



January FOHC Volunteer Meeting Minutes

21.01.24, 2:00-3:00pm The Garden Room
13 attendees

Agenda

1. Welcome!
2. Check in
 - **Pond work (hedge-laying - in progress, sign, fence)**
 - *The pond itself is done until Winter 2024, hedge-laying is provided by the Council, we're just waiting for the final dates to be confirmed. A sign for the pond and the repair of the fence are also needed. A seat would be great to have there - look into. (Lucy to email Repair team at The Ardagh/Caroline)*
 - **Cutting map (signs)**
 - *In progress with Council after meeting at the start of January- long term project, but focus on rewilding areas. Wildflower areas need signs to stop mowing for now. (Val to email Caroline about the areas, Lucy to email Repair team)*
 - **Orchard watering (new trees will have a watering regime in place for 2 summers/watering bags. Orchard only watered in drought periods. Support for Watering system for orchard - watering cans)**
 - *Agreed we do "as and when needed" and can arrange when necessary. Richard from ACT sometimes does this, so we could ask for support and join forces!*
 - **Bird/bat boxes**
 - *3 bird/bat boxes made available by ACT. Suggestion of placing along bottom of the Common. (Lucy currently emailing Council about help with installation)*
 - **Your Park volunteer awards (3rd February, 10-12:30, Bristol Beacon)**
 - *Lucy Haslam is nominated and very grateful! If anyone would like to attend in her place, please email.*
 - **Poster**

- *Seekan has had an emergency and not been able to complete the poster for now, but it is almost ready.*
- *Suggestion on language, whether to use Volunteers, Members or Friends. Friends decided upon, as we don't want people to feel like they have to make any huge commitments when attending events/meetings.*
- **Bench audit (completed)**
- *Completed and sent to the Council - just waiting for response. Work such as cleaning and painting could be done by Scouts/DoE groups. Bigger repairs will be done by Council. Suggestion of log benches - **need to find out how much this would cost.***
- **History walk (17th March, 2-3:30pm, reserve list)**
- *Next History walk booked with Andy Buchan! Reserve list from first walk will have priority for places, will be advertised soon.*
- **May tree walk (Ed Drewitt - 9th/16th May, 6:30/7? £185)**
- *16th May decided for date (quick vote of hands)*
- *Discussion on keeping events accessible and free to the public. Decided that we could subsidise 3 tickets, and then could set up a free tree trail at another time. Friend Sarah has offered to subsidise the walk, so this is possible to hold! Lucy has now booked this in with Ed and further details to follow.*
- *St Andrews Park/ Redland Green Park cited as possible examples of tree walk/events - could get in contact in future.*
- *Labelling of tree types in future would be good.*
- **Green space strategy (22nd January deadline)**
- *Link on the FOHC facebook*
- **Admin help check-in**
- *All good - Lucy helping Friends Alison and Sarah with beginning admin support.*
- **Management plan**
- *Lucy has not had time to start this unfortunately, but it's on the list!*

3. Upcoming events

- Litter picks - Saturday 27th January
- Hedgelaying - TBC

4. Open discussion and any other news

- *Update from Sarah on Trees for Streets, after much emailing! Waiting to hear from planting officer to see if the Japanese Pagoda tree can be replaced with an Ash instead.*
- ***Fiona to talk with Steve at ACT about willow copice plans***

- *Fundraising - dog show suggested. **We need a fundraising lead!** Sam Thompson from ACT can provide help, so no prior experience necessary.*
- *Duke of Edinburgh events. We don't have capacity to run these at the moment, but if **you would like to take this on**, please get in touch by email.*
- *We try to run events suitable for all ages, but due to health and safety, some events are adult only (such as the pond). All events are signposted to say what age range/ability level is appropriate.*
- *Volunteer training is on the 26th January - necessary training to help with events as part of the FOHC. For more info on this and future training sessions, please email.*

Volunteer roles

Small roles

These roles will take about 10 minutes a week, but will just be once or twice a month

- Posting on Facebook
- Writing Bishopston Matters/BS9 Magazine updates
- Checking Bristol Park and local wildlife group newsletters
- Support with equipment for events (car needed)
- Looking into funding

Larger roles

These roles have about a minimum of an hour a month, but could take longer dependant on how much time you would like to volunteer or how many people are involved

- Promotion (Facebook/advertising/connecting with local groups/photography)
- Leading general events (organising and on the day leading - could also be specific events that you would like to be in charge of)
- Secretary (management of bank account/searching for funds etc)
- Environment lead (championing and organising the ecological side of the Friends Group)
- Community lead (championing and organising the social side of the Friends group)