

Minutes of SusWoT Meeting 28 November 2019

The meeting was held at the Village Hall at 7:30.

The next meeting

This will be on Sunday 29 December and take the form of a walk followed by a pub lunch, details to follow. There will be no meeting on 26 December. The January meeting will be a week early on 23 January.

ACTION: Update the website with this information. Alex

Present

Max Gould, Liz Viggars, Jane Stott, Brian Clay, Alex Dunn, Sarah Fennell, Teresa Stratford, Tracy Tainton, Tim Bushall, Steve Tainton.

Apologies

Myra Jones, Jill Kempshall, Hattie Lupton, Mike Crabbe (representing SusWoT at another meeting), Fran Bragg

Review Minutes from the last meeting.

Schools and Growing: Hattie and Sarah F had their first session which was a success. SF asked if they could buy seeds for the club. It was agreed that they could do so through SusWoT. SusWoT buys seeds in bulk and sells them in sensible quantities to people wishing to grow their own. SusWoT also raise plants from seeds bought in bulk.

ACTION: Sarah to provide Alex with a list of seeds that the group would like to grow, by end January.

Supper Club: The meeting felt that this was an excellent idea, good for the environment and social cohesion.

ACTION: Jane to organise first supper in mid-January.

Christmas Fayre (Sat 30 November)

The plan for the day was reviewed and some items and timings. The plan is attached to these minutes. We have the juice on a sale or return basis and must be diligent in selling the oldest first. Eights washers (>6mm diameter hole, say 7mm) are needed to attach the heads to the broom handles properly. We will be cleaning up at the end. As we are continuously manning the War Memorial end we can manage this more flexibly than the rota suggests. We have the materials to promote all activities, pass out our business cards and collect names and contact details.

Date of December and January meetings

See 'The Next Meeting' above.

North West Bristol Climate Action Group Meeting

Mike went to the first meeting Alex reports back from this, the second.

There were about 20 people at the 90 minute meeting. Future meetings will be every 3 weeks at Hiatt Baker Hall. Mary Rivers chaired the meeting. There were two presentations that had 30 minutes each and so were perhaps too short to allow proper discussion. One on the buses of Bristol and one on car sharing, in both cases given by directors of these organisation (First Bus and Enterprise Cars).

Minutes will follow and be forwarded.

I now understand that the meeting is just concerned with North West Bristol, not the University and so not concerned with the damage the university is responsible for but a community activity. Students were there and they were keen to see what they could do to help.

There were no specific actions agreed.

We should continue to attend and see how the group develops.

Litter picking

The issue of how we operate with low levels of litter was raised and parked.

There will be a Great British Spring Clean next year from 20 March to 13 April. This includes four weekends. Easter Sunday is 12 April.

SusWoT ran two litter picks in November, one on the banks of the Avon and one around the Trym in the Crow Lane open space. Both were a success leaving the target areas clear of litter and collecting in the order of 40 sacks of rubbish, bikes, a fullish crude oil drum, shopping trollies. There were about a dozen people at each event.

Litter Picking in December will take the form of a walk followed by a pub lunch, details to follow. This is the SusWoT December Social.

Trym Cleaning

This month we cleaned rubbish in the Crow Lane Open space area in Henbury. We need to put Jeannie Mayer in touch with Ruth Wellman via Max to allow Jeannie to report Japanese Knotweed.

Himalayan Balsam can be pulled up as soon as it appears. Max will monitor the Trym for the first identifiable shoots and then we will organise activities to pull it up. The space freed up by the removal of the Himalayan Balsam should be planted with something to suppress it.

Trees in Southmead. Alex to see if this is progressing

ACTION: Alex put Jeannie in touch with Ruth via Max. (Done)

ACTION: Alex to contact Emma regarding Trees in Southmead Trym Valley.

ACTION: Max to monitor for Himalayan Balsam in the spring.

SusWoT Website and other social media

Sarah has started looking at Facebook. She sent messages and had no reply. Sarah needs admin rights to the SusWot Facebook page to progress. Tracy offered to help.

Instagram, Max to look at setting this up for SusWoT

Website, Liz and Alex will be meeting Luca on 29 November to establish the current situation. Alex to start work on Trout in the Trym. Need to move the SusWoT website to Zen for future development.

ACTION: Alex to get Facebook page admin rights to Sarah.

ACTION: Alex, Liz to meet with Luca and agree a way forward for the SusWoT and Trout in the Trym sites. Ambition to have SusWoT on our own hosting site and Trout in the Trym up with a holding page and copy of the Trym report available.

Scout Group Community Development Proposal

Mike will report on this at the next meeting.

Library Garden

We have cleared a bed for broad beans to be sown and plan to complete this on 1st December. About a dozen people have come forward to help. It looks that this could be a viable project.

ACTION: Alex to get the broad beans sown.

Financial report

We have funds in the bank that will allow us to continue to operate. We agreed that we should get some Public Liability insurance to allow us to apply for grants that involve risks to our members and the public.

ACTION: Liz to arrange Public Liability insurance.

Energy

We will be promoting CHEESE at the Canford Christmas fair.

Get Growing

There is a Seed Exchange event at Trinity Road on 9th February 2019. Sarah may go. (I think this is in the old Police Station).

We need to liaise with Blaise Community Garden.

ACTION: Max to establish contact with Blaise Community Garden and see if there is some synergy.

No other activity.

AOB

None