

# **SusWoT MEETING**

**7:30pm, 24th November 2022, Village Hall**

## **Present**

Alex Dunn, Mike Crabbe, Fran Bragg, Pat Meek, David MacGregor, Jill Kempshall, Richard Harman, Bob Murphy, Liz Viggars

## **Apologies**

Judith Sluglett, Stephen Noreiko, Tracey Tainton

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

## **REGULAR ITEMS**

### **Boiler Upgrade Scheme**

In Phase I we contacted around 25 people which went well to establish a level of interest in the project.

We were asked to submit a letter of support for phase II. In December we will find out if Bristol is selected for phase II. Phase II is about finding enough people in 3 waves who want to have their boilers upgraded. Getting people to sign up is quite complicated, there is a deadline for finding 70-100 people. These people will be supported through the whole process to get their boilers upgraded. We could earn £20,000 for this, but it would involve a lot of work. We were careful not to commit to the selling process - we have no expertise in this area and feel it should be left to professionals.

Veritherm survey houses on behalf of Bristol City Council to assess the heat loss in order to determine suitability for air source heat pump installation and select the correct sized pump. David has had this done and has the figure for his house. He would need a 6.75kW heat pump. This is a much lower figure than the power of his current gas boiler. The house is listed and is not able to install much installation. They also used a thermal imaging system to find the worst heat loss locations which are targets for draught proofing. The survey costs £500. Bob is also awaiting a Veritherm survey, but has only just heard back from them. These surveys will be part of the BUS process, but will only be done after any insulation work, so would need to be confident the house will pass after this. Maybe an initial CHEESE survey would be appropriate.

Octopus are recruiting a significant number of customers with the most suitable homes to install heat pumps.

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

Peter Coleman-Smith applied for a grant to survey water voles and otters and we have been awarded £900. We will find someone qualified to do this from March/April until October.

Cleared virtually all the significant rubbish out of Hazel Brook and Trym, estimate 100 tonnes altogether at a rate of around a tonne a week.

Richard Bennett and Dan Brunton are now qualified health and safety operatives.

## **Litter**

There are ever more volunteers but less and less litter. There is litter in Southmead and Sustainable Southmead may be becoming more active.

There is a problem now with leaves blocking gutters - can we collect the leaves as well? Need something of sufficient volume to collect the leaves that has drainage for the rainwater. We do have wheelbarrows. **See if we can get some broken wheelie bins from Naomi.** There is a compound in Canford Park.

The problem reporting app is progressing slowly.

## **Supper Club**

Lucy Hamid is keen we should do something. As we can't have our December meeting in the Village Hall, we could have it in the Indian Kitchen on say 15th December. **Liz will enquire.**

## **Get Growing**

A community journalist is coming to discuss our community gardens. We also pointed her to the mismatch between actual allotment availability and information about people on waiting lists not getting through to reps. We don't yet have a critical mass for a community allotment at Canford E. A charity based in the Greenway Centre has taken up an allotment.

## **Library Garden**

The library garden has been planted up.

The library are happy in principle to allow a grass area to be converted to a wildflower meadow. Jill is in contact with Avon Wildlife Trust for advice on the best way to start a new meadow.

## **Flowers Around WoT**

## **Henleaze and Westbury Voice Column**

The next issue will feature a list of all the things we do that people can help with.

We have been offered 2 pages in the Bristol Civic Society magazine.

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

This continues mostly on the second Saturday of the month.

## **AOB**

### Local plan

The city is currently reviewing its local plan, looking ahead for 20 years. The current local plan is over 5 years old. Developers have to abide by targets in the local plan, but once it is out of date, this can be overridden. Each council is supposed to fit into the old Avon County Council plan. This has been taken over by WECA, but none of the councils are talking to each other any more. Each council is doing its own thing and trying to offload housing requirements to neighbours. National policy changes require councils to update plans for biodiversity, net zero and climate change. The draft is coming out on 28 November for consultation until 20 January. The

final publication is next summer when it is submitted to planning inspectorate for adoption in autumn 2024. The critical thing is to comment in the consultation phase.

[www.bristol.gov.uk/localplanreview](http://www.bristol.gov.uk/localplanreview)

### **Date of Next Meeting**

The Village Hall will be closed when the December meeting is due on the 29th.

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