

SUSWOT MEETING

31 March 2022 7:30 Village Hall

Present

Alex Dunn, Fran Bragg, Jane Stott, Liz Viggars, Judith Sluglett, Stephen Noreiko, Pat Meek

Apologies

Mike Crabbe, Sarah Fennell, Steve Tainton, Tracy Tainton, Mel Ward, Bob Murphy, Jill Kempshall, Myra Jones

Group Work

Group 1 replacing you gas central Heating with an air source heat pump – Alex, Judith

Group 2 Reporting and monitoring issues in our neighbourhood

Group 3 Growing and Foraging

Three groups had been working on specific projects over the winter. Group 1 has put some initial information on the website, Group 2 and Group 3 to follow suit. Alex has revamped the project section of the website so that these are easier to find.

Group 1

£5,000 grant for householders to install air source heat pumps announced today.

Bristol Heat Pump Ready – Bristol's application has gone forward, expecting to hear by end of April - 8 page document detailing work packages. SusWoT work package is in the area of customer journey (preparing homes to sufficient energy efficiency), level of interest. This is a 27 month/£1 billion programme altogether to build capacity and identify issues.

Judith is in the process of having a system installed by a company in Stroud (nearest supplier) who do everything required including applying for the £5,000 grant in a single package.

Group 2

Group 3

Foraging

Can eat magnolia flowers, primroses, wild garlic, allium triquetrum (3 cornered leek). Chop up and freeze in ice cubes to use in cooking.

River Trym

Focussing now on Hazel Brook at Crow Lane Open Space.

One team do difficult objects (motorbike, mattress)

Light weight team (suitcase)

Sink, shopping trolleys

Estimate half way through this section. Not the worst, but attracts bikes and trolleys.

Trym has 3 water quality monitoring points – Combe Dingle, Southmead, ?. Usually quality comes out at 3-4, Combe Dingle is now 7, which is good. Alex will be on BCFM talking about this.

There are silt traps in Blaise that catch silt in the ponds in Blaise from upstream at Cribbs. These are now full. Can't find the key to open them! The ponds are in a very poor state, anaerobic, leeches, sink into mud.

Balsam hunting will start towards end of April. Clear as early as possible as long as there are no nesting birds. It was all mapped last year, so know exactly where to go. Will continue until August/ September. As a lot was cleared last year, there should be less to do this year.

Litter Picking

Offered to help with Southmead litter picking, but no response as yet.

DoE volunteers now helping with Clover Ground.

Get Growing

100 tomato plants growing, now weather has gone cold.

Ask people if they want to look after seedlings and plants.

Potting on in late April.

Plants to sell in May Fayre (14 May) and other channels.

Get Growing Trail is in September this year not June, so that's no good.

Library Garden

Doing well, may add some plants from Get Growing.

Canford Park

Nothing further from Hilary or David.

Supper Club

Planning to restart in May, depending on Covid situation.

Platinum Jubilee

No update on the following:

David asked if SusWoT would want to be involved, it was agreed we should. It was suggested that SusWoT could help ensure that Westbury was particularly litter free for the occasion.

WalkFest (1 May 22 - 31 May 22)

We haven't heard anything further about this, SusWoT isn't needed to do anything as all the walks have organisers.

We agreed that SusWoT would support Trout in the Trym being part of this. Frances Robertson is coordinating this. There will be three river walks on the weekend 21/22 May.

1. Sat am: Sea Mills to Canford Park
2. Sat pm Westbury on Trym to Southmead
3. Sun am Blaise Estate - Hazel Brook.

We will develop route maps and descriptions using the Go Jauntily app.

Community Fair

Saturday 14 May

We will have a stall as usual.

Village Show – September

Second Saturday

SusWoT will have a stall and sponsor 3 classes. We need to decide on our categories for the Village Show in September, the theme is 100 years of the BBC.

Last time we had:

92 A Plant or Produce grown from SusWoT seeds or plants

93 A Photograph – What's that Litter doing There?' – this was for 2020 Vision.

94 A Vegetarian Dish (sweet or savoury) where the main ingredient is home grown

We agreed that we would continue with the Plant or Produce grown from SusWoT seeds or plants. Ideas are needed for two other categories - it would be good if one of them reflected the BBC theme.

Video < 100s, natural history of WoT. Submitted this to Carole Thorpe. We can do this if we manage everything ourselves – judging, equipment to view etc. They are keen on the idea as innovative, but do not have the resource to manage it themselves.

AOB

Apple Juice

Enquired about some cloudy apple juice for fayre/village show – awaiting a price. This is now the only flavour.

Bristol Climate Emergency Grant

Quartet Community Foundation on behalf of Wessex Water gave a grant of £860 for Trout in the Trym for equipment to clean the Trym. We have to write a report by the end of July. We have done a lot and involved communities along the length of the river.

There is a new grant – Bristol Climate Emergency Grant – also administered by Quartet. £5,000 initially followed by £30,000. As we have already demonstrated success with one of their grants, we are in a good position for another one.

- Clear reduction in CO₂ emissions

OR

- Physical changes that benefit wildlife in Bristol

Criteria

- Targeted at small community groups
- Must have a track record of benefitting the community.

Must support One City climate themes

Trout in the Trym would seem to be ideally placed to benefit from this if there are sub-projects that would benefit.

Walks for Southmead patients with guides/literature

More equipment for cleaning and monitoring.

Repair Shop

Is this something we could do here? Need people who can do repairs. Need to think about e.g. disclaimers. BS3 in Bedminster is a big event, Horfield one at the Ardagh is much smaller, also Fishponds, Keynsham. Elena Hensinger - Sea Mills and Combe Dingle Climate Action Group are hoping to start something. Let her know that we are interested, but not sure if we have any skills to offer.

MSc student wants to do voluntary work on Friday afternoon, studying environmental horticulture. Has been put in contact with Jim Scarborough.