

SusWoT MEETING

7:30pm, 26th June 2025, Village Hall

Present

Alex Dunn, Liz Viggars, Fran Bragg, Pat Meek, Jane Stott

Apologies

Mike Crabbe, David McGregor, Judith Sluglett, Jill Kempshall, Steve Tainton, Tracy Tainton, Hattie Lupton

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

Previous Minutes

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

No corrections to the previous minutes were required.

REGULAR ITEMS

Domestic Energy

November Energy Fair - Saturday 8th November 2025

Liz has emailed all of last year's stall-holders. CHEESE and BEN have replied positively as well as Ecocetera.

Liz will contact others who were invited last year next when we have responses from the first group. We can now tell prospective stall-holders that we had around 250 people attending at last year's event.

Green Open Homes

The Green Open Homes event is on the same weekend as the Village Show (Sat 6 & Sun 7 September

<https://www.bristolenergynetwork.org.uk/green-open-homes>).

Retrofit West Feedback Session

Liz attended this event. There were other community groups, from Widcombe, Emerson's Green, Marshfield as well as Andy O'Brien. We have been told there are 13 community groups altogether, but we are not allowed to know about them! There were organisations such as CHEESE, BEN and other professional groups. It did not seem very fruitful in terms of giving feedback.

Sustainable Holidays

We have put an article in Henleaze Voice.

We could form a small group to look into this more and ideally an area of the website in the Using Less theme where people can share their experiences. Fran will look into creating this.

Litter

The Civic Society scheme to develop litter picking in new areas is going ahead, starting in Southmead. SusWoT will do a preliminary clean removing historic litter as starting from scratch can be overwhelming for new people. New litter tends to be out in the open and easy to remove. This will start in Southmead. We need to progress leaflets about this for Southmead - check with Lily. We also need some content from the Civic Society to include in the leaflet. We decided it would be better to start in July/August when the weather is good and going out picking is a more attractive proposition, even if people may be on holiday for some of that time. There are existing groups in parts of Southmead including Doncaster Road park and Pen Park Rd that are often monthly.

Liz has also tested a child's picker that does not look as robust, but does appear to be repairable. The hoop is also smaller, but the handle is the same as the adult version.

There is a question of whether there is enough work to keep both Friday and Sunday activities weekly. Discuss with Sunday regulars how to progress this session.

Trout in the Trym - River Cleaning, Himalayan Balsam

Two people completed clearing balsam in just over an hour last week as there is now less growing due to the success of previous years' efforts. Use Friday sessions to focus on river activities.

Get Growing

Alex sold 15 tomatoes today to neighbours and other contacts. We donated 24 to St Ursula's school.

Library Garden and Community Garden

Library garden is going well. They are organising a watering and weeding group. This could be an early candidate for our new WhatsApp community.

Jim and Lesley have not yet managed to replace the rotten arch. There is a question about the whereabouts of a plaque that had been on the arch.

We can open for 2 hours at the community gardens on the day of the September Get Growing trail - have an open working party day. 20th September, 10-12pm. Put in Henleaze Voice September edition.

Supper Club/ Meal Nights

Second Thursday - Restaurant

10th July - Indian Kitchen.

Tuesday - Pub

12 days after the restaurant night, usually 4th Tuesday

22nd July.

There were 5 people at the last pub night. This time of year has been historically low in numbers for SusWoT. The White Horse is only doing toasties now.

It is the Victoria's turn next. Ask Keith to talk to them.

Events - Recent and Upcoming

Open gardens on 14th June was slow, didn't sell a lot, but did spend the time tidying the gardens. Honey and beehive display was successful.

Publicity

We have raised our profile with Bristol Civic Society and with our local councillors.

We used paid publicity for open garden day which did not seem to get a lot of response.

Liz went to a community climate action group at the cricket ground.

Phone Apps

Liz is in touch with Matthew. The software needs updating. We may be able to take over the software ourselves.

If it doesn't work soon, **Liz will replace the app on the website** with a notice for people to contact us by email.

Future Direction of SusWoT

Could we revive the harvest meal in a different form - bring and share type event rather than the professionally cooked meal we had before? We could book the Village Hall for a Sunday when it is usually closed - **Liz can ask.**

AOB

Repair cafe? John Martin has suggested we could start a cafe for helping people with their computer problems. There are quite a few of these already in the area. We would not commit to anything like this without a good plan and resources lined up.

Date of Next Meeting

31st July.

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