

Sustainable Thornbury Secretary's Report 2017-18

Most of our work this year has been less visible as we have been assessing and commenting on future plans for our area. During the year we have analysed and commented on the West of England Joint Strategic Plan, the South Glos revisions to its Climate Change Strategy, the Policies, Sites and Places document and the proposed changes to the Local Plan document. Members have attended several consultation meetings or roadshows in connection with these. We also have six members of the group involved directly in trying to ensure that the Thornbury Neighbourhood Plan includes sustainability at its heart. This work has taken place over the whole year and is continuing into next year. Some members commented on the S Glos Food Plan.

We were offered the possibility of taking on a small field in Alveston but upon investigation this proved unsuitable for our aims and would involve a lot of time, so we declined. Some of us were able to attend a S. Glos Biodiversity Action Plan evening. ST was represented at a service in St Mary's Church for local volunteers, along with others attending on behalf of our orchard and meadow groups.

Towards the end of the year (in May) we emailed all on our list about the need to opt in should they continue to receive emails from us, as per General Data Protection Regulation, losing a few due to non-response. (These probably don't legally apply as we are a small voluntary interest group, so we have not created a Privacy Policy although the email list is kept on Sustainable Thornbury's specific Outlook email account and it is password protected with limited access).

Possibilities for the future include continuing to comment on planning and similar consultations and investigating involvement in a Plastic Free Thornbury proposal.