



TRESA Public Meeting

Meeplenook, 143 Wells Road
7.30pm Tuesday 17th March 2026

Programme for the meeting

- Welcome and introductions
- TRESA directors' reports
- Councillor question time – part 1

8.15-8.30pm Comfort break

- Councillor question time – part 2
- Any other business?



TRESA directors' reports

- Company Secretary, Robin Millard
- Treasurer, Simon Hobeck
- Membership Secretary, Anne Silber



Talk of Totterdown

- Spring issue is out online
- Hard copies being delivered by our fantastic volunteers - 3 cheers as always for their support!
- Next issue - SUMMER 2026 published June – copydate Friday 1 May
- Possible inclusions:
- SBLN update
- CIL update
- Callout for Front Garden Competition



The Talk of Totterdown

The Newsletter of Totterdown Residents Environmental and Social Action Community Interest Company
Issue No 88, Spring 2026 www.tresa.org.uk

South Bristol Liveable Neighbourhood - Totterdown residents and businesses feedback

Unfortunately, there is some scepticism about the extent to which local views, expressed during Bristol City Council's latest consultation for South Bristol Liveable Neighbourhood, will shape the final proposals. A recent freedom of information request for the raw data was refused and the requester was told the Council will publish its 'summary report' before the raw data can be released at an unspecified future date.

However, in Totterdown, a short residents' survey – asking if people agree, disagree, or don't know about the nine proposals for our area – was conducted alongside the Council's survey.

This local survey was available: at the Bristol City Council drop-in events in The Old Picture House and The Harbour, as a street survey outside Tesco in Totterdown Square, and at The Bluehouse and The Banana Boat in Oxford Street. We are grateful to the 138 people who completed the questionnaire between 9 October and 9 November 2025.

The results showed strong opposition to five proposals: St Luke's Road bus gate; permanent no through east from Cambridge Street to Bellevue Road/Wells Road exit; no through traffic on William Street between junctions with Henry Street and Cambridge Street; Oxford Street part one-way beyond the car park entrance for vehicles from St John's Lane; and, the extensive one-way street system in the Pyrie Hill area.

There was notably more support than opposition for: camera enforcement of existing no exit from Cambridge Street to Bellevue Road/Wells Road; Mon-Fri, 7am-10am; no left turn from Bath Road into Angers Road to address the Angers Road/Stansley Hill overrun; and, school street restrictions for Hillcrest Primary School.

Views were broadly balanced for and against a Residents' Parking Scheme.

It will be interesting to see if the Council's survey found similar results – and which proposals will be taken forward to the next stage. It is important that local views and knowledge are valued, and reflected in the design.

Results of Local South Bristol Liveable Neighbourhood Survey				
Proposal	Information	Agree	Disagree	Don't know
Residents' Parking Scheme	Parking controls at specific days/times. Permits available to residents/businesses. There is a cost for most permits.	45%	42%	13%
St Luke's Road bus gate	Only buses and authorised/essential vehicles can travel through. Fines for unauthorised vehicles are enforced by camera.	13%	77%	10%
Angers Road access	No left turn from Bath Rd into Angers Rd. Vehicles can turn left out of Angers Rd onto Bath Rd, and access Angers Rd from Wells Rd.	49%	26%	25%
Hillcrest School Street	Restricted motor vehicle access at start and end of school day, with exemptions for emergency vehicles and blue badge holders.	49%	16%	34%
Cambridge Street	Option 1. Permanent no through east from Cambridge Street to Bellevue Rd/Wells Rd.	1%	70%	22%
Bellevue Road exit	Option 2. Existing restrictions enforced by camera i.e. no exit Mon-Fri, 7am-10am.	58%	23%	19%
William Street	No through traffic between junctions with Henry Street and Cambridge Street i.e. between The Shakespeare and Sunnys Kitchen.	8%	69%	23%
Oxford Street access	One-way from Cambridge Street to 116 Oxford Street i.e. No entry beyond the car park entrance for vehicles from St John's Lane.	7%	76%	17%
One-way system	Covering most streets in the Pyrie Hill area.	8%	68%	24%

We will be discussing the Council's SBLN summary report at a future TRESA Public Meeting (date tbc), so do keep an eye on our website for details www.tresa.org.uk and you can always get in touch with any queries or concerns via email hullo@tresa.org.uk Suzanne Audrey

Here's to Thee, Old Apple Tree!

