

	<b>18/04656/FUL</b>
	<p>Climate Friendly Bradford on Avon have twice had a stand at the Trowbridge Apple Festival in the garden and orchard of Courtfield House. For both adults and children, this green space rich in wildlife and old trees is magical: a rare gem in the middle of Trowbridge.</p> <p>The government has pledged to leave the environment in a better state than it found it and is working on an environment bill. However, our biodiversity is under threat and diminishing now. Many of the key decisions to protect biodiversity and important green spaces rest with local planning departments.</p> <p>We strongly urge the Planning Department to protect this biodiverse garden and orchard and support the proposal by the BIG Community Grow for it to managed as the Trowbridge Community Orchard.</p> <p>Please also consider the recent documents referred to below:</p> <p>“Urban greenspace such as parks and forests can help to reduce heat, but the total area of urban greenspace declined by 7% between 2001 and 2011, and has remained fairly static since then. To increase resilience to climate change as well as provide many co-benefits to health and biodiversity, the UK’s urban greenspace needs to increase.” From “Climate Change: the Future of UK Cities” Section on Overheating. Gemma Holmes, 4th Jan 2018, The Committee on Climate Change <a href="https://www.theccc.org.uk/2018/01/04/uk-cities-climate-change/">https://www.theccc.org.uk/2018/01/04/uk-cities-climate-change/</a></p> <p>A Government Select Committee report, Heatwaves: Adapting to Climate Change, 26th July 2018, recommends in a paragraph entitled Local Authorities and Cities, that “measures to reduce the urban heat island effect are not included in local plans and the Government’s planning framework does not make mention of it. The Government should introduce an urban green infrastructure target as part of the metrics for the 25 Year Environment Plan” <a href="https://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/environmental-audit-committee/news-parliament-2017/heatwaves-report-publication-17-19/">https://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/environmental-audit-committee/news-parliament-2017/heatwaves-report-publication-17-19/</a></p>
	Mrs Rosalind R Edwards Climate Friendly Bradford on Avon

	9, Staples Hill BA2 7WL
Date:	01.08.2018
Case Officer:	Matthew Perks