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DRAFT Minutes of Committee Meeting
held on 25 September 2024 at 7.00pm in the JHB 201
Oxford Brookes University

Present: 16

Heather Armitage (HAr)	Friends of Lye Valley (FoLV)
Elsa Bell	HONORARY SECRETARY, VICE CHAIR & TRUSTEE
Richard Bradley (RBr)	Friends of Quarry (FoQ)- CHAIR & TRUSTEE
Cllr Liz Brighthouse	Churchill & Lye Valley
Patrick Coulter	Headington Neighbourhood Forum
Patrick Denby	Friends of Headington Hill Park
Liz Grosvenor	ADMINISTRATOR
Neil Holdstock	FINANCE OFFICER
Sheila Hurst	New Headington Residents' Association
Tatjana Kovalevica	Website/IT
Viv Miles	Project Lead on Connected Communities - TRUSTEE
Jack Olchawski	Oxford Brookes University
Cllr Glynis Phillips	Barton, Sandhills & Risinghurst TRUSTEE
Cllr Asima Qayyum	Barton & Sandhills
Peter West	Oxford Business Action Group
Lesley Williams	Headington Schools Partnership

Guests: 2

Simon Cook	Oxfordshire Health- Warneford Park
Carolyn McKee	Oxford University - Medical Sciences Division

Apologies: 7

Rosemary Belton (RBe)	Friends of Bury Knowle Park (FoBKP)
Fiona Mckenzie	Treasurer
John Nealon	Publicity
Sonja Roffey	Mileway Gardens RA
Andrea Siret	Oxford Brookes University
Howard Stanbury	Friends of Old Headington (FoOH)
Jim Woods	Shotover Preservation Society

1.	Richard Bradley in the Chair Welcome and introductions to all members.	Action
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	Apologies as above.	
2.	<p>Presentation about Warneford Park development</p> <p>Simon Cook explained that the current consultations were taking place prior to a planning application going to the Council in Spring 2025.</p> <p>The plans are for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A relocated and modernized mental health hospital • Research facilities for psychiatry and world brain research • A postgraduate college for Oxford University on the old hospital site <p>The slide show presentation is attached.</p> <p>The questions that emerged centred on:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mental Health provision 2. Young adult provision 3. Traffic implications 4. Environmental and biodiversity implications <p>Mental Health provision</p> <p>The new hospital would incorporate current wards with the transfer of wards from the Littlemore and the older adult ward from the Churchill.</p> <p>Concern was expressed about whether this would be adequate given the reported increase in mental health problems and specifically the increase of the older adult population with its likely demands on the system. The question was raised as to what information base was used for the modelling.</p> <p>SC responded that the forecast was based on age 18+ and he will respond with accurate figures shortly. The modelling had taken account of the demography and medical requirements with the aim of getting patients better more quickly than currently.</p> <p>Young adult provision</p> <p>Specific concern was expressed about the provision for young adults (18 -25) and whether the bed forecasting and the very specific treatment needs of this cohort had been taken into account in the building and treatment design.</p> <p>Research facilities</p> <p>Carolyn McKee explained that the objective is to create psychiatry and research labs with e.g. state of the art scanners to assist with epilepsy. A local donor for the project has been identified. Half of this development will be let to commercial tenants in the scientific disciplines related to research. The income from these commercial lettings will be used to support the research on the site.</p>	SC

Questions were raised as to how commercial partners will be selected.

In response to questions about capacity and the possible need for future expansion, SC explained that there would be space for future expansion as there is a link building for that purpose.

Traffic implications

Concern was raised over the increased pollution affecting health, in part caused by increased traffic.

SC explained that there are 500 people working on the site and this would increase to 2000. 40% of these live within the ring road and 60% arrive by car, the aim being to reduce this figure to 25% by increased use of P & R and trying to improve the bus network to get to the site.

Serious concerns were raised about the accuracy of the forecasting and it was thought that major additional traffic in the area was an inevitable consequence of increased working personnel on, and visitors to the site.

Citing current traffic problems as the basis for their concern members emphasized that The Slade and Old Road are already congested with traffic for the major part of most days and, apart from the inconvenience this caused for local residents, the major issue was with increased pollution and noise.

Current traffic problems have not been helped by the lack of enforcement on traffic restrictions in Churchill Drive and this raises the accuracy of the modelling. There is scepticism about the figure of 1 additional car per minute using the roads at peak hours. There was a very strong request that the project should be transparent about the methodology used to forecast traffic implications.

Environmental and bio diversity issues


The Friends of Lye Valley are particularly concerned about the effect on the water supply and the possible pollution draining into the valley and the planners are encouraged to speak with the Lye Valley to ensure that the peat bogs there are protected and kept wet to hold carbon. It was pointed out that Judy Webb has already been in discussion.

All comments on the current proposals had to be in by 30 September.