The Annual Wessell in the Community Orchard in Park Street is becoming a regular feature on the Totterdown Community calendar.

Prior to the event, an orchard work party was organized to tidy up and clear the community space for the dancers and revellers, with much appreciated help from local volunteers as well as some members of the Good Gym. This year's event on the afternoon of Sunday 18 January was well attended, despite it being a somewhat damp day.

Traditionally these events involve celebrating and blessing apple trees to encourage a good harvest for the coming year with plenty of noise to wake up the trees and scare away any evil spirits, and plenty of dancing and merry-making – the Old English phrase *wessell* means "be well".

The Rag Morris dancers once again attended the wessell, bringing colour and vitality to proceedings, and there was plenty of warm cider or apple juice to keep out the cold. There was singing and dancing, and local Angela Threl also brought along some local with which to toast the trees and encourage good spirits.

May all 'be well' in our Community Orchard for this coming year.

MEEPLENOOK
GAMES • ART • COMMUNITY • EVENTS

Licensed Bar for Events

- Board Game Nights
- Quiz Nights
- Rum Testing
- Wine Tasting
- Art Exhibitions
- Crafting Workshops
- Private Events

Instagram: @meeplenook
email: hullo@meeplenook.co.uk
143 Wells Road, Totterdown

This is our 15th year and we just wanted to say a huge thank you to everyone who has supported us both as ArtHunk and then Meeplenook.

We have more events than ever, with all details on Meeplenook.co.uk

As always, Friday Night Games remains a popular free evening out for board game lovers (and dabbies). We also launched a free 'Wood and Wire' evening (first Thursday of each month) – booked out last month so please book your space on the website to avoid disappointment!

Finally we have Bristol's most unique quiz night 'Quiz Race' on the last Thursday of each month.

As always most of our events can be booked as a private party. There is something for everyone...

See you soon, Adam

BRISTOL GALLERY WEEKEND

In March Bristol Gallery Weekend showcases the contemporary art scene across Bristol, celebrating the city's diverse creative talent and spaces with an extensive programme scheduled across the weekend 19-22 March. Two very different but intriguing events will be taking place in Totterdown!

The Museum of Totterdown invites you to view an exhibition preview at the MoT shipping container. Zone A which will be open from 6-8pm on Friday 20 March and over the weekend. The 'Glimmering Fragments' exhibition is a gathering of responses by students studying the Contemporary Art and Archaeology MA on Orkney. Very much a Work in Progress, the exhibition explores the overlaps between contemporary art and archaeology – investigating the depth of place-based inquiry, mixing archaeological, geological, historical and artistic methods to explore past, present and future realities.

Just a short stroll up the Hill Meeplenook is hosting an 'Art of Game Soda' on Friday 20 March from 7-11pm. A little further afield, local artist Legia will be exhibiting a range of her work in The Ding, at the Tobacco Factory on the evening of Friday 20 March as part of the Bristol Gallery Weekend.

The weekend will include talks, private views, exhibitions, workshops and special events across the city – find out more <https://bristolgalleryweekend.org.uk/about>

Off to the dance - Legia

JOIN TRESA - Together we can make a difference

TRESA brings Totterdown residents together with the aim of improving and protecting our environment, and promoting an inclusive and engaged community. Members influence the projects we undertake and join us in providing a strong voice on issues of local importance. Membership is for anyone aged 18 years or over, living in Totterdown.

Full membership for Totterdown residents is £5 per year

Associate membership for people who live outside of Totterdown is £3 per year

Membership fees help fund community projects and The Talk of Totterdown newsletter

To join or renew your membership visit our website www.tresa.org.uk and pay via PayPal or complete the details below and post with cash or cheque (payable to TRESA CIC) in our letterbox by the Post Office counter in Tesco.

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____ Postcode _____

Email _____

Totterdown Sprouting, Anne Silber

- 3 TRESA members have completed the theory part of the bee keeper course (£50 towards course costs per person)
- Support for bee inspections has been provided by more experienced bee keepers
- There are practical sessions alternate Saturdays at the BBK hives at Cribbs
- Full orchard pruning did not go ahead but new fruit bushes and one of the grafted apple trees have been planted.
- The pond in the orchard has been cleaned and some oxygenating plants ordered. Its location is not ideal as it is too shady.



