

SusWoT MEETING

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

Present

Alex Dunn, Liz Viggars, Richard Bennett, Fran Bragg, Pat Meek, Tracy Tainton, Jill Kempshall, Jane Stott

Apologies

Mike Crabbe, Judith Sluglett, Stephen Noreiko

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

Previous Minutes

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

REGULAR ITEMS

Litter and Keep It Clean

Liz has now developed a proof of concept tool for our website that shows all the streets in particular areas and what stage these are at in the Keep it Clean process. We should be able to have a pilot running in Henbury where several people will be able to update the map to show progress.

<https://suswot.org.uk/local-area/keep-it-clean-bristol/henbury-keep-it-clean/>

Keep It Clean - we have grants from the Civic Society and Quartet. We are extending the WoT litter process into Henbury, Southmead and further. There are two stages - firstly, a deep clean by SusWoT teams followed by Keep It Clean by local residents: there are 29 signed up now in Southmead. We are creating maps so people know where to get bags, where to leave bags and the status of each street. The Henbury map is the best current example: <https://suswot.org.uk/local-area/keep-it-clean-bristol/henbury-keep-it-clean/>. Admins need to fill in a spreadsheet to update it, which is then plotted on the website map. This can be replicated for other areas as required. The local councillor, Mark Weston, is up-to-date with our work.

Southmead is having leaflets delivered and some people are responding. Leaflets will be delivered in Henbury when the deep clean is complete.

Trout in the Trym - River Cleaning, Himalayan Balsam

Himalayan balsam. There is not a great deal around. We probably need a session in Blaise. Richard did Crow Lane. John Diwell has been keeping an eye on Blaise. There is a little around the confluence and also Grace Garden School. They have done some work themselves which we have followed up.

We have been working on balsam for 6 years now. Advice suggests at least 3 years are required. The bulk was removed in the first 3 years, but there is a long tail remaining of a few plants. We could ask Peter Coleman-Smith to write to Theo Pike to ask for further advice on completely eradicating it.

We have been asked to talk to some other community groups by Nicky Hodges (Bristol City Council Managing for Nature Ranger) to share our experience.

Domestic Energy

There is now a Retrofit Neighbours page on the website (<https://suswot.org.uk/using-less/retrofit-neighbours/>) that people can use to connect with people to see various installations.

Liz would like to keep articles going in the Henleaze Voice about different projects that people have had done. Jill has recently had solar panels fitted with a battery. We could ask Matt from Retrofit West or CSE to write an overview of different technologies.

Retrofit West are giving us £500 towards the Welcome to Westbury leaflet produced by the Networking group.

Get Growing

We sold £600 of plants this year.

Library Garden and Community Garden

The library garden is slow going. Nothing is flourishing in the heatwaves. Jane's tomatoes ripened after being soaked in the bath. We need more people to keep the garden well watered - ask for volunteers.

The community garden is no longer growing any vegetables although the grapes are flourishing. Some chairs have been left in the garden. Alex will ask Jim if they want them disposed of.

Supper Club/ Meal Nights

Second Thursday - Restaurant

Thu 13 Aug - Al Fresco

Tuesday - Pub

12 days after the restaurant night, usually 4th Tuesday

Tue 25 Aug - Victoria

The White Horse is due to re-open. Liz and Tracy are going to visit and ask if they would like to go on the pub meal list.

Harvest Supper

Sunday 13th August, 5-8pm at Northcote Scout Hall, Great Brockeridge.

Meeting on Friday at 2pm at Tracy's. Liz has done some risk assessments and we have some instructions from the Scouts.

Events - Recent and Upcoming

Village Show

This is the weekend before the harvest supper, so promote that on the stall.

Guess the weight of the squash was very successful last year, but nothing is growing well this year. Guess the weight of a bag of rubbish?? Have litter maps available for sign up.

Publicity

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

Anyone wanting to write articles is welcome to contact us.

Future Direction of SusWoT

Activities to spread joy and happiness in the area.

Charity and Administrative Matters

New email management using EmailOctopus. The first test of this system resulted in all the messages going to spam folders. We need to create domain email and change some DNS settings - we will need Zen access details from Alex.

AOB

Date of Next Meeting

7:30pm, Thursday 27th August at the **Post Office Tavern**.

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