

SUSWOT STEERING MEETING

7:30PM, 10TH JANUARY 2013

PRESENT

Jill Kempshall, Mike Crabbe, Myra Jones, Fran Bragg, Richard Bennett,

Apologies

Alex Dunn, Tracy Tainton, Steve Tainton, Lorraine Hutt,

PROJECTS STATUS

Biodiversity

- Possible link up with Friends of Badock's Wood. Lorraine will liaise with Friends of Badock's Wood with a view to pooling resources in a shared event.

Community Garden

Jill picked some kale in December, Garden appears to be flourishing.

SusWoT involvement. Plot is officieally an allotment, though not included within the allotment fencing. The site is officially held in Alex's name. The co-op grant had to be channelled through SusWoT and any future money would probably have to come the same way.

As Alex is still the allotment holder, would he potentially be reponsible for any liabilities, insurance claims. Now that the garden is demonstrated to be a successful community project, would it make sense to register the plot as a community tenure in some way? **Action: Alex to discuss with council.**

Energy

Why so hard to engage people?

- Most of W-o-T population is relatively affluent and not strongly motivated about saving money.
- Green Deal seems very complicated. Can we make things easy for people? There must be simple checklists/flowcharts available already, can we lead people to them.
- Saving energy does not have the same fun and satisfaction as say growing some tomatoes for yourself.
- Mike has written an article for the next newsletter. Can it get distributed to waiting rooms – dr, dentist, cafe.

Get Growing

- Plans for this year.
 - wider range of crops – more weather-tolerant?
 - bee-friendly
 - herbs
- Alex has ordered 1,000 tomato seeds and first ones are ready to be planted this weekend.
- Hattie has loads of various crops still growing.
- Discussion at next green drinks about which crops.
- Bee-friendly plants. Idea is to grow some bee-friendly perennials that will flower in the same year. Mike has a contact, Ruth, who is a bee-keeper and gives good talks, potential event for April open meeting around what to grow for bees etc.
- Herbs – these are both food and bee-friendly!
- Next newsletter, give a list of annuals for individuals to sow for themselves. Myra happy to grow plants on, more than germinate them.
- Ask for pots from mailing list – bring to February market.
- Compost – use home made or buy John Innes?
- Any spare greenhouse space?
- Publicicse Knowle West Media Centre project to assist people in their own growing.

Local Food

- Growing – skills, land
- Cooking – skills, recipes, preserving and leftovers
- Supply chain – provenance, fruit collecting scheme

Feed Bristol by M32, tried having separate plots, divided them to make them more manageable, still had problems, made space shared and this works much better.

The last year has been so bad it may have put off newer growers.

The Eat WoT Grows meal was very successful and we would be keen to do this again if Matt is happy. Discuss at March steering group with Lorraine/Matt. The planning would need to start well before summer holiday and we need to make sure we are able to support Matt as much as possible.

Fran to continue research – a huge amount goes on in Bristol already. What balance between engaging with things already going on and doing our own projects.

Market

- Can we do a SusWoT promotion that involves them having to come into the market, e.g. collect your free tomato plant here.
- Myra has emailed WoT Business Association (Roy Pepworth) about the Carlton Court possibility, also discussed with councillor about use of pavement. All this is moving very slowly.
- Their insurance is due and has gone up a lot.
- Fish man is opening his own shop, may not continue his stall?
- Annual rent paid to GP practice.
- Promotion – have umbrella for wandering around in bad weather? Have recipes using ingredients available from market.
- Mike has zillions of timeless leaflets.

SusSwap

Is it resting or has it shuffled off its mortal perch?

Clothes swaps are very popular these days. Email the list to see if anyone would like to be involved. Or toy swap or anything else? Street Bank – register to either give things away or lend in local area.

UPCOMING SUSWOT EVENTS

Open Meeting in February

21st February. Feeling is it's too early in the year to be thinking about growing. Do we need to look at ways of making these meetings more fun?

Home-made swap – encourage people to bring something they make for themselves that other people buy in shops, or do for yourself. Steering group to refine wording etc. WoT Do You Do? Little Westbury Bake-Off.

Open Meeting in April

Bee-keeping – Ruth and Graham Barsby? Mike to enquire.

Could this be combined with some kind of herb talk? Matt?

UPDATE ON OTHER LOCAL EVENTS AND ISSUES

Other Events of Interest

- Sustainable Redland event, 7.30pm, Wednesday 6th February. “Sustainable Redland is hosting a meeting to foster bids for a Sustainable Transport project, funded by the City Council, and wondered if Suswot people would like to attend.” See bottom of agenda for full details.

Planning

Wesley College plan – old college building to be turned into a care home, student flats to be sold off, build 12 houses to be accessed along the Ridgeway.

Tescos not likely to open before December next year.

Transport

ADMINISTRATIVE

Communication

- Email
- Website
 - Some description and pictures of the various projects has been added to the website.
 - Andy O'Brien has been sent necessary information to permit transfer of domain to James Bragg.
- Social media
 - The word is social – need to engage more with wider world, not just publicise our own events e.g. post links to relevant stories in media, especially fun ones. Don't just talk about yourself!
 - Connect with other relevant groups to connect to their audiences where relevant.
 - <http://www.bristolblogs.com/>
- Local publications

Finance

Richard would like to stand down as treasurer after the AGM.

Meetings Schedule/ Dates of Next Meetings

<u>Steering Groups</u>	<u>Open Meetings</u>
10 Jan 13	21 Feb 13
14 Mar 13	11 Apr 13
9 May 13	6 Jun 13
11 Jul 13	8 Aug 13
12 Sep 13	3 Oct 13
14 Nov 13	

SusRed email

Sustainable Redland is hosting a meeting to foster bids for a Sustainable Transport project, funded by the City Council, and wondered if Suswot people would like to attend.

This will be at the Hampton Road Friends Meeting House on February 6th at 7.30 pm

The meeting is open to anyone. It will be Open Space in style, which means you can very briefly tell everyone about your idea, then when discussion time comes, have the benefit of others who want to help develop your idea into the one that everyone else votes for at the end as most likely to impress the neighbourhood partnership.

Here are some more details:

- there's a substantial amount of money available. The bucket city wide is I believe over a million pounds.
- we decided to open it as wide as possible, so we'll invite other organisations such as Sustrans to attend, that way opening it beyond Redland's borders. Applications affecting the city are likely to be more successful than ones affecting small areas only.
- the money is coming through the Neighbourhood Partnership, so applicants will need to keep that in mind
- the project is about changing behaviour, about persuading people to do things like leave their cars behind and discover more beneficial ways for them to get around
- pleasure and fun need to part of the mix
- any ideas are welcome, though more plausible ones are liable to be successful
- this is a project Susredland would love to see running, but run by the proposer
- Clive Stevens will talk about the project in more detail at the beginning of the meeting, but most of the time will be given over to Open Space so that people keen to push an idea can persuade others to join them to put a proposal structure together.
- at the end of the meeting we'll look at the proposals and decide which is best
- Susredland's role is to get the project off the ground with this initial meeting, and for as many of our members as possible to attend, whether or not they come with their own ideas.

Please come and tell as many of your friends as possible, and forward this letter to any other relevant groups you might know of.

Many thanks and best wishes