Totterdown Urban Nature Reserve, Penny Russell

- Look out for window stickers
- Pop long to the plant swap



Councillor question time – weed control

Scheme for residents to opt out of glyphosate spraying is now on Bristol City Council website

<https://www.bristol.gov.uk/residents/streets-travel/road-maintenance/community-weeding-scheme>

To join the opt out scheme, your street must have:

- A simple-majority vote (one per household) supporting opt-out
- Nominated street coordinator to
 - organise volunteer weeding sessions
 - liaise with the Council
 - arrange safe disposal of waste vegetation



Litter picking and street cleansing

“I would like to join or create a litter picking group for Totterdown and wonder how we can start this... I go out on my own and reported the human excrement accumulated behind the hedge along Wells Road/back of Oxford Street and that led to cutting down of hedge...I have since done a litter pick along there and until the hedge grows again its only been dog poo in bags left along there.”



Planning updates

Bath Road tower blocks

- work continues...



Former Bart Spices site

- Originally granted 2023 but variations sought and some 'conditions' still not discharged
- E.g. Condition 21. "Foundation Works Risk Assessment does not appear to be a Foundation Works Risk Assessment" and cannot be discharged at this time



Templegate Park, Mead Street

- Granted, 2 February 2026
- Conditions currently being discharged



Princess Street tower blocks

- Planning Committee, 28 January, voted to **REFUSE** and asked officers to prepare a report giving grounds for refusal (over-densification, harm to heritage assets)
- Planning committee, 11 March, officers undermined reasons for refusal and said refusal could trigger an appeal and expose the council to £1m costs (appeal costs are not a material consideration)
- The committee voted 6–3 to **APPROVE**
- A campaign to challenge this process has begun!



GoFundMe: Stop the Princess Street Towerblocks

- It is unlawful for planning decisions to be made based on the threat of legal action, so there is a strong case to get the decision overturned.
- Local people need to raise approx. £3,500 to hire a Barrister to begin working on the case (he has already proved that he can successfully stand up to the Council and Developers, as he led the Broadwalk legal action which led to a dramatic reduction in the height of the buildings).
- Donate here: <http://tinyurl.com/PrincessStAppeal>

Stop the Princess St Towerblocks (Bedminster)