Further points:

- It was confirmed that a unit on eating disorders was still in the plans, as is community health provision.
- An audit trail of comments received was requested to ensure that these are taken into consideration- this is of particular interest to the Headington Neighbourhood Forum
- The issue of e-bikes and scooters not being allowed on NHS/OU land was also brought up.
- Workforce planning was raised as an important point.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was thought that there needs to be more emphasis on service provision rather than the number of beds. Previous evidence had shown that putting people in beds is actually counterproductive to mental health and it seems that the modelling was done on beds rather than people. Therapeutic intervention was thought to be the better approach. • A specific question was raised on the status of the covenant on the Chapel <p>SC and CM were thanked for their presentation.</p>	
	<p>Minutes of last Committee Meeting 31 July and Executive Meeting 2 September</p> <p>Agreed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The issue about the poor entrance to BKP is pending. • The attendance at the Freshers' Fair at Brookes will be looked at for next year. • The proposal regarding the green spaces project by Brookes students could be a topic for the next meeting. • RB wrote to the council about scooter parking in Headington and the problems on market day and he awaits a response. • A consultation on the fireworks display in South Park ends on 30 September. The Round Table urges our support. There will be no bonfire this year and £40K of tracking will be laid to protect the grass. There will be a longer display and a smaller fairground, and unloading of trade vehicles will take place outside the park to minimise damage. 	
4.	<p>Co-option of new member</p> <p>Following John Nealon's request to be relieved of his website and social media duties, Tatjana Kovalevica has been meeting with him and is willing to take these tasks over.</p> <p>It was formally proposed and agreed that she now be a member of HA.</p> <p>RB reported the sad passing of Jonny Ives who represented Cyclox on this committee. He helped out at Christmas, and also co-produced Headington Occasional. He had a well-attended funeral and he will be greatly missed.</p>	
5.	<p>Finance</p> <p>Finances are on track.</p> <p>The Grant application for Headington Hill Park was unanimously approved in the sum of £4,400. PD to liaise with FMcK about payment.</p>	PD
6.	<p>HA Sustainability project – prepared by GP</p>	

	<p>Terms of Reference have been agreed and the team are to set up interviews with project leaders to ascertain the nature of their roles , skills and experience.</p> <p>They have considered other organisations to see if there is an overlap, but whilst there is duplication of membership the objectives are different. Consequently they will recommend that we maintain the status quo.</p> <p>Some recommendations will be made, and the secrecy of Headington Forward (HF) will be questioned.</p> <p>PC explained that HF arose out of the demise of the Area Committee meetings on planning, with a view to engender trust between the institutions. It looks at local issues and developments in their early stages in order to get feedback and it means that institutions work together to solve local problems. An example is Headington School who have organised buses to serve a number of other schools and thus streamline the traffic requirements of getting pupils to school.</p> <p>It is often a “flying kites” exercise to try out thoughts and it is essentially an exchange of ideas and information. All normal planning routes are observed and this is not a committee where decisions are taken re planning matters. HA has already requested that members should clarify whether matters brought to the meeting can be made public and circulated for information and to gauge local interest.</p>	
<p>7.</p>	<p>HA Projects/activities updates</p> <p>Winter/Christmas lights</p> <p>An update was given in the Executive Minutes.</p> <p>A new location around the corner in Old High Street is being investigated to take the crowds away from the London Road.</p> <p>A quotation for the Christmas tree has been received, the choir is booked and the upgrading of the sound system is being looked at.</p> <p>With the proposed road closure, extra lighting etc. the costs will be c. £5K. We have received the majority of our funds from the local Councillors, Finders Keepers and the Community Centre and it was agreed that HA would fund the shortfall.</p> <p>JO confirmed that Brookes students will help again – they are to contact EB direct on this.</p> <p>Look out for the real reindeer this year! </p> <p>Festival 2025</p> <p>Cllr Roz Smith has agreed to chair the Festival committee and various roles have now been fulfilled so that the Festival can go ahead in 2025.</p> <p>Market:</p>	

	<p>No report</p> <p>Connected communities</p> <p>A list of street champions will be distributed for checking and will be brought to the next meeting. We are still seeking funding for the Directory and NH and VM will meet to discuss further</p> <p>There has been limited feedback from the sunflower competitions but so far no photos! It was suggested that the timing should be reviewed for future years so that it coincides with the school terms.</p> <p>Greening No report</p>	<p>VM</p> <p>VM/NH</p> <p>VM</p>
8.	<p>Other projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Headington Neighbourhood Forum committee met with councillors to inform the need for a review of the Local Plan. • JO advertised a Personal Safety Event being held on 22/10 at Brookes • The free weekly Open lectures at Brookes start again on Wednesday 2 October. Details on Brookes website 	
9.	<p>Use of weedkiller by Oxford City Councillors/ODS Owing to lack of time this will be delayed to next meeting.</p>	
10.	<p>Concern has been raised about the increase in traffic in the Slade and London Road with the resulting pollution from exhausts and tyre deposits and whether there are still some pollutions monitors in the city. PW has a map of current locations and he and HA will liaise.</p>	<p>PW and HA</p>
11.	<p>DONM 27 November Committee Meeting at 7pm venue tba</p>	
	<p>The meeting closed at 8.47pm</p>	

LG 28/9/24