

Friends of the Avon New Cut (FrANC)

Minutes of Committee meeting held on 7 June 2023

What was discussed, agreed and any actions	Action by
<p>1. Attendance</p> <p><u>Present:</u> Andrew Jenkins, Ed Hall (from 7.45pm), Guy Malkerson, James Savage, Laura Demery, Lizzi Testani, Roy Gallop, Tess Green</p> <p><u>Apologies for absence:</u> None</p>	
<p>2. Welcome</p> <p>Lizzi welcomed Andrew Jenkins and James Savage to the meeting.</p>	
<p>3. Minutes of the last meeting and actions arising</p> <p>The minutes of the meeting held on 17th March 2023 were approved.</p> <p><u>Actions arising</u></p> <p>January Item 5 Butterfly Junction: Ed has had no luck finding tools storage. Lizzi's contact at the bonded warehouses redevelopment is still a possibility. James has a contact at Baltic Wharf and will give Guy the details. <i>Action in progress.</i></p> <p>January Item 8 Litter Picks H&S training: Andrew is already trained. Lizzi will complete hers when the online system is working again. <i>Action in progress</i></p> <p>January Item 9 Wildlife: Lizzi included a request for people to help with wildlife surveys in an e-newsletter to members on 4th May. One person contacted us to say they were willing to help but couldn't lead a survey. Laura has found a couple more recent surveys in previous newsletters and has added them to the website. <i>Post meeting update: Guy has sent Laura more butterfly counts. Action complete</i></p> <p>January Item 10 Website: Laura shared her proposed revisions to the FrANC website with the committee on 29th May and received positive feedback. It was agreed that she should put the changes live. <i>Post meeting update: the revised website went live on 10th June. Action complete</i></p> <p>Item 6 Short Cuts: Laura has added draft pages to the website in readiness for when the signs are erected. Lizzi included a request for photos in the May e-newsletter. Only one person has responded – Anthony O'Neil – but he has sent several. <i>Action complete</i></p> <p>Item 6 (cont): Lizzi has contacted Rob to let him know we preferred the rectangular layout and to thank him. <i>Action complete</i></p> <p>Item 6 (cont): Ed has spoken to the signs sponsor and he has confirmed that the Aardman logo could be put on the signs. Lizzi has let Rob know. <i>Action complete</i></p> <p>Item 7 Butterfly Junction: Lizzi has sent Change X funding for community orchards details to Tess for the Patchwork Group. <i>Action complete</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">LT / JS</p> <p style="text-align: center;">LT</p>

<p><i>Post meeting update: Laura will provide some Mailchimp training for Guy so he can send out invites to members nearer the time</i></p> <p>As part of the application, Wessex Water needed to see our Equal Opportunities Policy. As FrANC didn't have one, Guy drafted a policy which was reviewed by Lizzi and Laura and published on the website on 19th May, before the grant application deadline of 22nd May. It was agreed that reviewing the new policy would be added to the agenda for the next committee meeting.</p> <p>Regarding the community gardening sessions, Guy is not available for 1st July, but Tess and Roy will lead it if possible.</p>	<p>LD / GM</p> <p>GM</p> <p>T&R</p>
<p>8. Non-intrusive Litter Picking</p> <p>Saturday 8th July was agreed as the date for a summer litter pick – from pavement only and using short litter picks. The meeting place will be Gaol Ferry Bridge on the south side at 9.45 for a 10am start.</p> <p>Lizzi will email members to invite them</p> <p>Laura agreed to be Health & Safety trained. Lizzi will get her registered.</p> <p>Andrew will bring the sign in sheets to the litter pick.</p> <p><i>Post meeting update: Laura has added the litter pick to the What's On section of the website and Lizzi included the information in an email to members on 14th June.</i></p>	<p>LT / LD</p> <p>AJ</p>
<p>9. Any other business</p> <p><u>BBC Radio Bristol</u>: we were contacted by local journalist Pete Simpson asking if FrANC was willing to be interviewed the following day on the council's plans for repairs to several of the New Cut bridges. Thanks to Ed for stepping in at short notice.</p> <p><u>BS3 Wildlife Group 'Meet the Cabinet'</u>: Ed attended this meeting at City Hall on 7th June representing FrANC. Councillors Kye Dudd and Ellie King were there. Information from these meetings needs to be disseminated.</p> <p><u>Rights for Rivers UK</u>: we have received an email from a newly formed environmental group focussed on the health of our rivers, asking for collaboration. Laura will forward the email to the committee for their feedback before replying. <i>Post meeting update: the majority of replies were not in favour of engaging with the group as their aims are outside our remit and capacity. James suggested a links section on the website to like-minded groups such as City to Sea. Laura will follow this up</i></p> <p><u>Application to fell five ash trees</u>: the outcome of this planning application is not yet known but an earlier related application to build a security fence has been rejected. Tess has seen no sign of disease in the trees and thanked Lizzi for submitting our objections.</p>	<p>LD</p>
<p>10. Next Committee meeting</p> <p>Wednesday 13th September 2023 at 7pm. Venue to be confirmed nearer the time</p>	