

## SUSWOT MEETING

### 7:30pm 28th July 2022, Village Hall

#### Present

Alex Dunn (Chair), Liz Viggars, Fran Bragg, Mike Crabbe, Pat Meek, Teresa Stratford

#### Apologies

Jane Stott, Steve Tainton, Tracey Tainton, John Diwell, Jill Kempshall, Mel Ward, Sarah Fennel, Hattie Lupton, Lorraine Hutt, David McGregor, Judith Sluglett, Stephen Noreiko, Amy Wood

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

#### Previous Minutes

No corrections were received to the previous minutes. These minutes then formed the basis of this meeting – updates below.

#### Group Work

Alex has put some foraging recipes on the website. This concludes the group activities.

#### Community Fair

The fair went well with lots of engagement with the public.

#### Get Growing

**Alex** to discuss sending back the banner to Get Growing as we will not be participating in the event this year.

Community allotment - there are 12 plots not being used at Alex's allotment (Canford E) ~30% of the total plots. The holders were agreeable to having a community plot. We could advertise this at the Village Show and collect a group. People could possibly have as little as one bed each or could be part of a group. This idea is also mentioned in our regular Henleaze and Westbury Voice column inviting people to come and find us at the Village Show. We could seek a spare plot on the relevant site when we have a list of people and know where they live. **Mike** will make a poster.

#### Supper Club & September Meal

Supper Club is currently on hiatus.

We haven't yet heard from Richard about the Scout Hut availability for a bring and share meal. We should decide a date first and then ask again. Alternatives could be the Village Hall. A Sunday in September (4,11,18,25). As the Village Show is the 3rd September, 4 and 11 would both be too soon. Ask about 18th or ideally 25th. **Fran** to contact Richard again.

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

There is not enough balsam to organise large group activities, which is good. Those places where it was cleared thoroughly and early last year have virtually none this year. 4 people on Sunday were able to clear all the way from the Combe Dingle car park to the ponds as there was so little to remove. Last year, a session might only cover 4-5m! Some areas must be left until the end of July in case of ground nesting birds. We should carry on checking until October.

We have been developing an app to identify balsam and fly tipping etc. on a map, with photos uploaded. We can then assess what action needs to be taken.

River cleaning is a weekly activity at 10am on a Friday and sometimes on a Sunday. Most of the river has been cleaned to some extent. Recent activity has focussed on the Crow Lane area. 3 weeks ago, we liaised with the council to send out a lorry to collect a lot of large stones that had been removed. It transpires the lorry was overloaded and the next time they sent 2! On Sundays there is generally a wider range of people and so a wider range of activities is undertaken including balsam bashing and litter picking as well. The

Trym is largely in a reasonable state. The only part left to do a significant amount of work is the top of the Trym in Southmead. Badock's Wood is apparently built on a rubbish tip, so cannot clear it in the same sense as other places.

### **Library Garden**

The garden is tidy, there are some leeks in. The water butts are not filling due to dry weather. There are courgettes, cucumbers, beans.

This went well.

### **Village Show**

<http://www.wotvs.co.uk/>

The Village Show is on 3 September from 11am to 5pm.

SusWoT is sponsoring three classes – including the show's first video class.

- 92 A plant of produce grown from SusWoT seeds or plants
- 93 A vegetarian dish (sweet or savoury) where the main ingredient is home grown
- 94 "Natural History of Westbury and the River Trym" – a video maximum duration 2 minutes. Send to [suswot2050@gmail.com](mailto:suswot2050@gmail.com) by 7pm Tuesday 30th August. Entry form and fee to be in as usual by 5pm Tuesday 30th August

The video is advertised in the column in Henleaze and Westbury Voice.

Roger is keen to have a Trout in the Trym stall separate from the SusWoT stall and has informed Carol. They will be looking for volunteers.

We need a rota for our own stall. **Fran** to put out a request for volunteers. Alex still has plenty of juice. Things to promote on the stall include:

- Bring and share meal
- Community allotment idea
- Recruit for litter picking
- Recycling leaflets – encourage people to support their neighbours with recycling
- Promote repair cafés.
- Show videos? Or will the show do this for themselves.
- Heat Pump Ready – not yet ready to engage the public.

### **Heat Pump Ready [Things have moved on Rapidly 1/8/22]**

Project aims to last 2.5 years. Mike Andrews said the council were still in discussions with the overall organisers.

How do you implement a large number of air source heat pumps in one area? Much increased load on sub-station. Target for 250 homes simultaneously.

- Need to plan communication and recruitment process ~ 6 months?
- Insulation etc. assessment of homes
- Do necessary home upgrades and understand issues raised in doing this.
- After 2 year preparation period, install all at once to understand issues around coping with high demand for installations when rolled out nationally.

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

This is happening and successful. There are a lot of volunteers doing sewing. There are now several repair cafés in our area.

### **Flowers Around WoT**

Still not heard from Hilary.

## **AOB**

We have had a request to see if SusWoT would be interested in enquiring of local businesses as to why they don't have solar panels? Most businesses do not own their premises.

## **Henleaze and Westbury Voice**

The Henleaze and Westbury Voice is a monthly free publication that we have a regular column in. The piece needs to be submitted by 15th of month for the next month's issue. We need content for the next issue.

Bring and Share meal.

River cleaning and balsam: how little balsam there is this year – in October edition

Get involved with SusWoT.

Litter map. New council scheme. See how well this is working!

It may help to make an annual plan of topics for suitable months.