

# **SusWoT MEETING**

**7:30pm, 26th February 2026, Village Hall**

## **Present**

Jane Stott, Pat Meek, Richard Bennett, Alex Dunn, Liz Viggars

## **Apologies**

Fran Bragg, Steve Tainton, Tracy Tainton, Stephen Noreiko, Judith Sluglett, Jill Kempshall, 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/>

# **REGULAR ITEMS**

## **Domestic Energy**

12th March - Liz and Alex will be attending a Retrofit West conference of all the funded community groups - we will present what we've done and explain the pivot in our strategy towards support networks and Retrofit Neighbours.

## **Sustainable Holidays**

We published some tips last year in our Henleaze and Westbury Voice article, but not sure how we might take this forward. Please get in touch if you've got ideas about what we can do. (If no new ideas then we will take this off the standing agenda).

## **Litter**

Liz visited the new recycling facility at Avonmouth to see what happens to the kerbside recycling collections and got some useful insights - in particular separating glass from the other mixed recycling, problems with vapes, soft plastic trials and so on. This will be written up for the next Henleaze and Westbury Voice article.

We have a new supply of green bags (community litter picks new branding) - and a limited number of recycling bags.

Our Friday and Sunday team events have been based in Southmead for the last couple of months. We've probably deep-cleaned half of Southmead now - collecting 40-50 bags of rubbish a week. We've got a few local volunteers - we need more. We are trying to use the WoT model for litterpicking across other areas of the city - i.e. we deep clean it and then get local volunteers to keep it clean. Team Southmead are supportive of this approach - although there is still some demand for Group litter picks. Team Southmead (Hilary) has designed a draft leaflet (but it still needs some work).

Alex to speak to Bristol Waste Community Engagement Team and see how they can help us get volunteers.

The Great British Spring Clean is from 13th-26th March and this is a good opportunity to get in touch with our litterpicking individuals. We will email them and ask them how they approach keeping their street clean, asking some basic questions about frequency, amount collected etc.

Teresa has been in touch with Darren Jones regarding the increased litter in Crow Lane around Aldi.

We're waiting to hear back from the scouts considering cleaning Horfield Common on a regular basis after Easter- they are getting in touch with the Friends of Horfield Common first.

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

Shall we buy a Drone? Regulations have tightened up and we would need a licence. John M and Oliver have drones - and might be able to advise. Further investigation required if we are to set this up as a serious project. We could commit some funds towards this. Could Peter lead the project and involve BART? Alex to speak to Peter.

Peter has written to the Environmental Law Foundation about the silt problem in Hazel Brook. As the EA is now taking a more active role, we need to keep a watching brief.

Simon Richards is about to start digging silt out of the ponds in Blaise again - we've asked the litter volunteers - Sue and Di are able to help - he will need more help.

There are some new signs at the Wildlife park that mention the work that we've been doing.

Richard has found a new stretch of river in Brentry that feeds into Hazel Brook - it's next to Enterprise Hire and full of rubbish. We'll slot it in (probably a Friday clean) when we have a suitable opportunity

We need to be careful with litter picking around the river and in the hedges now due to bird-nesting season.

### **Get Growing**

Holy Trinity have confirmed there will be no Community fair this May and the Bristol Get Growing Trail is not showing any signs of setting up a summer event at the moment. Therefore we would need to make alternative arrangements to sell tomatoes. Some options include: set up our own trail (involve the Wildlife Park, churches, allotments etc ); take on a stall at the Country Market - Friday mornings in Westbury; find other community events (note the Methodist May plant sale is not taking place either). As we're about to start planting, we should see if people want any seeds or plants now.

### **Library Garden and Community Garden**

Wait for some dry days before we organise a working party for the library garden. Doesn't need too much work at the moment.

There have been more volunteers coming forward to help look after the Community Garden - Jim and Lesley have it all under control.

## **Supper Club/ Meal Nights**

### Second Thursday - Restaurant

Thursday 12th March - Al Fresco is next is rotation

### Tuesday - Pub

12 days after the restaurant night, usually 4th Tuesday

Tuesday 24th March - White Lion is next

## **Events - Recent and Upcoming**

Village show classes - 92 and 93 - would be as last year. We'd like 94 to be an artwork of a tree featuring recycled materials. Alex will get in touch with Alexia to see if this would be acceptable

We do want a stall at the Village Show.

## **Publicity**

Do people have ideas for the monthly article in the Henleaze and Westbury Voice? We have 500 words and a picture. The schedule for the next couple of months is:

April Henleaze Voice - Liz (Avonmouth, recycling) Alex - Get Growing

May Henleaze Voice - Richard (Heat Pump). Liz (Himalayan Balsam)

We have a new poster in the GP surgery - we could use this as an Ad in the Village Show programme.

We will need to develop a strategy for the litter section of the website - particularly as we're planning to use it city-wide in the long term (with different pages/set-ups for each area). Alex to speak to Laura (unless we can convince Bristol Waste to take this on).

## **Phone Apps**

Liz to make final approach to Matthew re WoTplot - which needs software updates. It may be that we need to look at WoTpic again.

## **Future Direction of SusWoT**

## **Charity and Administrative Matters**

## **AOB**

It would be good to have more people at the monthly meetings - would scheduled talks be of interest?

## **Date of Next Meeting**

Thursday 26th March

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