



Registered Charity No. 1170517

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DRAFT Minutes of Committee Meeting
held on 27 November 2024 at 7.00pm in the JHB
Executive Suite, Oxford Brookes University

Present: 15

Elsa Bell	HONORARY SECRETARY, VICE CHAIR & TRUSTEE
Rosemary Belton (RBe)	Friends of Bury Knowle Park (FoBKP)
Richard Bradley (RBr)	Friends of Quarry (FoQ)- CHAIR & TRUSTEE
Patrick Coulter	Headington Neighbourhood Forum (HNF)
Patrick Denby	Friends of Headington Hill Park (FoHHP)
Liz Grosvenor	ADMINISTRATOR
Sheila Hurst	New Headington Residents' Association (NHRA)
Fiona Mckenzie	TREASURER
Viv Miles	Project Lead on Connected Communities (CC)- TRUSTEE
John Nealon	Headington Neighbourhood Forum (HNF)
Cllr Glynis Phillips	Barton, Sandhills & Risinghurst TRUSTEE
Cllr Chris Snowton	City (Headington)
Emma Trundley	Oxford Brookes University
Peter West	Oxford Business Action Group (OBAG)
Lesley Williams	Headington Schools Partnership

Guest:


Mattia Troiano Senior Researcher	Oxford University School of Geography and the Environment
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Apologies: 9


Heather Armitage (HAr)	Friends of Lye Valley (FoLV)
Cllr Liz Brighthouse	County (Churchill & Lye Valley)
Priscilla Goldby	Market coordinator
Neil Holdstock (NH)	FINANCE OFFICER
Tanya Kova	Website
Sonja Roffey	Mileway Gardens RA
Cllr Roz Smith	City (Quarry & Risinghurst) County (Headington & Quarry)
Howard Stanbury	Friends of Old Headington (FoOH)
Jim Woods	Shotover Preservation Society

1.	<p>Richard Bradley in the Chair Welcome and introductions.</p> <p>Apologies as above.</p>	Action
2.	<p>Presentation – How to improve community engagement in green space planning – Mattia Troiano</p> <p>Mattia is a senior researcher at Oxford University School of Geography and the Environment. He has recently researched community engagement concerning green spaces in Headington/Oxford.</p> <p>Mattia’s talk was titled: Widening community engagement in diverse urban environments.</p> <p>Mattia outlined his research under the heading of “recognitional equity in access to, and planning of, urban green spaces”. He has looked at the connection between inequality of income and green space accessibility. He has looked at the other local Neighbourhood Plans in terms of planning, participation, capacity to self-organise, perception of engagement of institutions and perceived sense of marginalisation.</p> <p>He has organised “walked interviews” in accessible and locally provided green spaces with local representatives. He asked:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Why is community engagement important? 2. What are the challenges to pursue and gain more inclusive community engagement? 3. What are the opportunities you see for a more inclusive community engagement? <p>Headington is a rich socio-economic diversity with community-led planning provision. Criterion contact is required, not tokenism.</p> <p>The objective of this study is to instruct us how to do a consultation in future.</p> <p>The concepts are quite complex but here are the slides - attached.</p> <p>VM asked how do you get people of different ethnicities and age groups to engage.</p> <p>MT answered that, in Blackbird Leys for example, with a socio-economic profile that is changing, the need is to go to the area to meet with the diverse community groups already getting involved e.g. their African Caribbean Multicultural Association.</p> <p>JN pointed out the example of Florence Park who have a hub café with social facilities for the same kind of engagement.</p> <p>MT agreed that they do engage – they ask what do you want? How can we achieve this? He says that engaging schools is an important gateway to contact with parents with wildlife groups engaging with the community and involving pupils and parents.</p>	

	Recommendations are also available on the slides.	
3.	<p>Minutes of last Committee Meeting 25 September and Executive Meeting 28 October</p> <p>Agreed with following amendments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Simon Cook (Warneford Park development) sent us these extra comments: <p><i>Carolyn McKee explained that the University would lease half the space in the Research building for its academic purposes. The researchers currently on site (Psychiatry and Oxford Brain Health) will occupy part of the space. There is an ambition to bring together other disciplines relevant to brain health, for example groups active in MND, Parkinsons and epilepsy. A local donor for the project has been identified.</i></p> <p><i>Half of this development will be let to commercial tenants. It is intended to select tenants in scientific disciplines which are complementary to the mental health/brain health vision. However, it will be important for viability of the project that the space is let. Income from these commercial lettings will support the University's research use of the building.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Grant application for Headington Hill Park was unanimously approved in the sum of £4,400 – should be £440 <p>Matters arising not on the agenda</p> <p>At the last meeting a query about location of and readings from pollution monitors was raised. At our next meeting a representative from the City Council will bring us up-to-date.</p> <p>The results of the 1st consultation on the Warneford Park development have now been documented and feedback is on the website together with a substantial Q & A section. See Warneford Park Pre-planning application consultation Join the Conversation</p> <p>Details of the 2nd stage of the consultation can be found here Second pre-planning application consultation launched - Warneford Park</p> <p>A list of questions asked during the first phase and their answers, as well as lots more information can be found on their engagement website. Visit: https://jointheconversation.scwcsu.nhs.uk/warneford-park-consultation</p> <p>Do please respond.</p>	ALL
4.	<p>Finance - update</p> <p>A number of Councillors' promised monies for the Christmas lights, and the Directory have yet to materialize. They are being chased. They total c£2000 and present a risk to our finances if not obtained.</p> <p>We are still having difficulty in identifying which Councillor and for what the funds are. A suggestion was made by GP that instead of claiming</p>	

