

SusWoT MEETING

7:30pm, 27th October 2022, Village Hall

Present

Jill Kempshall
David McGregor
Bob Murphy
Pat Meek
Alex Dunn
Liz Viggars
Keith Hempshall

Apologies

Fran Bragg
Mike Crabbe
Judith Sluglett
Stephen Noreiko
Steve Tainton
Tracy Tainton
Sarah Fennell
Richard Pedlar
Teresa Stratford

To contact us about any items below, please email suswot2050@gmail.com.

PREVIOUS MINUTES and ONE OFF ITEMS

Previous Minutes

Correction from Malcolm Neave via email: You are correct that the summer planting (troughs, containers and hanging baskets) costs around £11,000. The autumn/spring bulb planting is about £6,000 as it doesn't include the baskets and also doesn't require the same amount of watering. However, the cost of watering for the summer planting is only about 30% of the total, with the provision of soil and plants accounts for the remaining 70%.

Fireworks

Bob had been in touch with the organisers of the Firework display at Canford Park. The organisers confirmed it was a charitable event and did not engage with Bob's concerns about the environment.

REGULAR ITEMS

Boiler Upgrade Scheme

Liz and Alex updated the meeting on the project and the Phase 2 planning session that had been held with the Centre for Sustainable Energy.

SusWoT's work on phase 1 of the project was deemed successful - we promoted the BUS at the village show, published articles in the local magazines, carried out leaflet drops, held workshops and drop-in sessions, attended weekly meetings with the project team and helped with the UoB workshop.

We have been asked to be part of the 2nd phase of the project. Buro Happold had provided a template for a letter of support. Fran and Liz had raised concerns about the content of the letter. While SusWoT is keen to be involved, we do not think it is appropriate that we take responsibility for some of the aspects - eg getting people to sign up. We agreed that Alex would draft a letter of support focussing on what we would do as a community group and how we would take the opportunities to help people to reduce use of fossil fuels. We would look to bring together the 'pioneers' from across Westbury and build a knowledge base/support network.

In recognition of the work done on the first phase of the project, Buro Happold has agreed to pay SusWoT £4,500. However as an unincorporated organisation, we are not permitted to sign contracts for this. We discussed the potential for setting up some form of 'Trading Arm' for SusWoT, As Buro Happold's legal team were looking into how the issue might be overcome, we agreed to wait for their findings before making a decision about how this might work.

David reported that he had been part of the pilot for the Veritherm tests. These are being trialled as a method to determine what size heat pump would be required for a property. The exercise was going smoothly (the overnight tests had been completed, and the sensors were in place for the longer monitoring period). David will report back on the final results.

Trout in the Trym - River Cleaning, Himalayan Balsam

River Cleaning continues twice-weekly as permitted by the weather. The teams are extracting around 1 tonne per week. Virtually all the river has now been tackled.

SusWot has applied for a grant to monitor the Trym for otters and voles. Sian Parry has seen the water voles on the Trym.

Litter

This Sunday's event is part of the Big Tidy with Bristol Waste- and we will be focussed at Clover Ground. Sian is surveying the area using our prototype reporting app so that we know where all of the problems are.

We are also working with Bristol University students to develop an app to report flytipping to the relevant authorities.

Supper Club

Lucy Hamid via email: Just an idea about the supper club. The Parish Church runs a Men's Curry Night. I believe it's quite popular. People book in with the organiser and the restaurant (in the village) lays on a spread with a few options at a special cheap price on a night when they don't get many customers. As well as being a social event, they discuss odd jobs which need doing for community members. Occurs to me this could be adapted to SUSWOT aims?

We discussed Lucy's idea and thought it was worth pursuing both as a way of bringing SusWoT together socially and as a way to support local businesses. David confirmed that the format at the Indian Kitchen was a £14 buffet. We would look to establish interest.

Get Growing

SusWoT has purchased Broad bean 'seeds' which are available if anybody wants to plant over the next couple of months.

We will be looking to start the tomatoes off in January.

Library Garden

Jill is keen to establish a wild flower meadow at the library (the other side from the garden). No volunteers have come forward yet. She will discuss with Malcolm Neave.

Flowers Around WoT

We wait to hear from WoTSoc about how we should progress on this. It was agreed that SusWoT should continue to look for ways to work more closely with WoTSoc.

Henleaze and Westbury Voice Column

Alex continues to prepare monthly articles for the Henbury and Westbury voice. While these have been focused on air source heat pumps in recent months, we are looking to cover other topics.

Sea Mills and Coombe Dingle Repair Café

This is continuing - generally on the Second Saturday of the month. Liz has asked if there is anybody there who could help with the repair of waders.

AOB

Alex attended Darren Jones' Charge the Earth event on 1 October and made some useful contacts.

Date of Next Meeting

24th November 2022

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