Comfort break - opportunity to purchase drinks

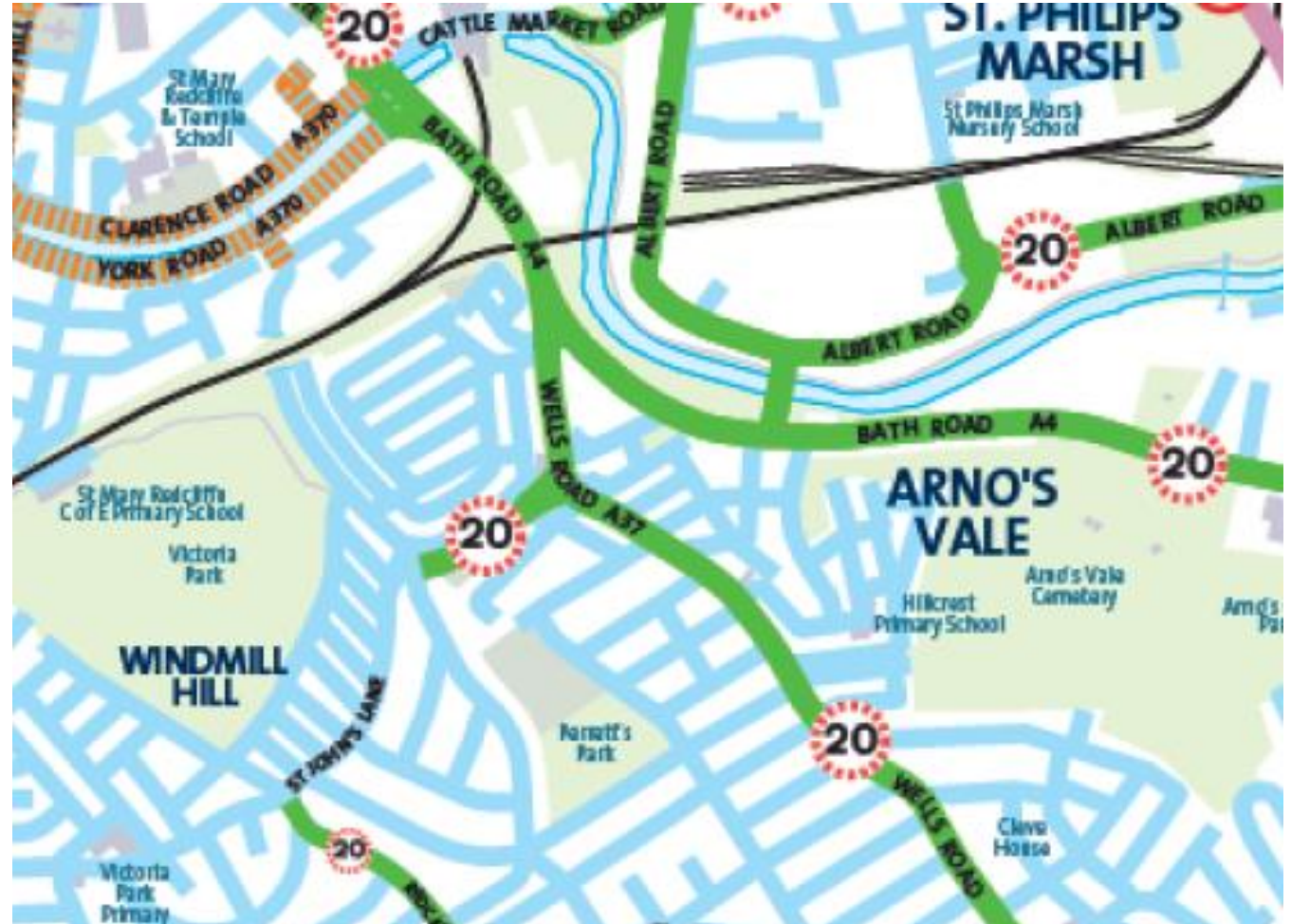
After the break:

- Councillors question time: transport
- Any other business?



Wells Road, St John's Lane, Bath Road, Totterdown - 20mph?

- Transport & connectivity policy committee (19 March 2026)
- To seek approval to launch 6-week public engagement
- Public, stakeholder and councillor input on proposals to introduce 20mph speed limit on 97 roads
- Councillors will be able to raise road-by-road feedback or concerns as part of this public engagement



Sparke Evans Bridge



- Expected to reopen early May
- Continuing to push the contractor to look at ways to bring this timescale forward
- Refurbishment has taken longer than first planned, partly because the bridge was found to be in poorer structural condition than expected, which meant extra repairs and redesign work needed
- A new access ramp required to meet Equality Act standards, as the old ramp was non-compliant and beyond repair
- Additional highway improvements on Edward Road also extended the overall programme

