoven and are in a bold, simple font, topped by a crown.

The Roman numeral for five is not included. He was the fifth King named George but the first to have roadside letter boxes in his name, so arguably there was no need to include the 'V'. Designs submitted to the King show it was initially included, but it was dropped for the final design.



Queen Elizabeth II (1952-2022)

Queen Elizabeth II selected a bold design reminiscent of George V's, her grandfather's, cypher.

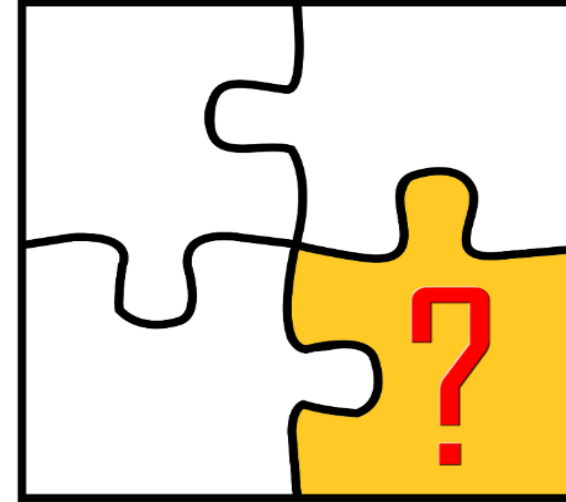
The two letters ER are separated by the Roman numerals II.

Given the length of her reign, designs featuring EIIR are the easiest to spot!

Residents' issues

- Road markings on Firfield Street have now been completed
- Concerns about road safety at the crossing near the Co-op on Wells Road due to the speed of heavy lorries
- The delay is much too long at the pedestrian crossing from Three Lamps estate to the Bellevue Road bus stop on Wells Road
- The TRESA meeting on the 2nd Tuesday of the month often clashes with full council – we could change to the 3rd Tuesday
- Friday 11th July there will be an exhibition of the new plans for Broadwalk at the Methodist Church on Wells Road, Knowle
- A consultation has opened about the future of St Philip's Marsh

- Totterdown Art Trail
 - 15th & 16th November 2025
- Totterdown Front Garden awards
 - Judges needed 18th-20th July
- Help needed for TRESA on Zone A
 - Mosaic, clearing weeds and some new grouting
 - Notice board varnish/wood oil
 - Pavement edge clearing?
- Opportunity for a 'horse race' fundraiser at ArtPark



Any Other Business