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# Minutes of the meeting held on 25 July 2018 at 7.00pm

Room JHB 128, John Henry Brookes Building, London Road.

### Present:

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

**Richard Bradley** Friends of Quarry - TREASURER & TRUSTEE **Patrick Coulter** Headington Road Runners - CHAIR & TRUSTEE

**Keith Frayn** Ramblers - VICE CHAIR & TRUSTEE

**Cllr Stef Garden** Oxford City (Headington)

**ADMIN SUPPORT** Liz Grosvenor

**Carolyn Gulliver** London Court Residents'

**Sheila Hurst** New Headington Residents' Association

**Tony Joyce** Oxford Civic Society **Cllr Altaf Khan** Oxford City (Headington)

U3A Oxford **Margaret Simpson** 

**Andrea Siret** Oxford Brookes University

**Cllr Roz Smith** Oxfordshire County (Headington & Quarry, & Oxford City (Headington)

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

**Guest Speaker: Sophie Clegg** 

# **Apologies:**

Tanya Field **Headington Community Association** 

Jonathan Ives Cyclox

Philippa Logan **Shotover Preservation Society** John Nealon Headington Neighbourhood Forum **Judy Palmer** Local Resident and Rambler

Cllr Glynis Phillips Oxfordshire County (Barton Sandhills & Risinghurst)

Cllr Martin Rush Oxford City (Barton & Sandhills) **Howard Stanbury** Friends of Old Headington

	Action
1. 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 welcomed our new Councillor, Stef Garden who has replaced Cllr Ruth Wilkinson.	

#### 2. Freedom to Play in Headington

Sophie Clegg gave us a very interesting presentation based on her dissertation (Oxford Brookes planning degree) which examined how child-friendly is the urban landscape of Headington.

The main points were:

- The territory for children has contracted over the years
- The type of play we are talking about is freely chosen, personally directed and intrinsically motivated
- Play generates happy healthy children
- A successful city for children leads to a successful city for people
- Children need sufficient time for them to play
- A good city requires "affordance" (opportunities to play)
- Places to play could be described as wasteland (not that good), a glasshouse (too protected), a cell (too constricted) or child-friendly (the best of all).

Sophie did an exhaustive study of Headington based on our Neighbourhood Plan map and divided the areas into quiet local streets, and how far they were from natural green spaces. She observed where children went to play - if at all.

She discovered that 47.7% of our streets are within 300 m of green spaces.

She looked at what stops children going out to play and concluded that the following commonly held beliefs needed challenging.

- stranger danger assaults on children are more likely to be perpetrated by someone known to them
- It is not down to new technology and social media (children spending all their time on phones etc.)
- Over the years accidents caused by cars have actually reduced

One problem identified was that of parked cars that impede walkways and access, and prevent play happening safely.

- The Playing Out scheme (first developed in Bristol) has been a great success. It involves closing roads to allow children to come out and safely play.
- Closing roads immediately outside schools also enables children leaving school to do this safely but also to give them space to play before they go home.
- Traffic calming methods and bollards are other ways to protect them.

The subject of after-school clubs, girl guides and scouts was suggested as a way of encouraging play but this tends to be guided play rather than the unstructured play that is essential to child development.

The current problems of obesity in children who do not do sport, or go out to play needs to be addressed. This will require education of parents to correct this situation.

Sophie will send the presentation to PC and we plan to set up a meeting to discuss this further. Sophie was warmly thanked for her presentation.

PC

- Minutes of the last meeting held on 30 May were agreed.
- 4. Matters Arising not elsewhere on the Agenda (including Executive Minutes of 27 June).
- The Lost Paths project (from our last meeting) is being looked at by the relevant interest groups.
- John Nealon has been officially co-opted onto our Executive Committee
- Keith has resigned from the Executive owing to increasing academic and other commitments he was thanked for all his hard work. He will continue to be on the committee and to oversee the

Market.

- We have started work on the HA promotional material referred to last time we are providing a calendar for 2019 using the wildlife winning pictures from the Festival. This will be ready for our market on 1<sup>st</sup> September.
- Technical problems regarding lighting a tree outside Yummies have been overcome and this will now go ahead.

### **Headington Market**

The number of stalls has started to dwindle again – Charlie the market manager is working hard to correct this. We have a new recruit to help us set up and dismantle the market (this was as a result of a request for help on the notice boards). This person (a schoolgirl) is employed by Charlie, a risk assessment has been done and she has a contract. The question of a DBS check was raised and this will be looked at, if it has not already been done. RS has agreed to contact the County about this.

RS

There will be a publicity push working up to the September 1<sup>st</sup> market, and the email distribution will continue. The facebook page reaches 300 to 400 people regularly, and JN tweets events.

The 1st September market will be our 11th Birthday and will be celebrated with an opening by the Lord Mayor, Cllr Colin Cook. There will be music and an HA stall to promote us and the market and for which publicity materials are being prepared.

