

SusWoT Meeting 24 June 2021 7:30 Zoom

Minutes

Present

Alex Dunn, Liz Viggars, Sarah Fennell, Tim Bushell, Teresa Stratford

Apologies

Jill Kempshall, Steve Tainton, Tracy Tainton, Mel and Denise Ward, Hattie Lupton, Myra Jones.

Previous Minutes

Minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and accepted without change.

River Trym activities

Liz reported that the Trout in the Trym project is focussing on Balsam Bashing. Training events started on 19th June. The different community groups are organising their own sessions. SusWoT's training event to be held jointly with Friends of Blaise on Sunday 27 June - and the Lord Mayor is due to ceremonially pull the first Balsam plant of the session.

SusWoT is encouraging groups to look after their own areas and will provide support to those who need it - in particularly Sustainable Henbury and Brenty who don't have many volunteers, but do have a lot of Balsam.

Liz demonstrated the mapping and reporting functionality on the Trout in the Trym website. Everybody is encouraged to report the Balsam they have found and/or dealt with.

SusWoT is going to have regular events during the week and at weekends and encourage other groups to do the same.

Actions:

- Send joining instructions for Sunday's event (Alex)
- Promote use of maps and reporting to manage Balsam (All)
- Thank Luca for helping to set up the website platform and maps (Teresa)

Litter Picking

Virtually every street in Westbury is now covered by volunteers (including some taking part for the Duke of Edinburgh Award scheme) picking their allocated streets at a time to suit.

Harold Stephens (who have purchased 50 Hi Viz jackets for SusWoT) are covering the centre of the village in their lunch breaks. The centre of the village looks noticeably cleaner now.

The map on the SusWoT website shows the coverage of volunteer litter-pickers in Westbury. Other groups in surrounding areas (Southmead, Henbury and Brentry, Sea Mills and Coombe Dingle) are holding regular events and organising litter rounds. Henleaze have started too but need some more volunteers.

As a consequence there is no need for mass litter-picking in Westbury on the last Sunday of the month - enabling us to focus on Balsam Bashing.

Action:

- Alex to report back to HS to say that the centre of the village noticeably cleaner since they took on their round.

Get Growing

There have been far fewer customers this year. We have only sold around £300 worth of plants - far less than last year. The weather has not helped. Brentry school fair is not taking place so we can't have a stall.

Availability of plants listed on the website. Discussed whether squash might be suitable for school garden, but watering during the School holidays likely to mean this won't be successful.

Action:

- All to promote sales of remaining plants.

Library Garden

Broad beans, garlic, shallots and onions have been grown this year. The broad beans have been harvested with some of the garlic and onions. It will not take long to refresh the bed with new plants.

Action:

- Alex (with Malcolm and possibly Anna) to take out the broad bean plants and put in tomato plants, beetroot etc on 26 June.

Supper Club

Sarah has tried to make contact with Jane but hasn't heard back from her. We had originally planned to have a supper club meeting on 2nd Thursday of the month. Look to revive in September and consider potential for outdoor events.

Next meeting

The Village Hall is now accepting bookings and we discussed whether to have the July SusWoT meeting there. Attendees were comfortable with the prospect of meeting at the Village Hall - however noted that several regulars were missing from tonight's meeting.

Action:

- Alex to discuss possibility of holding next meeting at the Village Hall

AOB

None.