

# SusWoT MEETING

7:30pm, 25th January 2024, Village Hall

## Present

Alex Dunn, Margaret, Bob Murphy, Pat Meek, Jill Kempshall, Rob Benington, David MacGregor, Mike Crabbe, Liz Viggars

## Apologies

Fran Bragg, Peter Coleman-Smith, Judith Sluglett, Stephen Noreiko, Mel Ward, Denise Barwell, Hattie Lupton

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

## Previous Minutes

<https://www.suswot.org.uk/minutes/>

No comments received

## REGULAR ITEMS

### Formal Structure of SusWoT

SusWoT needs to have legal status now that we have money and we want to be able to sign contracts and so on. We are therefore going through the process of turning SusWoT into a charity.

Mike has completed much of the documentation – but needs to finalise the HMRC section (another 32 pages) in consultation with at least two of the proposed Trustees. Liz and Alex to pick this up. Note that the current officers will be the initial trustees. There is provision to add further trustees at a later date.

### Domestic Energy

We have contributed to the final report for the Heat Pump Ready Phase 2 programme which has concluded early due to lack of take-up. SusWoT engaged on the customer journey looking to sign up 25% of households on a transformer. This was an unrealistic target given the nature of the offer. Key finding was that customers would consider it when they needed to replace their existing central heating system.

While ASHPs were a step too far we need to get people started on insulation and other retrofit measures.

Two new projects coming on:

1. Retrofit West – we have been offered in principle a grant (administered by the Bristol Energy Network) for £5k for a community retrofit accelerator project.
2. BEN have also made us aware of grants that they are looking to offer for another £5k for Open Doors events. We will consider this.

There are other similar projects working in the same area at the moment. C.H.E.E.S.E has applied for money (Megawatt funding) to explore and test different ways to move from identifying what's best in their home to getting it done. First project meeting happening now. It is useful for SusWoT to be aware of these projects and we're happy to talk. Rob to liaise between the two groups.

- It was noted that lack of resources and support may be putting people off from having surveys.
- It will be key for SusWoT to consider different messaging for different groups of people – recognising their different requirements.

## **Litter**

Our network of litter pickers continues to keep Westbury streets clean. There is a new team in the centre of the village.

Bob reported lots of beer cans on Canford Lane – discarded from cars

There's a wheelbarrow in the Trym in the village – David to retrieve and collate with other river-collections.

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

River cleaning – nearly finished – need to keep it clean. We have £1k from BCP to equip people who live on the roads along the Trym/Hazel Brook to keep it clean. Couple of volunteers already, Working with Mark Weston. Alex is purchasing 25 sets of kit and some children's kit

Peter: I've met the Bristol Uni students (microplastics 2nd year project) who have now started taking samples. Results/report due in March. Also I am due to receive the report back from BART following their review of the key weirs on the Trym, again late March or so.

Emptying the silt traps at Blaise is due to get underway.

## **Get Growing**

We will be growing on a smaller scale this year – and Alex is sowing 250 sungolds and alicantes. We will sell them at the May fair.

## **Library Garden**

Currently planted up with Onions, garlic and broad beans – looking good.

## **Supper Club/ Meal Nights**

The next meal night will be at Il Sapore (<https://www.ilsaporerestaurant.co.uk/>) on Thursday 8th February.

## **Upcoming Events**

### WI Talk

Monday 15th April 2024, 2:00pm

### Holy Trinity Talk

TBC

### May Fair

2nd Saturday of the month

### Village Show

Village Show 2024 is Saturday 7th September. We have booked a stall - there's a Book theme. We need to think of a related theme for the third SusWoT class.

## **Publicity**

## **Phone Apps**

Phone Apps – need to promote use.

## **AOB**

- Jill: Bristol Tree forum are giving away 2,000 saplings again this year - pedunculate oak and downy birch, available to order for Feb.  
<https://bristoltreeforum.org/2024/01/17/our-2024-tree-giveaway-free-saplings-for-planting/>
- Several SusWoTters will be attending the Love Your Park Volunteer celebration on 3rd Feb.
- Consultation on Local Plan – deadline tomorrow.

## **Date of Next Meeting**

7:30pm, Thursday 29th February

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