

FOHC Volunteer Meeting

Meeting Notes: 3rd December 2023

Recap:

- **Trees:** 'Buddy a tree'/Tree buddies, Audit/check status on young trees that die
 - It's easy for trees to be put in but maintaining it is harder.
 - Council are planting non-native trees, you need native trees to attract native wildlife that are indigenous to the area. [Action] Lucy to check with Caroline about watering/tree buddy
 - **[Action]** Sarah to get in touch with Trees for Streets about trees being planted in the common.
 - **History Walk:** Andy to do another walk in the Spring.
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Checking in:

- **Pond:** Going great! Two more sessions in December, then top up sessions once a year. Funding available for pond management.
 - Future plans: Water testing kits, introducing new plants, kids and family activities, fixing the gate
 - **Meadow Patches:** Freeways Trust and Val worked together to complete. FTwere great but sometimes hard to find regular activities for their group. Could ask them to come again if something suitable comes up.
 - **Cutting map/Cat mint:** Proposed new map by Rosie. Last map was in 2015. Open to thoughts about long grass and input from volunteers about **cutting map by 17th December.**
 - **Admin/Promotion work:**
 - **[Action]** Lucy to add Sarah as admin on the Facebook page.
 - **[Action]** Lucy to send Claire newsletters (two of them) so she can see if she feels confident enough to pick it up
 - **[Action]** Alison happy to help with writing in Bishopston Matters, starting in January. Lucy to send Alison some examples.
 - North Bristol Programme: Caroline from Parks collating news from North Bristol Parks, collecting every 3 months.
 - **Poster** Seekan completed first draft. Changes then distribute in January to avoid Christmas posters **[Action]** Seekan to change Title to be dark green so it's easier to read.
 - **Bench audit:** Almost finished compiling - will send to Council then ask Scouts to get involved. Good idea of switching audit form to multiple choice/tickbox in future.
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Upcoming Events:

Litter pick:

- **[Action]** Val to run litter pick in February. Claire will try to get volunteer trained by then to help.
- Mention to Tesco about their rubbish!

Other:

- Tree walk expert: Ed Drewitt leads great talks **[Action]** Lucy to get in touch
 - Bat box making session for Scouts in future?
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New Year:

- Hedgehog walk: £65 + expenses. Focus on free talks for now
 - Photograph competition on ancient trees: most trees on Horfield Common are very new. Reframe this to 'normal tree walk/competition'.
 - **[Action]** We can try a tree walk in May? More leaves and daylight.
 - **[Action]** Get in touch with Andy about running History Walk in March (16th or 17th)
 - **Hedge laying:** Joe from Council to help with hedge laying - 3/4 sessions from mid-January!
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Discussion:

- Ask Dylan if he would like to be involved/share knowledge: e.g. casual nature walk and cross-post to our Facebook.
 - Two swings aren't working in the play area?
 - Create a FOHC management plan/annual calendar **[Action]** Lucy to speak to Caroline
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Action Summary:

- Sarah to get in touch with Trees for Streets about trees being planted in the common.
 - Lucy to add Sarah as admin on the Facebook page.
 - Lucy to send Claire newsletters.
 - Alison happy to help with writing in newsletter. Lucy to send Alison some examples.
 - Seekan to change Poster Title to be dark green so it's easier to read.
 - Val to run litter pick in February. Claire will try to get volunteer trained by then to help.
 - Organise a Tree Walk in May
 - Get in touch with Andy about running History Walk in March (16th or 17th)
 - Lucy to get in touch about swings in the park/ management plan
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Calendar

Jan/Feb: Hedgelaying

Early-Mid March: Maybe History walk? Sat 16/Sun 17th ideal at the moment

May: Tree Walk