

# **SusWoT MEETING**

**7:30pm, 29th September 2022, Village Hall**

## **Present**

Alex Dunn (Chair), Fran Bragg, Mike Crabbe, Pat Meek, Jill Kempshall, Richard Bennett, Bob Murphy, Angela, Keith, Jane Stott, Sarah Fennel,

## **Apologies**

Liz Viggars, Judith Sluglett, Stephen Noreiko, Hattie Lupton, Teresa Stratford

**To contact us about any items below, please email [suswot2050@gmail.com](mailto:suswot2050@gmail.com).**

## **Previous Minutes**

Everyone was happy with the previous minutes.

## **MAIN ITEMS**

### **Boiler Update Scheme (BUS)**

Phase I of this project has been condensed from 6 months to 2 months. We are trying to engage with the community to determine interest and responses to the Boiler Upgrade Scheme. We are working with CSE (Centre of Sustainable Energy). Delivered leaflets in selected areas for drop-in sessions at the Post Office Tavern. We have had around 20 people respond, which is felt to be a good response. We have the final 2 clusters to target in Henleaze for the drop-in session next Tuesday.

We need to report on our results by the end of the month and then a decision will be made about progressing to Phase II. The aim would be to find a group of houses close together with suitable installation already in place (on a single sub-station) ready for installation at once. Even similar houses can be used differently by different households and will have different requirements for a heat pump system.

Some members of SusWoT attended the focus group run by UoB on Monday night. There were mixed feelings about the quality of this event.

There was also a workshop for participating organisations which was felt to be more useful.

We would like to **remind everyone** to do the CSE survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/JPGMD39>

### **Supper Club & September Meal**

Supper Club is not currently running as it has not been feasible due to Covid. We considered doing something further in the autumn, which is now upon us, so we need to plan something.

### **Village Show Review**

- Promote sustainable thinking at the Show

- Cellophane wrapping on prizes - is there an [eco alternative](#)? The Show has recognised this as an issue. **Email the committee** to encourage them to consider sustainability.
- Strips of 5 raffle tickets. The correspondent could take this up directly with the Village Show committee.
- The area we have seems very cramped, especially as we have such a lot of different activities.
  - Trout in the Trym with the bucket of fish was attracting children, as was the Bristol Waste “which bin” activity. We should encourage them to have their own stall next year.
  - We spoke to several people who were interested in BUS.
  - Alex won the vegetable competition: the library garden were about to enter, but their cucumber was stolen the night before.
  - The short film was won by a time lapse film of the mouth of the Trym.
  - There were 5 entries altogether and the Show intends to have more video classes next year.
  - 3 people signed up as interested in the idea of a community allotment.

## **NEW and ONE OFF ITEMS**

### **Fireworks**

Canford Park Firework display - source of pollution and carbon emissions. Is there such a thing as eco fireworks? <https://www.sciencefocus.com/science/do-eco-friendly-fireworks-exist/>.

The right hand of the council doesn't know what the left hand is doing. One part is trying to decarbonise and reduce pollution and the other is licensing large fireworks events. Fallout from the display has damaged cars and other property in the past. It also causes a lot of distress to many pets. The event has been licensed for 10,000 people, which seems a lot for Canford Park. Bob has written to the council about this. The council claim that it's raising money for charity, so that's OK! It is run by the Round Table and Rotary Clubs.

Fireworks seem to go on for a long time now, not just bonfire night.

We need to be aware of all these issues and highlight them where possible. Can we propose a more friendly policy for the council. Mail members with this discussion.

### **Bristol Natural History Consortium**

<https://www.bnhc.org.uk/>

### **Darren Jones' Charge the Earth**

Sat 1 Oct, Greenway Centre. We are going to the cafe area at 10 to link with other groups and give out business cards.

## **REGULAR ITEMS**

### **Trout in the Trym - River Cleaning, Himalayan Balsam**

8 organisations that work along the Trym and Hazel Brook coordinate to work on cleaning the rivers. We have groups working every Friday and Sunday. Almost all of it has been cleaned once. The Wildlife Park look after their own section. The area nearest the mouth has not been tackled as it is very deep and also tidal. Huge amounts of rubbish have been taken out in some areas. There is a much reduced amount of rubbish to work on now. We have a lot of equipment now and several people qualified to lead groups.

We have 2 grant applications we could make:

- Peter Coleman-Smith says people are now reporting water voles in the Trym. These are highly vulnerable species. We could get an ecologist to come to study the voles and teach us how to work to encourage them. Avon Wildlife Trust do training in how to survey for water voles. Sarah is in contact with Peter about this.
- A group in Tytherington near Yate wants to do some environmental work with groups within 30 miles. We have forwarded this to Peter.

## **Litter**

- We have a few rounds becoming vacant. If you would like to become involved, let us know at the address above. See [this map](#) with all the rounds.
  - What proportion of litter is recyclable? None of SusWoT litter is recycled as it is too dirty to be suitable for recycling.
- 11am, 30 October - Home Ground/ Clover Ground/ Vintery Leys area, event with Bristol Waste.
- Sun 2 October - celebration event for litter pickers and river cleaners
- University of Bristol student app development for 2nd year computing students for reporting fly tipping feeding into the council system. We will find out soon if any students have taken up this project.

## **Get Growing**

Community allotment. We had 3 people express interest at the Village Show. This is probably not sufficient, ideally we would need more like 6 people for an allotment. The system for allocating allotments seems quite convoluted.

## **Library Garden**

Jill suggested creating a wildflower meadow along the back which is a sunny spot. If you would like to help with this, please get in touch at the email address at the top of these minutes. If there is sufficient interest, Jill will speak to the library manager about this.

Jill asked to clarify the policy about the produce - is it for anyone passing to take or reserved for the helpers. The library garden helpers should encourage people local to the library to take gluts of produce when they are available.

## **Flowers Around WoT**

We have been in touch with Hilary Long. She is investigating how to get funding for more flowers in the village. £10,000 pa. The Henleaze and Westbury Voice messed up her article so it wasn't apparent that it was by the Westbury-on-Trym Society (WoTSoc). We need to wait for WoTSoc to come back to us. The watering is the big cost and more watering is required with the increased heat and drought conditions. We could plant more drought tolerant plants - this could also be a community engagement activity demonstrating more environmentally friendly plants.

## **Henleaze and Westbury Voice Column**

Our recent articles for BS9 and the Voice about BUS have been part of our contractual obligation to Buro Happold.

**We need ideas for future issues.** Water voles?

## **Sea Mills and Coombe Dingle Repair Café**

2nd Saturday in the month in Sea Mills.

### **AOB**

- Surplus fruit - can we encourage people to find good homes for their fruit rather than letting them all go to waste. Apple pressing sessions also happen e.g.
  - Lockleaze Apple Press <https://cargocollective.com/lockleazeapplepress/About-us>
  - Riverside Garden Centre  
<http://riversidegardencentre.com/press/surplus-apples-bring-them-to-riverside>
- Community carbon footprint calculator: <https://impact-tool.org.uk/>

### **Date of Next Meeting**

Thursday 27th October

7:30pm, last Thursday of the month, Westbury-on-Trym Village Hall