

Friends of the Avon New Cut (FrANC)

Steering Group meeting held on 18 March 2022, 14.15 – Spike Island Café

MINTUES

	<i>Item</i>	<i>What was discussed, agreed and any actions</i>	<i>Action by</i>
1.	Those present	Tim Wickstead (chair), John Holland (secretary), Ed Hall, Tess Green, Guy Malkerson, Steve Fay (Treasurer)	-
2.	Apologies for absence	Roy Gallop, Lizzi Testani, Laura Demery, Rob Fuller	-
3.	Minutes of the meeting held on 26 January 2022 (by email)	Approved	-
4.	Butterfly Junction Community Gardening project.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Meeting held on on 18th March with Chris Ecclestone (BCC Culture with responsibility for the Docks railway); a co-operative, friendly and useful meeting with possibilities for FrANC in terms of installing/managing raised beds near the end of the line. Discussions also about creating a group of New Cut stakeholders to support efforts and funding to restore the Docks Railway. ii. We have ongoing problems with storage and access – Tim to liaise with Chris Ecclestone about using the rail shed; John to explore the possibility of storage on White City allotments. iii. The last two Saturday sessions have seen 15 volunteers turn out to help. 	TW JH
5.	Signs project: update	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Rob Fuller is working with Tim to progress this; Sarah Townsend will join the team. Historical and local history information is readily available, but items about ‘the natural world’ are proving trickier to assemble. ii. Contact has been made with a copywriter who is offering to help edit the text. Ed suggested that signs are posted wherever there is a point of interest, rather than concentrating in a smaller area. Tim to send the list of subjects to a small group who are offering to write text – roughly 200 words in bullet points. iii. Tim and Rob to draft a succinct project information sheet to show interested parties/supportive funding eg Ed suggested linking with Aardman. 	TW
6.	Arts project	Guy has been working with writer Ewa Marcinek and they are in the process of planning some form of written/oral ‘art installation’, based on the New Cut.	-
7.	Review of litter picks and the invitation to obtain Health and Safety training on line	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. This has been a very successful season! All the rubbish has been cleared away promptly, thanks to Steve Clampin (BCC). Lots of younger people and children are coming. We discussed whether we should organise litter picking sessions at other times of the year, bearing in mind nesting birds etc. Tim to ask Lizzi to discuss other dates with Ed. ii. Equipment: Ed has managed to repair broken litter pickers but more are now needed. Guy suggested 	TW

		<p>using money from the Butterfly Junction project to purchase more. More 'bag rings' are also needed; small sized hi-viz jackets. Steve to visit Pattersons and negotiate a discount for us as a local community group.</p> <p>iii. Health & Safety training: John has been in touch with Ella Hogg (BCC Parks Volunteer Coordinator) who will arrange online training. John to email all FrANC members to canvas interest.</p>	<p>SF</p> <p>JH</p>
8.	Royal Horticultural Society's 'Good Neighbourhood Award'	John outlined the project and it was agreed to apply with him as FrANC contact – others to take part on the day of the assessment visit. John to send the information email to Steering Group members for information.	JH
9.	FrANC walks – post lockdown strolls around The Cut	For further discussion at a future meeting with Lizzi to firm up her proposal.	-
10.	Visit to Bristol Waste	Apparently, it is a good tour and we think that several members would be interested. We will try to arrange a visit. Ed told us about a guided tour of the Wessex Water pumping station (near Riverside Garden Centre) he had been on.	TW
11.	Western Harbour proposal – consultation	Should FrANC have a representative on the Stakeholder Group?	TW
12.	Any other business	<p>i. Gaol Ferry Bridge: as far as we know, the project is going ahead with no plans for a temporary replacement, but in the hope that work will be completed as speedily as possible to minimise impact.</p> <p>ii. We agreed that minutes of Steering Group meetings are published on the FrANC website so that all members are aware of the range of FrANC's activities and current projects. This was agreed.</p>	-
13.	Date/time/location of next meeting	Friday 10 June, 15:00 at Spike Island Cafe	All to note