

SUSWOT MEETING

7:30PM, 21ST FEBRUARY 2013

PRESENT

Fran Bragg, Richard Bennett, Sue Lloyd, Mike Crabbe, Tim Bushell, Richard Pedlar, Jill Kempshall

Apologies

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

PROJECTS STATUS

Biodiversity

Lorraine is still keen to run this event, but in conjunction with Friends of Badock's Wood.

There is a lot of interest ecologically and historically in the wildlife area along the river, including an old mill with many sluices and tower for generating a head of water (potential for renewable energy) – could be suitable for a Heritage Lottery Fund grant. This is a privately-owned wildlife park which has become run down. There is a lot of potential, but difficult to progress anything of such scope without a concerted plan and people coming together. Could the Neighbourhood Partnership take this up? Next meeting 4th March.

Energy

Would it be worth investigating village level schemes for renewable energy generation?

Need to find ways of engaging people. Green Doors is successful at attracting visitors, though it is unknown how many people do anything about what they have seen. Could have tour around eco-house in Coombe Dingle. Provide practical examples for people to engage with rather than theory.

Get Growing

Get Growing Trail, 8-9 June.

Other local events as well as market are good occasions for selling plants and raising SusWoT profile at the same time.

Hattie, Alex and Mike are diversifying their vegetables into french beans, runner beans, courgettes, pumpkins, red peppers, chillies and more. Break wholesale packs of 1,000 seeds down into smaller packs for sale at market for 50p each. Sow some of them – there is a schedule! Also, 1,500 tomatoes. Commercial seeds are getting increasingly poor value, more expensive for fewer seeds, so SusWoT plants are an even better buy.

Local Food

Forest of Avon Trust are offering fruit trees and other shrubs for greatly reduced prices.

Market

Evaluation of progress.

SusSwap

Street Bank website – swap things you don't want. More local than Freecycle, houses within 1 mile. Can also lend items and also offer services and skills.

Clothes swap.

UPCOMING SUSWOT EVENTS

- April open meeting – AGM. Bee lady (Ruth) is happy to come, but we need to have a decent turn out.
- Darren Jones, Labour party prospective parliamentary candidate would like to visit a meeting and meet SusWoT. Welcome to AGM, we should remind him we are a non-party political organisation.

UPDATE ON OTHER LOCAL EVENTS AND ISSUES

Other Events of Interest

- Fairtrade Fortnight, 25 Feb – 10 March
- Climate Week, 4-10 March
- Friends of the Earth AGM
- Plastic bag campaign

Planning

Tesco's and their TRO.

Opinions regarding the new Tesco's were varied. Whilst may object in principle to their very existence, there is an argument that anything that draws trade into the village and away from remote shopping centres is a good thing and there will be a cascade of benefit to other businesses.

Setting aside wider opinions on Tesco plc, the location of the new shop is extremely awkward for loading and extending the loading area can only exacerbate traffic problems at the busy roundabout with narrow approaches, zebra crossings/ traffic islands etc.

Transport

Sustainable transport grants from council - <http://www.bristol.gov.uk/page/local-sustainable-transport-grants>. Grants from £500 to £100,000 to encourage sustainable transport and active lifestyles. They are looking for bottom up, community led, projects, whereby project ideas come from local communities. Closing date, 29 March.

Pedestrianisation – Alistair Watson. Encourage walking, cycling etc. Could also provide a location for the market, strengthening the local community. Difficult for small groups of individuals to gather momentum and access complex systems, need local councillors to champion causes and co-ordinate input from constituents and multiple local organisations.

Lighting for quiet lanes to encourage people walking at night.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Steering Group

Lorraine feels unable to keep up commitment to the steering group, but is still keen to be involved with Badock's Wood and also the Harvest Supper if we want to repeat that event. We would like to thank Lorraine for all of her past contribution to SusWoT and the steering committee and ongoing commitment to the work of the group.

Communication

- Email, website, social media
- Local publications

Finance

Meetings Schedule/ Dates of Next Meetings

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