

Friends of the Avon New Cut (FrANC)

Steering Group meeting held on 10 June March 2022, 15.00 – at Spike Island Cafe

MINUTES

	<i>Item</i>	<i>What was discussed, agreed and any actions</i>	<i>Action by</i>
1.	Those present	Tim Wickstead, John Holland, Steve Fay, Guy Malkerson, Tess Green, Roy Gallop, Ed Hall, Laura Demery	-
2.	Apologies for absence	Lizzi Testani, David Ludlow	-
3.	Minutes of the meeting held on 18 March 2022	<p>Most actions completed or linked to items below.</p> <p><i>Item 10 - visit to Bristol Waste:</i> Laura offered to ask David for a contact in Bristol Civic Society who arranged a visit for them a few years ago. Thank you to Jacqui Furneaux for trying.</p> <p>Tim reported that James Savage and Stephen Wickham attended a meeting of the Western Harbour stakeholder group; James wrote up an informative account of the meeting and, on behalf of FrANC, provided a well-judged response to the Consultation document.</p>	
4.	Litter Picking	<p>The normal pattern has been 'picks' in January, February, March, April. Last year we organised some in October and December as well, following 'lockdown'.</p> <p>Ed has spotted a lot of litter along Coronation Road which he suggested should be cleared. We discussed when birds have finished nesting and agreed that a litter pick could take place any time now, but only clearing the verges so that trees and bushes along the bank are left undisturbed.</p> <p>Agreed: to do a 'surface clean' – 23 July tbc with Lizzi.</p> <p>Tim to ask if she might liaise with Ed.</p> <p>New litter picking dates in 2023 to be fixed in due course.</p>	<p>TW</p> <p>JH to all members</p>
5.	Butterfly Junction Project	<p>We all agreed that BJ looks great at the moment, thanks to Guy, Liz and the volunteers – grasses and tall flowers blowing the wind. A butterfly identification and count is now underway.</p> <p>Usual turnout is steady – 20 on a good day which is very encouraging.</p> <p>£71.60 left in the budget. Guy to liaise with Steve for copies of the receipts which are needed for the record when it comes to reporting.</p> <p>As the 'Love Your Park' grant is coming to an end, Guy has compiled a simple questionnaire (copy circulated for comment). John to send to all FrANC members in the hope of getting a few completed returns.</p> <p>Guy is keen on finding a further source of funding to enable the project to continue – perhaps along the cycle/pedestrian path beyond the tunnel towards Avon Crescent.</p> <p>Tim has given Guy details of a new grant which might help.</p> <p>Ed offered to approach Chew Valley Trees for possible donation of suitable native trees. John suggested asking Riverside for possible donations of large shrubs.</p>	<p>JH</p> <p>EH</p> <p>JH</p>

		Tim thanked Guy – and others (Roy & Tess) for all they have done so far and just how promising the area is looking.	
6.	'It's Your Neighbourhood'	John gave a summary of what is required for the assessment which is taking place on 6 July at 10.00. We agreed that John and Tim will meet the assessor (Jane Pagano) – to be joined at B Junction by Guy and Lizzi (John to see if she is available)	JH
7.	Signs project	Tim has discussed progress with Rob Fuller and they both agree to have a sabbatical until September. Ed has approached Aardman and received a positive response and possible funding (?) More to follow at some point.	
8.	Replacement Treasurer	Tim thanked Steve who, after many years, is standing down 'to spend more time with his family'. Steve outlined what is involved – all very simple and straightforward. Having heard this, Laura offered to do it. Great! Trying to secure the right signatures on the mandate is the first key task. Derek Griffin, a contact from the BS3 Helping Others Group, has offered to help, so Tim will liaise with him to carry out an end of year audit if necessary.	
9.	Walks	Ed described walks which he has led in the past: the New Cut from Temple Meads to Cumberland Basin - 2.5hrs. The Dock Walk from M Shed to Cumberland Basin (emphasis on the Floating Harbour). Cumberland Basin starting at the Nova Scotia and looking at the locks, bonds etc. John offered to work up a walk with a focus on Clift House and surrounding area (Payne's Ship Yard etc) We agreed that putting on a few walks is a good idea but needs proper planning - so better for 2023	
10.	Any other business	(ii) Laura confirmed that she included a photograph and reference on our website to FrANC's small cameo role in the BBC's Countryfile programme in April. (iii) Guy reminded us of John Purkiss memorial picnic on Sunday 12 June at the community orchard, Myrtle Street.	
11.	Date/time/place of next meeting	Friday 7 October 2022, 15.00 - 16.30 <i>Venue to be confirmed</i>	All to note