ALL

We will require a rota to man the stall and volunteers are being sought.

We will advertise it on facebook and Twitter.

### **Headington Festival**

The Festival was a great success – the film attracted 300 people – the Round table's model for financing the film did not quite achieve what was hoped for. A different model will be looked at for future years since having the fil is a good addition to the programme.

Some people would have liked an earlier film, but this would have necessitated more expensive equipment (c. £15K) to cope with the light and we could not afford it.

On Sunday we had greater numbers attending than ever before all helped by good weather. The smaller children's rides from Hebborns worked well.

The Festival committee were thanked, as were the volunteers.

The budget expecting a small loss was on track.

There were a couple of complaints from the public:

The use of animals, and the fact that handwashing and hygiene needed to be addressed.

A complaint about the Men's Group stall – stallholders and their wares are not vetted but we need to draw up a code of conduct to ensure that all participants adhere to our values regarding politics, sensitive issues, religious content etc.

PC/JN

PC & JN are working up a statement of agreement for stall holders to sign in future.

The stall holders were very pleased with business and for Oxford Brookes, it was their best stall ever.

There was a comment about the type of music in the beer tent and this will be looked at, but the layout of the stalls was commended – this was down to Neil's excellent organisation..

Planning for next year begins in January and volunteers will be required to make it as successful as this year's.

ALL

#### 7. **Projects**

The process for obtaining CIL monies had been distributed. There are funds of over £45K available for our use for HA, HNP and other bodies to utilise – these are subject to certain criteria.

The meeting approved the process to obtain these monies, subject to some clarification on the form (marked appendix B explaining responsible parties) and JN, RB and PC will form a sub group to process applications for CIL funding and liaise with the bodies concerned to claim the funds. This will involve applying to the CIL Liaison Officer at the City Council – they hold the monies on our behalf and invoices

JN/RB/PC

**EXEC** 

are sent to them once approved – we do not hold these monies.

It was emphasised that signing off applications for CIL money will be a new responsibility for the HA Committee. It was agreed that the Committee is well placed to fulfil this role as it includes all Headington Councillors plus a wide range of local community and other groups.

The responsibility for the projects seeking CIL money lies with the client undertaking them.

A spelling correction to appendix A was noted.

Christmas Lights –A figure of £4k had been put in the budget for two trees to be lit this year in addition to last year's trees outside Andrews and Lloyds Bank. Finances are now tight due to overspends elsewhere, so this money will now be claimed against CIL money to leave our funds intact. If HA pay for this we cannot claim the VAT, but the council can.

An ongoing maintenance budget will be required to check the lights and trees annually.

It was suggested we add the cost of volunteer time into the CIL form.

We were also asked if we could have more lights on lampposts – we have done this in the past and can consider it in the future but we have decided lighting of trees to be the priority.

## The Christmas Lights CIL claim was agreed and will be forwarded to the City Council.

Money has already been allocated to the Loneliness & Isolated project and a scoping exercise is planned. We have made contact with a social researcher from the University and we will be working with Archway to further this. This will require a 10 to 15 day exercise.

- The path wardens within the Ramblers have been clearing footpaths and have recently tackled some of the Lye Valley with the help of City Councillors.
- The nationwide 5Km Park Run takes place on a Saturday morning in many parts of the country, and we would like to develop a 2 KM one for children on a Sunday in Florence Park, we are working with the local community on this one.
- Hanging Baskets they are all up and are sporting sponsorship labels. Little Waitrose has also set up some plants at the front of the garage and big Waitrose some planters.

#### 8. **Finance**

We are a little short on the budget: The market figures are below budget as we have had to buy some new gazebos this year and we have already spent this year's grant allocation..

As usual, the dates of invoices for the Festival do not coincide with the financial year but it is on budget.

Any new grant applications will have to be looked at in light of our finances at the time.

We have c. £15k in the bank, and no current grant applications.

# **AOB**

- Councillor Altaf Khan reported that according to the Police The well-publicised altercation in BKP was not a racial incident but an assault As a consequence, . In his view, the subsequent anti-racist meeting in the park was misplaced. The neighbourhood police team and Friends of BKP had not been notified of the incident.
- There is a consultation on the proposal to open up the track (which is currently a restricted byway) over Shotover for motorcyclists. HA are going to support a refusal of this application on behalf of all the people who use this. The executive will submit the objection.

Not that we have a railway station in Headington..... but The Cross-Country train franchise is up for renewal if members which to make a comment.

We have asked the Wood Farm Play Day report to be improved to provide more details of how successful the day was, including details of numbers of children attending.

# The meeting closed at 9pm.

Dates of next meetings for your diary: 26 September in JHB 128, 28 Novembe (Venue tbc.)

# LG 6/8/18