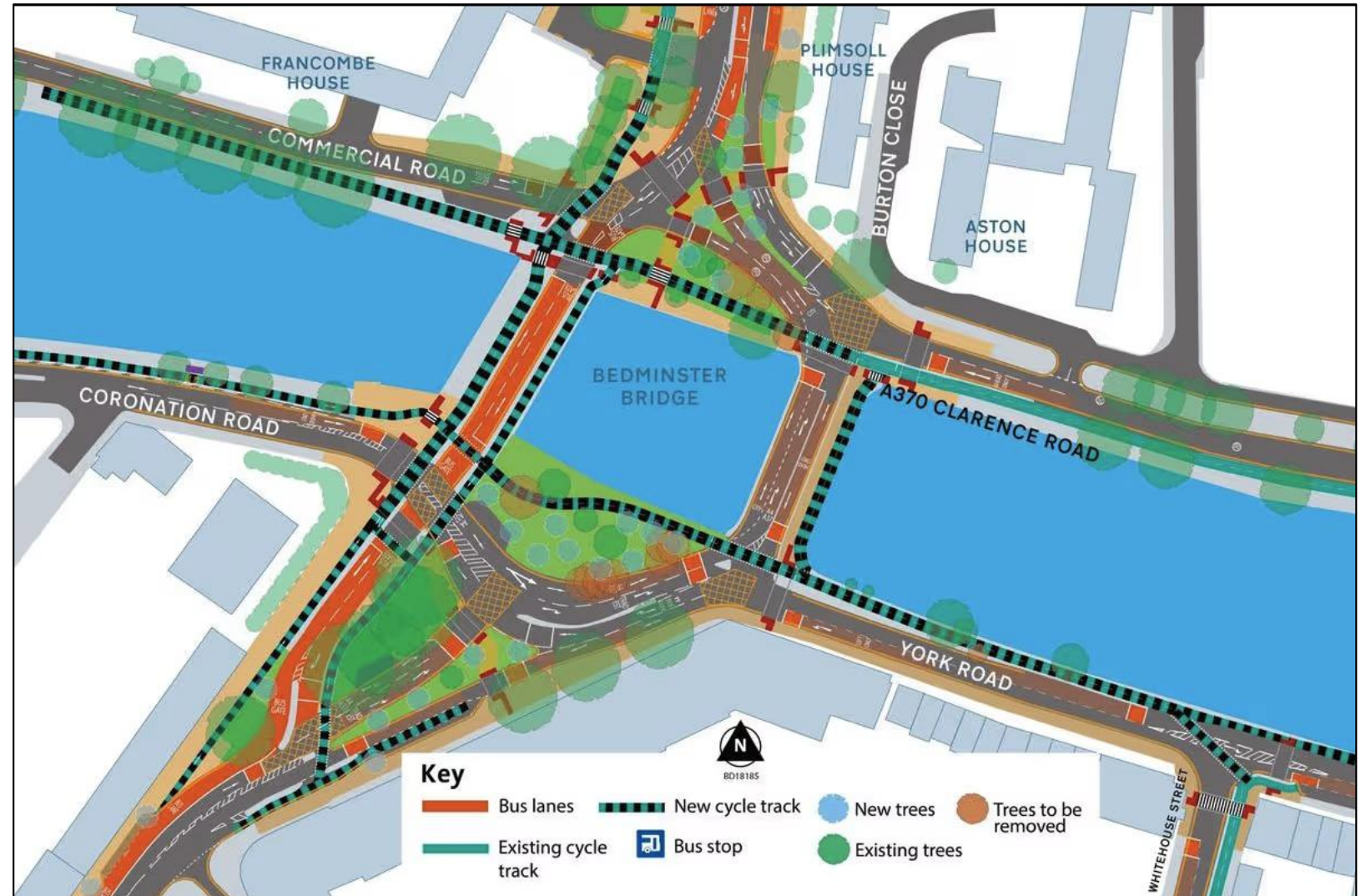
Banana Bridge and York Road

- When will the bank repairs be completed?
- Is there a date for the reopening of York Road? This feels particularly important given the disruption caused by works on Bedminster Bridge.



