

Friends of the Avon New Cut (FrANC) Committee meeting Minutes

Wednesday 21 October 2026

Location: Bathurst Basin

Present: Phil Cass, Sue Chubb, Matthew Feltham, Andrew Jenkins (Chair), Lizzi Testani (Vice Chair & Secretary), Ed Hall

Apologies: Laura Demery (Treasurer)

1. Apologies for absence

Laura Demery shared apologies.

2. Minutes of last meeting and actions arising

Minutes of last meeting approved.

3. Review of finances

Income: £400 Secret Garden Awards

Expenditure: £31.80 coffee expenditure*

General funds: £1627.27

Grant funds: £400

Total: £2027.27

Finances are in good order, ready to be presented to AGM

*Total bill was £41.80 offset by a volunteer finding a £10 note and donating it to FrANC

4. Litter picking sessions and butterfly junction updates

Butterfly Junction update

Bulb Planting

- We have had one gardening session since our last FrANC meeting. We planted 240 early flowering Spring bulbs at the site, in several locations. All should be good for pollinators and included Snakeshead Fritillaries, Minnow Daffodils, English Bluebells, Iris Reticulata and a mixed collection of Spring flowering bulbs. All kindly funded by FrANC.

Secret Gardens Grant

- Guy has applied for a Secret Gardens grant for Butterfly Junction and was successful in securing £400 to spend.

Litter picking update

- Successful 1st session held 11 Oct attended by 20 volunteers
- Agreed to meet at Gaol Ferry bridge for next session (14 Nov)
- Send notification via WhatsApp
- **Action** Andrew share the risk assessment for litter picks and add extreme weather with Sue and Matthew
- **Action** Laura to Schedule reminder for 14 Nov litter pick to go out on/around 6 Nov

Planning for extreme weather

- Agreed to pay attention to weather forecasts and if extreme weather seems extremely likely to cancel sessions with more advanced notice than as usual (on the day).

5. AGM

Venue and speaker has been confirmed for AGM, scheduled for 29 November 2-3pm.
Venue: Spike Island Associate space – cups and water and projector available and we will provide mince pies.

Action: Lizzi to re-confirm details and exact timings with Anna, Pete and Andrew.

Action: Andrew to confirm agenda – include speaker presentation (Pete Lee WWT presenting on Wetland City project), general FrANC update, Committee Roles for election and AOB.

Action: Laura to send mailing invitation to members with details of the AGM

Action: Sue kindly agreed to purchase Gluten free / vegan mince pies for 15-20

6. AOB

Lizzi noted a new **Green permit scheme** on its way from Bristol City Council which might be of interest to Butterfly Junction group.

Next committee meeting confirmed for **Wednesday 24 March 2027, 7:00pm** at Lizzi's house

ACTIONS	STATUS
Andrew share the risk assessment for litter picks and add extreme weather with Sue and Matthew	
Laura to Schedule reminder for 14 Nov litter pick to go out on/around 6 Nov	
Lizzi to re-confirm details and exact timings with Anna, Pete and Andrew.	
Andrew to confirm agenda – include speaker presentation (Pete Lee WWT presenting on Wetland City project), general FrANC update, Committee Roles for election and AOB.	
Laura to send mailing invitation to members with details of the AGM	
Sue kindly agreed to purchase Gluten free / vegan mince pies for 15-20	