

SusWoT MEETING

7:30pm, 30th April 2026, Village Hall

Present

Alex Dunn, Richard Bennett, Jane Stott, Stephen Noreiko, Judith Sluglett, David McGregor, Pat Meek, Liz Viggars, Mark Wilson (litter discussion only)

Apologies

Fran Bragg, Mike Crabbe

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

Previous Minutes

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

REGULAR ITEMS

Domestic Energy

Following our Retrofit West funded events, we are now moving to a community support network through our Retrofit Neighbours project. This puts people who want to do something in touch with others who have already done it. We now have quite a few examples of installations so we can make sure that people get to talk to the most relevant people. While Richard is getting on very well with his heat pump, early adopters Judith and Stephen are still having issues with theirs - they are on their second heat pump with Cotswold Energy Company - and there are still problems which have not yet been resolved. Liz to set up Retrofit Neighbours Webpage and write news article to accompany it.

Sustainable Holidays

Byway.travel is a good source of inspiration for trips.

Litter

Mark Wilson from 62nd Scout Group attended to talk about how to get their group cleaning the local area (they are based near Wellington Hill). Mark had seen what we'd done in Westbury and wanted us to inspire the scout group to deliver environmental improvements in their area. We discussed the different approaches to cleaning (monthly picks, deep cleaning, keep it clean). As a starting point we will look to work with the Wednesday scouts - and deliver a short talk followed by a cleaning session near the scout hut (Wellington Hill park?).

Keep It Clean Southmead. The deep clean is making progress - still another couple of months - more than half of Southmead is now reasonably clean, Stage 2 is Keep It Clean - we have recruited 20 volunteers and co-opted the Greenway Centre to hand out the green litter bags. Team Southmead are developing a leaflet to help recruit more people.

Trout in the Trym - River Cleaning, Himalayan Balsam

We made a film with WECA this week - talking about the river health, the work we have done to clean up and so on.

Himalayan Balsam is already appearing due to ideal growing conditions. Around 250 plants have been removed already. We have a WhatsApp group to try and keep on top of the whole Trym/Hazel Brook catchment area.

Wessex Water are carrying out significant improvements to drainage systems around Westbury and the Trym. Storm Drains being built - essentially reservoirs underneath Canford Park to stop the drainage systems being overrun.

There is a problem with algae in the pond at Canford Park - Andy Renshaw WoTSoc working with the council parks department.

Get Growing

We will be selling tomato plants outside Holy Trinity Church on 9th May 11am-3pm. We should also have chillis, cucumbers, courgettes and butternut squash. The bellringers will be running tours of the church tower at the same time and the Well will be open for cream teas from noon. We could do with some more volunteers to help - particularly with setting up in the morning from 10am.

Library Garden and Community Garden

Library garden needs some work - new plants aren't ready to go in yet though. Community Garden is looking smart.

Supper Club/ Meal Nights

Second Thursday - Restaurant

Thursday 14th May - Mezze Bar

Tuesday - Pub

12 days after the restaurant night, usually 4th Tuesday

Tuesday 26th May - Victoria - get Keith to sort it out

Last Friday of the month - litter picking social - Prince of Wales

Events - Recent and Upcoming

Saturday 9th May - tomato stall at the church

Saturday 5th September - Village show - we will have a stall and have taken out a full page advert in the show programme.

Publicity

Do people have ideas for the monthly article in the Henleaze and Westbury Voice? We have 500 words and a picture. Deadline is either second or third Wednesday of the month.

Kate's article on her new power wall will form part of the June submission.

Phone Apps

Not discussed

Future Direction of SusWoT

Not discussed

Charity and Administrative Matters

We are reviewing the mailing list and moving towards a management system allowing self-subscription and unsubscription.

AOB

People's Emergency Briefing

Judith is organising a screening of the People's Emergency Briefing at Trinity and Henleaze United Reform Church (BS9 4BT) on 14 June from 19:30 to 21:30. Similar events are taking place across the country and Judith attended the Shirehampton screening last week with 30-40 others. There will be a 45 minute film and a guided discussion afterwards (Judith has organised somebody to lead the discussions). Admission is by FREE ticket from <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/peoples-emergency-briefing-tickets-1988069452249>. Further details about the film are here: [National Emergency Briefing](#)

SusWoT will attend the briefing and give a 5 minute presentation about what we do in relation to the topics that will be covered (Climate, health, tipping points, security, food supply, energy etc). We will promote the event to our main mailing list.

All to let Judith have lists of possible organisations who can promote (schools, churches etc). Jane will contact U3A Henleaze.

Tree planting

Lloyds Banking Group have approached us with 50 volunteers. While we cannot accommodate this number within our regular activities, they suggested they could do tree-planting in November. We need to choose trees and find locations by September.

Parks

There is a Parks Lead Volunteers event 19th May.

Blaise Centenary

Trout in the Trym has been approached about running a Walk and Talk to celebrate the centenary of Blaise Estate. Alex to forward request to Peter CS.

Date of Next Meeting

7:30pm, Thursday 28th May at the Village Hall

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