

## SusWoT MEETING

7:30pm, 26<sup>th</sup> January 2023, Village Hall

### Present

Alex Dunn, Mike Crabbe, Jane Stott, Liz Viggars, Myra Jones

### Apologies

Fran Bragg, Judith Sluglett, Stephen Noreiko, Mel Ward, Jill Kemsphall, Peter Coleman Smith, Keith Hempshall

### Energy

The Heat Pump Ready Programme Stream 1 Phase 1 was completed in November 2022. SusWoT is involved in the Community Engagement aspect of this project working closely with the Centre for Sustainable Energy. Phase 2 projects are due to be announced shortly. Due to the project timing, it is important to get started quickly to make the most of the winter months (CHEESE surveys for example can't be conducted in warm weather) and have time to engage with the community.

### Trout in the Trym – River Cleaning, Himalayan Balsam

We have been running twice=weekly river-cleaning sessions along most of the Trym and Hazel Brook (excluding Blaise and Badocks Wood where there are fewer issues and established groups of volunteers). A lot of time has been spent in Crow Lane and Southmead.

Parks weigh the rubbish we collect. We believe we have now cleared in excess of 100 tonnes of flytipping and litter in the last 4 years.

In recent months, Friends of Badocks Wood have struggled to offer regular litter-picking sessions. Liz is in touch with Sarah to offer support if necessary.

SusWoT has received a £900 grant to survey the environment and look for voles and otters in the Trym. We are looking to improve the environment for voles and otters and train volunteers to identify their tracks. Peter Coleman Smith is leading the project which will run mostly between March and May

### Litter

All of Westbury on Trym is covered by volunteers clearing their patch as and when necessary. In addition, we are supervising a number of Duke of Edinburgh volunteers. We have purchased more equipment which enables us to support other groups.

Stoke Bishop Scouts have been in touch, wanting to organise an event. We have suggested they arrange a full clean-up of Stoke Bishop.

Bristol Waste are keen that volunteers record all of the litter they collect on central forms. These are not quick to complete however. Alex will raise the matter at the Bristol Waste Litter Forum.

### Supper Club

There has not been sufficient traction for holding a regular supper club (in people's homes). However we will consider resurrecting the Harvest meal in September.

We held a curry night at the end of December (instead of the monthly meeting) which was well-attended. We will try offering this as a monthly event to support local businesses. Starting with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of the month.

#### Get Growing

Seeds and seed compost have been purchased and the first tomato seeds will be sown in the next couple of weeks by Mike and Alex. It was noted that the cost of seeds has increased with Sungolds around 30p per seed. We need to ensure that our pricing structure takes this into account.

The Community Fayre is on 13<sup>th</sup> May (a week later than normal). We expect to be potting on at Easter.

We are looking for volunteers to tend the seedlings in their greenhouses prior to the Community Fayre.

#### Community Garden

We are receiving enquiries from students who want to learn more about the Community Garden over the next couple of weeks. Jim is not available, so Alex will be speaking to them.

There has been insufficient interest in establishing a Community allotment

#### Library Garden

The Library Garden is planted with Leeks, Garlic, Broad Beans, Onions, Shallots and herbs. All look healthy.

#### Flowers Around WoT

No update

#### Media

We have a regular column in the Henleaze and Westbury Voice. We are looking for topics to cover and people to write articles.

We discussed Alex's draft article for the Bristol Civic Society. Philippa is providing photos.

SusWoT does not necessarily promote itself as widely as it could – we still don't have a publicity officer. We will ask for volunteers who might be willing to take on individual aspects of this role. Jane offered to write a piece for the website about Supper Club.

#### Village Show

The village show on 2nd September has the theme 'Harvest'. SusWoT sponsors 3 classes. The regular 2 are 'Food or Produce grown from a SusWoT seed or plant' and 'Vegetarian Dish where the main ingredient is home-grown'. We are looking for a third class – last year we had the show's first Video class.

#### Next meeting

23<sup>rd</sup> February – 7.30 – Westbury on Trym Village Hall