



August FOHC Volunteer Meeting - Minutes

12.08.23, 11am-12pm, The Garden Room
10 people in attendance, plus 2 dogs

Agenda (minutes are in italics below)

1. Welcome!
2. Recap of last meeting (what was discussed, where to find presentation/minutes, how to sign up to be a part of FOHC/volunteer training)
 - *Volunteer training on the 8th September (<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/643620114087>). Car sharing to be arranged for travel to the Greenaway Centre (**Lucy to co-ordinate**)*
 - *Presentation and minutes from previous meeting are at <https://fohorfieldcommon.weebly.com/past-events/july-fohc-volunteer-meeting>*
3. Action points from last meeting
Spreading the word (Bishopston Matters, posters, The Ardagh social media, A board)
 - *Sally from The Ardagh to liaise with us about Bishopston Matters. Info needs to be provided a month and a half in advance. We can highlight general activities for now (litter pick, general call for members/volunteers to join events, upcoming meadow work, and if people have any improvements they would like to see). (**FOHC member needed to take on role**)*
 - *Posters: Fiona is happy with posting posters around the Common. Suggestion of noticeboard at the top of the Common, at road by entrance to car park, to maybe share with Ardagh (**Lucy to email Council**).*
 - *Promotional Team: Fiona, Seekan and Rosie to form a team for wider promotion around the area! Post a general flyer on community boards at Tesco/Joe's Bakery/Quaker's Meeting House (**Lucy to co-ordinate team and pass over info/materials**)*

- *Markets at The Ardagh: Sally said we can coordinate with The Ardagh to do an info stall at the monthly markets - second Saturday of each month (Lucy and Seekan to liaise with Sally/gather materials, any other help with the stall on the day would be appreciated!)*

4. Upcoming events

- TreeBristol (16/25th August)

TreeBristol event on the 16th is all ready

(<https://fohorfieldcommon.weebly.com/whats-on/orchard-work-with-treebristol>) Contact for 25th is away, so Lucy to update when confirmed

- Litter pick (September litter pick leader)
26th August is the next litter pick, which we'll be combining with the bench audit!
(Lucy won't be here for the 30th September litter pick, so anyone who is volunteer trained and would like to lead this one, please attend in August to learn the ropes!)

5. Plans and roles for Autumn. Possible events (chosen ones in bold):

- **Grass and meadows work**

Val shared how she's been hard at work organising the pollination patches by herself, with help from the Council and Lockleaze Green Gym. Patches need cutting and then raking shortly after in order for wildflowers and not grass to grow.

Hopefully to be cut in August, however we will have to wait to hear back from the Council to know when this will be, so can't decide a time to rake/mulch for definite. Communication and timing between the many groups (FOHC/Council/Contractors) involved will always slow us down unfortunately, but we have to do what we can! (Lucy to submit H&S forms for raking so that we can organise as soon as Val hears back - will be sometimes August/September. Val to update when she can.) Avon Wildlife Trust mentioned as a resource.

Green plan for area exists, it's just getting it underway is the issue.

- **Orchard (Tree Bristol)**

Organised/ in progress (please see Upcoming Events above)

- **Bench work**

*Audit on the benches across the whole Common to be conducted during the 26th August Litter Pick (most litter is found by benches anyway!)
Suggestions of switching to recycled plastic/picnic tables/tables and chairs that can be moved - a focus on accessibility and making sure everyone can sit down! Collate info from audit, then we can work on improving the benches as a next activity.*

(Lucy to email Council to check what info is needed/for a map of the area to mark benches, and update event info. Everyone who can to attend Litter pick on 26th August)

- **Nature/community walks**

Nature walk around the Common before the weather turns - rough date of 20th September. Small fee of one or two pounds to solidify attendance.

(Lucy to contact Nicky from BS6 Wildlife, update then get event set up)

- Path maintenance
- Litter/dog waste bags
- Bug hotel area

6. Open discussion and any other news

- *FOHC meetings: trial organising one for every 6 weeks. Schedule a little more time for meeting next time! (Lucy)*
- *Website: Lucy to add comprehensive map of the Common (receive from Council)*
- *Newsletter: Lucy to add suggestions form for the Common*
- *FOHC sign up form: Lucy to add example roles to sign up form*
- *AGM: just sticking with FOHC casual meetings while we get set up/recreate the committee, but a definite possibility for future. Could try and invite Councillors.*
- *Doodlepoll raised as great organising tool*
- *History walk: would be a great activity! The vicar at St Gregory's was a point of contact (Val to get in touch)*

7. Walk around the Food and Craft Market/the Common!

Thank you!