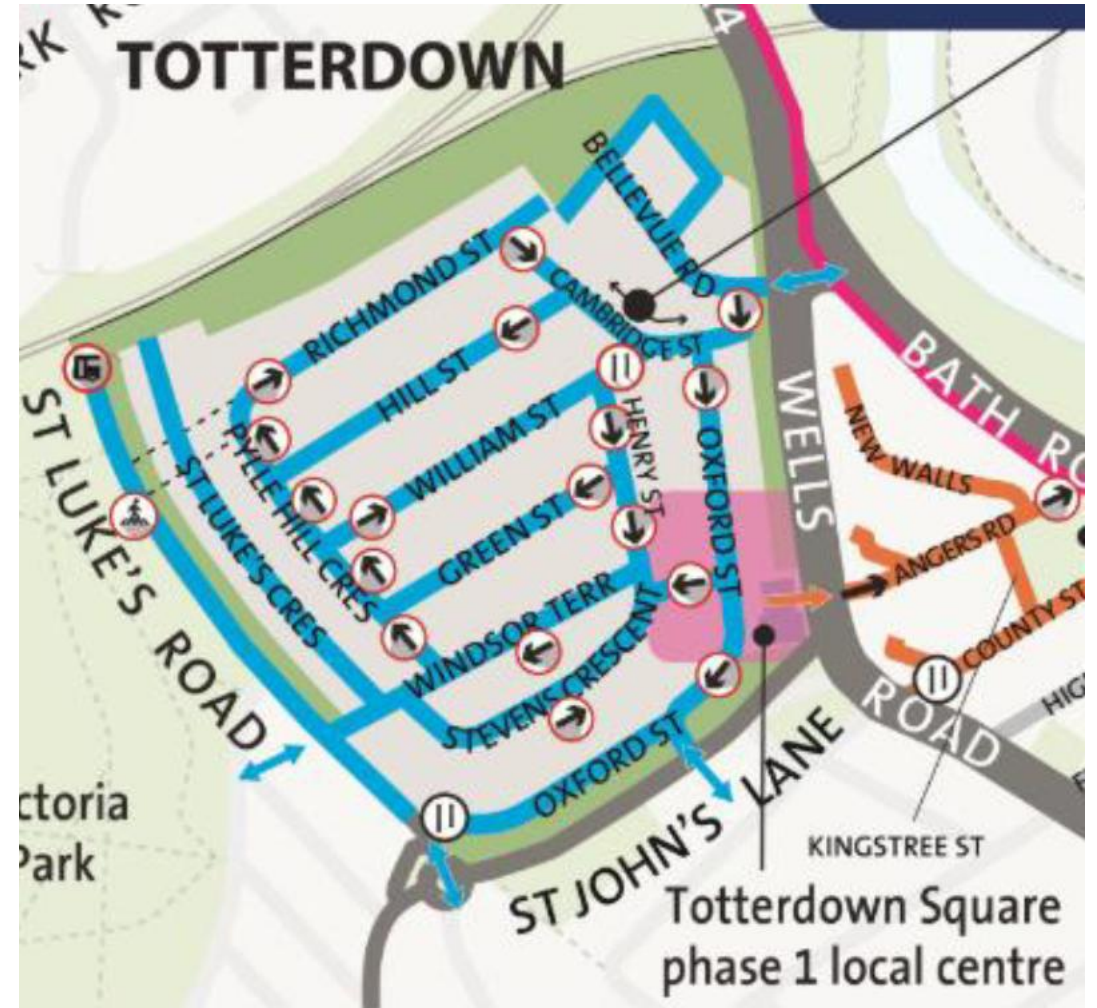
Bedminster Bridge

- Can the redevelopment plans for be explained?
- “I don’t understand the diagram”



Transport: South Bristol Liveable Neighbourhood

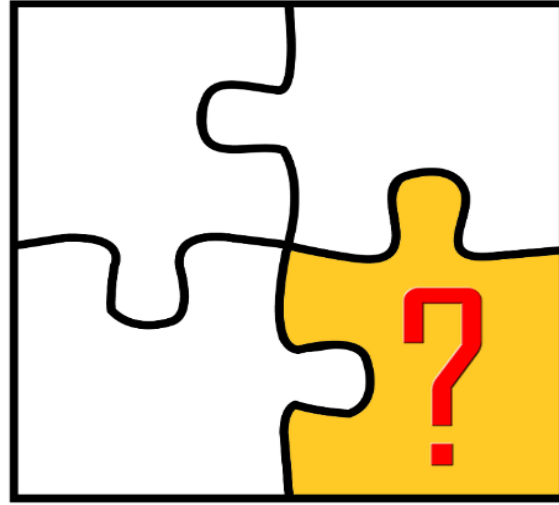
- A couple of weeks away from publishing consultation results: content finalised and currently with the designers
- Announcements on revised proposals will follow later
- Committed to co-design for Totterdown square: outputs will be fed into full business case to go to committee in the autumn before submission to WECA to seek further funding
- Arts and Culture team have been in touch with potential artists/facilitators regarding co-design opportunities
- Engagement team now linked in with Vail Williams (who manage the square)



CIL funding ideas: **Stage 1 deadline 23 March 2026**

- Fencing for Victoria Park to cover the children's play area and picnic space at the top of the park
- Access into Victoria Park through the wall (desire line) by the new zebra crossing on St Luke's Road
- Repair/maintenance to Three Lamps signpost
- Planting at Three Lamps junction (currently looking neglected)
- Bollards along the verge at Higham green to stop people parking there and make it muddy
- School Road Park: Play equipment is in need of repair; planting, more seating, picnic tables, and shelter perhaps a gazebo. It's a very well-used park due to its proximity to Hillcrest School and other childcare facilities





Any Other Business