	<p>say, £500 we claim £499 or £501. GP will chase the funds due from County.</p> <p>Owing to the difficulty in getting the 2023 accounts scrutinised this year, we are late in submitting them to the Charity Commission.</p> <p>We have received donations of £250 from the Headington Community Association, and £200 from the Friends of Old Headington.</p>	GP
5.	<p>Use of weed killer by Oxford City Council/ODS Feedback from Residents' groups (all)</p> <p>Friends of Quarry are reasonably content with the council's policy.</p> <p>Friends of Old Headington sent us this note which also explained their status:</p> <p><i>First, we should make it clear that the Friends are not a residents' association, but a charity committed to 'preserving the rural amenities and village charm of Old Headington and seeking to prevent the village succumbing to urban pressure'.</i></p> <p><i>A range of opinions were expressed by trustees and the consensus was that on balance the correct use of glyphosates was not a major issue for us, but there was concern as to whether there was adequate training and supervision of the application of these chemicals. We would welcome an initiative that would provide transparency in this area, including auditing and recording the use of weedkillers. Anecdotally, there is a suggestion that best practice is not always followed, unfortunately.</i></p> <p>New High Street RA had concerns about contamination to the water table, pets, and children.</p> <p>Highfield RA: RBr will contact PC for any comments. RB/PC</p> <p>The Exec will review all the comments received and will circulate</p>	<p>RBr</p> <p>EXEC</p>
6.	<p>Christmas tree event - plans </p> <p><i>Real reindeer this year?</i></p> <p>Unfortunately the costs involved in meeting Rudolph turned out to be prohibitive, as was the closure of Old High Street.</p> <p>We thanked Elsa for all the organisation which included visiting the shops and supermarkets with posters and asking for food and drink contributions.</p>	
7.	HA Projects/activities updates	

	<p>Festival 2025- Saturday 31 May & Sunday 1 June</p> <p>The Festival committee is taking shape under the chair of Cllr Roz Smith, but we still need someone to take charge of the entertainment. If you know of anyone please contact Roz.</p> <p>Market:</p> <p>The last market this year will be on 21 December. The market will recommence on 4 January 2025</p> <p>Connected communities</p> <p>Gertie now has reduced hours (from 4 to 2 hours per week) and will concentrate on street contacts rather than activities (lights will not be distributed this year). She is also updating the list of contacts for the website.</p> <p>We are aiming to get more diverse groups in the Directory and are pleased to report that the Lord Lieutenant has donated over £2k to this project.</p> <p>Greening</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RBe reported that she is liaising with Oxford Brookes on a wildlife corridor project. • There is a County Council consultation on biodiversity which expired on 1 December – the link was sent out on 28 November. • She is liaising with the Parks department regarding the pothole at the gate to BKP, to ensure it is on their maintenance list. • The wooden story tree in the park has fallen and cannot be rejuvenated, but it will now remain as a climbing feature. <p>VM reported that King Charles has announced that there are funds available for community orchards. RBe will see if there is anywhere an orchard could go in Headington.</p> <p>RBr reported on the lack of trees and green spaces at the Clive Booth Student village, which were in the approved plans.</p> <p>PC has contacted the Director of Estates at Brookes to express our joint concern. He was advised that Brookes University has run out of money to provide this, but intend to fulfil the brief when funds allow. We understand that PC is contacting the Planning department at the City regarding this breach.</p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>RBe</p> <p>PC</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Other projects of interest to members (all)</p> <p>NH sent us this note:</p> <p><i>The 2024 Round Table Annual Charity Fireworks Display in South Park this year was a little different to previous years, with the sabbatical of the huge bonfire. The display itself was bigger than ever and many compliments have been received as to the display itself being the "best we have ever seen". The event went off extremely well with a huge number of logistical changes to the previous year, to protect the fabric of South Park itself. The volunteers who run the event</i></p>	

	<p>were extremely proud of the feedback received from the community about the event and the plans put in place to make sure the 2023 aftermath wasn't repeated. This years display attracted over 20,000 visitors (down on last year but that's the norm when hosting the event at the end of half term), with the amount raised for charities in the county not yet known as not all bills and receipts have been received. We only had one complaint, from a lady who directly attributed our display to the death of a Panda at Edinburgh Zoo. We're not sure how, but.....</p> <p>Thank you to all members of Headington Action for their continued support of this event."</p>	
9.	<p>AOB</p> <p>The Headington Neighbourhood Forum had their its AGM recently. The Forum has applied for redesignation, which is required every 5 years. The Forum is considering whether to update the Neighbourhood Plan which is now 7 years old.</p> <p>The question is – does it need to be updated? If there are minor changes then there is no problem, but any substantial changes may require another consultation and referendum. The Forum is short of members to take it forward – please ask around for some volunteers.</p> <p>ET advised us of some events taking place at Brookes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In February there will be a Science Bazaar event featuring vision impairment and braille and they are seeking people in this field to assist them. MyVision Oxfordshire have been discounted as they would charge . PW advised that he may have a contact. • 4 December they are staging a Winter Market with local producers and crafts stalls. • 5 December – Annual carol singing. See the events page of Oxford Brookes: Events - Oxford Brookes University <p>The Chair then wished everyone a Happy Christmas </p>	<p>ALL</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>PW</p>
11.	<p>DONM</p> <p>29 January Committee Meeting at 7pm venue tba</p>	
	<p>The meeting closed at 8.35pm</p>	

LG 2/12/24