

# **HEADINGTON ACTION**

www.headingtonaction.org

# Minutes of the meeting held on 30 May 2018 at 7.00pm Room JHB 128, John Henry Brookes Building, London Road.

Present:

**Heather Armitage** Friends of Lye Valley & Town Furze Allotments

Elsa Bell HONORARY SECRETARY & TRUSTEE
Rosemary Belton Friends of Bury Knowle Park

Patrick Coulter Headington Road Runners – CHAIR & TRUSTEE

Keith Frayn Ramblers – VICE CHAIR & TRUSTEE

Liz Grosvenor ADMIN SUPPORT

Carolyn Gulliver London Court Residents'

Sheila Hurst New Headington Residents' Association

Tony Joyce Oxford Civic Society

Maggie Maguire Oxford Brookes University

Cllr Glynis Phillips Oxfordshire County (Barton Sandhills & Risinghurst)

Margaret Simpson U3A Oxford

Howard Stanbury Friends of Old Headington

Peter West St Anne's Area Residents' Association
Lesley Williams Headington Schools Partnership

Guest Speaker: Tony Dale

**Apologies:** 

Richard Bradley Friends of Quarry – TREASURER & TRUSTEE

Jonathan Ives Cyclox

Cllr Pat Kennedy Oxford City (Lye Valley)
Philippa Logan Shotover Preservation Society

Cllr Joe McManners Oxford City (Headington Hill & Northway)
John Nealon Headington Neighbourhood Forum

Judy Palmer Local Resident and Rambler

Sonja Roffey Mileway Gardens Residents' Association
Cllr Roz Smith Oxfordshire County (Headington & Quarry)

Cllr Ruth Wilkinson Oxford City (Headington)

	Action
Apologies, welcome and introductions.	
Apologies as above.	
A reminder that if you are unable to attend a meeting it is acceptable that you send a representative on your behalf.	
The Chair reported that Cllr Ruth Wilkinson had resigned and that we were very grateful for all the work she had done for HA and she will be greatly missed by us, and all of Headington.	

#### 2. **Lost Paths Project**

Tony Dale is the Oxford City Footpaths Officer for the Ramblers and is encouraging everyone to monitor and take action to ensure that our footpaths do not disappear from the maps.

In 1947 the County Councils registered footpaths which became protected by statute and appeared on maps such as the Ordnance Survey (OS). Some Rights of Way exist that are being regularly used but have not been registered.

There is a path going from Headington to the Quarry that appears on early maps where only a small section still remains. The main reason for their loss is that the land is built on for housing.

In 1968 The Countryside Act introduced the green waymark signs with arrows to mark the registered paths.

In 2000 there began a review of old routes with a view to removing routes that had not been registered. This review ends at the end of 2025 and so there are only 8 years left to ensure that paths we do not want to lose are properly registered. The existing rule whereby a path in frequent use but not registered will not be removed still applies.

In order to register a path there are 24 different kinds of evidence in the forms of maps, which may be county maps, turnpike maps, "inclosure" maps etc. They are prioritised into the number of stars and a Definitive Map Modification Order is raised when a total of 10 stars can be reached in order for that path to be registered.

The best maps for identifying paths have been produced by The National Library of Scotland who have digitised OS Maps for all of Scotland and most of England - these are accessible online.

There are a number of paths in our area that have disappeared from maps over the years – these are in Barton (now being obliterated by new building at Barton Park), also near Sydlings Copse and in Sandhills. A well-used path across Warneford Meadow has never been registered.

What we need to do is:

1. Look at the maps for researching the paths that have disappeared ALL

- 2. Walk the paths to identify them on the ground
- 3. Draw paths on a new map that you would like to be registered – these could open up a network of paths and circular routes for everyone's enjoyment.

During the discussion it was emphasised that local people make much use of paths in the countryside around Elsfield and the like and so have an interest in protecting these paths too. The possibility of a local project to identify the lost paths was suggested.

The British Horse Society has done some work on this as bridleways and footpaths often coincide, and the Ramblers are keen to assist anyone wanting to pursue this exercise.

There are only 8 years left.

A copy of Tony's longer presentation will be available from PC.

- Minutes of the last meeting held on 28 March were agreed.
- Matters Arising not elsewhere on the Agenda (including Executive Minutes of 25 April).

John Nealon's name was omitted from the Executive Minutes attendee list – this has been corrected.

