

Southbourne Environment Group

Minutes of the meeting held on Thursday 13th June at St John's Church Centre, Main Road Southbourne.

Present: Lyn Davies(LD, Chair&Notetaker), Judy Knapp(JK), Alison Barker(AB), Julia Hankers(JH), Libby Flanagan(LF), Elizabeth Medler(EM)

1) **Apologies:** John Hughes, John Auric, Roy Seabrook, Lyn Hicks, Paul Metcalfe and Amanda Tait

2) **Minutes of the last meeting on May 9th 2024:** agreed to be a true record and no matters arising which won't be dealt with later in the meeting.

3) **Budget.**

No new expenditure since the last meeting.

Recommended: that a donation of £50 be made to the Southbourne Men's Shed for their involvement in making the planters.

Forthcoming expenditure: a sack of daffodils for autumn planting on verges (hopefully with the involvement of local residents). LD to research cost. JK reported that she had been clearing an area used as dumping ground by the garages in Smallcutts Avenue. LD to ask AT who owns this land.

4) **Reports.**

Planters: AT has been watering them and Naomi Pattisson has been deadheading the. The plants, especially the ivy leaved pelargoniums, have been slow to come into growth.

Tesco beds and Holm Oak. A meadow mix of seeds for clay soils was scattered under the holm oak in mid-May but no obvious germination has happened yet. The grass outside Tesco's needed cutting. LD had agreed with the parish clerk that Max the maintenance worker would cut the grass at her request a week before a planned gardening session. Noted that SPC would be purchasing a small mower for this sort of work.

5) **Events.**

Litter pick on Saturday 22nd June 11.00 to 13.00, registration etc at 322, Main Rd, Southbourne. LD to confirm with AT and to advertise by email and Facebook.

Bat Walks. Paul Metcalfe(PM) had suggested Thursday 5th September as a date for a public bat walk, starting at 19.15. This was agreed and it was decided that the it should be an urban walk round Southbourne starting in the Bourne Leisure Centre car park and including the recreation ground and environs. AB is willing to lead and be the first aider. It will be advertised on the SPC newsletter, SEG emails and Facebook page. Attendance will be on a first come first served basis on receipt of an email reply. Arrangements tbc at the next meeting. It was also agreed that later in September a **bat recording survey** should be carried out by experienced recorders along the Hambrook, heading north from Farm Lane.

First Aiders. It was agreed that more SEG members should be trained as first aiders and available to take part in walks. LD to find out where and when suitable courses take place.

Chichester Canal Walk for dragonflies on Saturday 14th September, SEG members to be asked initially followed by other similar local groups if numbers low (see previous minutes).

Triangle planting. Probable date in early to mid October. JA to be asked if he could construct the framework for a bee hotel using pallets. LD suggested a hibernaculum could be made – AB has done one before.

Autumn talks. LD suggested that the September meeting (when she is on holiday) could be used for trying out the equipment in the upstairs hall in readiness for the talks.

6) Date and place of next meeting: Thursday 11th July 2024 at St John's Church Centre, Main Road, Southbourne PO10 8LB, starting at 19.30.

7) Any Other Business: EM suggested we think of a new 'big' project, such as more planters.

The meeting closed at 20.45.