

SUSWOT MEETING
28 April 2022 7:30 Village Hall

Present

Alex Dunn, Fran Bragg, Mike Crabbe, Sarah Fennell, George Banting, Liz Viggars

Apologies

Judith Sluglett, Stephen Noreiko, Pam Stringer, Pat Meek, Tracy Tainton, Sue Hayes, Mel Ward, Shirley Brown, Jill Kempshall, Jane Stott, Steve Tainton

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

Group Work

Group 1 replacing you gas central Heating with an air source heat pump – Alex, Judith

Group 2 Reporting and monitoring issues in our neighbourhood

Group 3 Growing and Foraging

Three groups had been working on specific projects over the winter.

Group 1

Bristol Heat Pump Ready – decision due end of April i.e. nowish.

Community Fair - 14 May

Volunteers Needed

Saturday 14 May running the stall at the Village Fair. Any time from about 10am to 5pm is useful as we set up a rota of one and two hour sessions.

We do 2 things:

- Sell tomato plants, several varieties, plus other produce
 - 40p per plant, £1 for large Sungold that have already been potted up.
- Sell apple juice

- Possible new product? Sell Trout in the Trym paintings. £1?

Need a rota. Please contact us if you would like to help.

Get Growing

Get Growing, Potting on we need to plan how we will look after and distribute plants this year.

Volunteers Needed

Saturday 30 April, 3pm. Potting On Saturday afternoon at Alex's house. This is a communal activity where we pot on mainly tomatoes for sale at the Village Show. Training provided. 200-300 plants, ~2 hours. Also a few other plants, peppers etc.

Several volunteers already.

Supper Club

Supper Club, we need to make this happen if we can.

Sarah has had a couple of attempts to start this up that haven't happened, low numbers interested. She is suggesting that maybe we try a pot luck supper to start it off, hopefully next month (May). Second Thursday, which would be 12th May. Could be outside in the summer months if that would encourage nervous people.

If you are interested in coming, please contact us.

Balsam Bashing & River Trym

Organising balsam bashing - we need to determine when to have regular sessions though the Spring and Summer.

Last year's work has been mapped in detail and we aim to start earlier this year. Some large plants have been found already this year – it is an annual. Likes river banks and will grow from seed if allowed to set seed the previous year and also from any bit of vegetation left behind when pulled up.

Starting this Sunday in Combe Dingle, several times a week. Aim to do everywhere several times to ensure there aren't bits left behind that will grow again. Also need to avoid ground nesting birds.

Pulled out a lot of rubbish from the river. Still old rubbish from decades. Will continue throughout the summer. Some places need to wait until water is lower.

Volunteers needed for both activities

Balsam Bashing if you have not been involved previously and would like to help, please email suswot2050@gmail.com.

River Cleaning if you have not been involved previously and would like to help, please email suswot2050@gmail.com.

Litter Picking

Library Garden

Not done anything yet, but need to soon.

Canford Park

Platinum Jubilee

Told WoTSoc that we will help if they want.

WalkFest (1 May 22 - 31 May 22)

Village Show – September

AOB

Apple Juice

This is now ordered in time for the fair.

Bristol Climate Emergency Grant

Had a meeting with people from Sea Mills yesterday.

Guides

Guides asked for an activity for 40 guides for an evening litter picking. Not enough litter for 40 of them, but could do balsam bashing or river cleaning, but not the whole group in one go, maybe 4 groups. Will need good supervision to make sure they do it properly.

Art Exhibition

Upcoming exhibition of art themed around coastal wildlife, including an event with RSPB president Krestovnikoff.

An evening with Miranda Krestovnikoff: Sunday 8th May 2022, 6pm - 8pm

<https://www.trymwoodstudios.co.uk/miranda-krestovnikoff-event>

COAST An Exhibition of Drawings, Paintings, Original Prints and Ceramics: 28th April - 15th May 2022

<https://www.trymwoodstudios.co.uk/coast-online-catalogue>

Various Volunteer Gardening Opportunities

- Volunteer gardener for Abbeyfield. Details TBA.
- The Well Centre for Spirituality at Elsie Briggs House: maintenance of a cottage garden - <https://thewellcentreforspirituality.org.uk/support-the-friends/volunteer/>.
- Westbury Wildlife Park – “The park is looking for Gardening Volunteers to help grow and cultivate our verges and ponds. This work will be very light and supported by our regular community volunteers” <https://wwpf.uk/volunteer>.

Friends of Badock’s Wood AGM on Monday

Struggling for volunteers. They have received grants but not been able to spend it due to lack of volunteers and caution about Covid. They are going to try an evening litter pick. They do some coppicing. They are going to plant 70 trees this year, possibly as part of Queen’s Canopy, or will do it anyway if their application is not successful.

Friends of Blaise

No regular activities and struggling for volunteers.

Sea Mills and Combe Dingle

Sea Mills and Combe Dingle Together launched their community plan yesterday. Repair Shop is launching on 14th May (2nd Saturdays). Need special repair shop insurance. Will be at the cafe on the square.

Sea Mills and Combe Dingle Climate Action Group have been promoting SusWoT and balsam bashing and want more posters!

IT Projects

Bristol University have been in contact with offers of students to do IT projects.

Foraging Event

Would it be feasible to organise a foraging activity – need someone who knows what they are doing? Ideal for autumn. If anyone would like to organise this, please let us know.