- The submission to list the Shark has been submitted by New Headington RA.
- The Osler Road crossing is now complete and is proving a great benefit to pedestrians.
- There have been no takers for the trustee presence at the Community Centre KF may take this up later on when he has fewer commitments.
- The hanging baskets are up the sponsorship labels will be put up once the baskets are more "floriferous". The baskets are on budget but HA will pay for the labels which will be used each year.

PC

#### 4. **Headington Market**

It is doing very well and being very well-managed by Charlie. There will be more stalls than ever for this weekend's festival and will stretch on the north side of London Road from Osler Road to the Natwest Bank. One of our Syrian refugees who has been helping with the setting up of the stalls is leaving and we need a replacement. It is a volunteering role but a payment is made - we are checking the legality of this arrangement. We will put a card on the notice board to advertise for someone. [Since the meeting Keith has advised that a new volunteer has been found]

The new manager of Barclays Bank has agreed that market traders can use their parking spaces on Saturdays.

We are trying to make contact with BT regarding the lane leading to the old telephone exchange to use for parking.

KF

### **Headington Festival**

All going to plan.

Hebborns will be running a reduced funfair on Sunday, and it is now going to be in the Park on Saturday too. The rides will be small and not generate the noise that was the problem in previous years. This will be a test of a new written contract for next year.

We have received a grant from the City Council this year. This and other grants subsidise activities but will not be enough to cover the cost of bringing farm animals to the festival (a new activity). Two members of the festival committee have offered to access funds at their disposal to pay for the farm if required.

We hope to break even – it all depends on the weather – but if necessary HA will underwrite as normal and make up any deficit.

We still require a photographer as our usual ones are on holiday.

MS announced that we are short of volunteers -6-10 are required to distribute leaflets at the Saturday market and make bucket collections and carry out surveys on the Sunday.

HA and HNP will have a joint stall and will also incorporate a section on the Museum of Oxford.

The Lord Mayor will be giving out prizes for the photographic competition at 4pm.

On Saturday EB will be interviewed by Radio Oxford at 10.40.

## 6. Projects

- The Greening of Headington was addressed by students at Oxford Brookes with a presentation of ideas on 1 May. There were some good ideas and some interesting suggestions. Amongst others, they promoted the idea of incorporating benches and flower planters and incorporating bee hotels.
- GP pointed out that it would be important not to impede pedestrian traffic, particularly for the infirm, in any installation for planting on the footpath.
- We do need a project manager to oversee these projects and to take a global view of the whole exercise.
- About £40K is available from CIL monies and we are in discussions with the City council as to how we can access these funds – they are sent the bills for approved projects and they pay them.
- There are various pots of money available to both city and county councillors as well as CIL money

ALL

and we will have discussions to explore the ways we can access these funds.	EXEC
<ul> <li>TJ thought that we should look at improving the pavement areas in Windmill Road as a new project.</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>The Lye Valley is an ongoing project on biodiversity and is bearing fruit already with new species appearing.</li> </ul>	
7. Finance	
We have received 3 grant applications:	
<b>The Oxfordshire Play Association</b> is applying for a Community Support Grant to provide a Wood Farm Play and Activity Day and is seeking <b>£500</b> for facilities management. As this will be open to people of Headington we agreed to this request.	RB
<b>Friends of Lye valley</b> are seeking a community grant to carry out a survey of the "running invertebrates" in the valley. The Lye Valley is well used by locals and organisations visiting (Oxford Civic Society have two visits pending) and Brookes and Headington School are variously involved over the year on projects. There is ongoing scything, weeding and raking taking place.	
This survey may well show up some rare creepy crawlies and will help to preserve the sanctity of the valley over potential developers in the future. It will provide a baseline survey to monitor trends in the future	
As this facility is open to all in Headington and beyond and is a valuable asset <b>we agreed to this request for £500</b> – this is made up of £300 for the survey and £200 to supplement the tools that the volunteers use.	RB
A report following the survey will be forthcoming.	
<b>Allstar Heroes</b> are seeking a small sparks grant to publicise cheerleading classes starting at Cheney School this September. This would be for flyers and posters. They are seeking a grant pf £150	
We agreed to this subject to confirming that this was a totally non-profit organisation run by volunteers.	
We subsequently made contact with them and they confirmed their status, and also agreed to appear at the Saturday Market in the future.	RB
We therefore sanctioned the grant of £150.	
8. AOB None.	
9. The meeting closed at 8.50	
Dates of next meetings for your diary: 25 July 26 September 28 November	

LG 31/5/18