



HEADINGTON ACTION
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Minutes of the meeting held on 29 March 2017 at 7.00pm
Room JHB 128, John Henry Brookes Building, London Road.

Present:

Heather Armitage	Friends of Lye Valley
Elsa Bell	HONORARY SECRETARY
Rosemary Belton	Friends of Bury Knowle Park
Richard Bradley	Friends of Quarry – TREASURER & TRUSTEE
Patrick Coulter	Headington Road Runners – CHAIR & TRUSTEE
Carolyn Gulliver	London Court Residents'
Jill Haas	Low Carbon Headington
Maggie Maguire	Oxford Brookes University
Cllr. Glynis Phillips	Oxfordshire County (Barton, Sandhills & Risinghurst)
Howard Stanbury	Friends of Old Headington
Cllr. Ruth Wilkinson	Oxford City (Headington)
Lesley Williams	Headington Schools Partnership
Cllr. Roz Smith	Oxfordshire County (Headington & Quarry)

Guests:

Ab Brightman	Oxford Brookes University Hub
Natalie Wilson	Headington Quarry Foundation Nursery School

Apologies:

Keith Frayn	Ramblers –Vice Chair & Trustee
Liz Grosvenor	Admin Support
Tony Joyce	Oxford Civic Society
Cllr. Pat Kennedy	Oxford City (Lye Valley)
Sonja Roffey	Mileway Gardens
Margaret Simpson	U3A Oxford
Cllr. Dee Sinclair	Oxford City (Quarry & Risinghurst)

<p>1. Apologies, welcome and introductions. Apologies as above. Guests were welcomed to the meeting.</p>	<p>Action</p>
<p>2. Minutes of the last meeting held on 25 January were agreed</p>	
<p>3. Matters Arising not elsewhere on the Agenda (including Executive Minutes of 23 January and 21 March).</p> <p>Hanging Baskets - Glynis Phillips confirmed that New Headington Residents' Association were interested in sponsoring. She will forward email contact to EB. RB reported that, in response to the Council's refusal to allow sponsorship signs, he had researched other places in the County where permission seems to have been given in previous years. He will</p>	<p>GP/EB</p>

<p>follow up his contacts and report back. Roz Smith confirmed that this is shared decision between the County and City Councils and that there is an on-line City Council form that might produce a more favourable decision. She had raised questions and the Cabinet member was prepared to offer support.</p>	<p>RB</p>
<p>4. Finance:</p> <p>The Head of Headington Quarry Foundation Nursery School was invited to speak in support of the recent application for a grant towards replacing the climbing frame. She reported that the school operates on a tight budget that will not improve under the new funding formula. So far £16,150 had been raised towards the frame and a further £700 will be required. The grant application to HA was for £500. The frame is a valuable resource in improving the physical health of all children in both the school and reception class and is especially useful for those children who are not regularly exposed to physical exercise. It was noted that the school has funded places for vulnerable children and that its catchment area is predominantly Headington with a small number of children from Barton and Wood Farm.</p> <p>A proposal was tabled that HA should fund in full the further £700 that is required but after discussion this was modified. It was agreed that the £500 requested would be granted in the first instance with the proviso that the additional £200 could be awarded if that sum could not be raised from other sources. The Head was reminded that local councillors are likely to have funds available to support such projects.</p> <p>The Head and fundraisers were congratulated on their great achievement so far</p>	
<p>5. Partnership with Brookes</p> <p>Ab Brightman who is currently employed to develop the student HUB reported that it is part of a national initiative (founded 10 years ago) to encourage student volunteering and is part of Brookes' wider programme that aims to provide various points of entry for those who wish to volunteer. Through the activities on offer students have the opportunity to develop new skills, knowledge and confidence and to enhance their CVs as well as to contribute to and bring benefit to the community. Currently the Hub's activities include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Schools plus – students go into local schools for 1 hour per week to work alongside children who need extra support. • Homelessness projects – e.g. collecting for the food bank • 50+ network – providing IT classes in Barton. (EB reported a note from Margaret Simpson asking that the value of this be noted). • Summer internships scheme – particularly in small organisations (e.g. churches, charities and voluntary organisations). For this training and placement support is available. <p>Discussion centred around the need to offer informal as well as formal volunteering opportunities so that students who are new to these activities can, if necessary, take small steps to discover their value. Ab stressed that this is especially the case where students come from a background where volunteering is not a usual activity. The project recognises the inequality in students' backgrounds and designs its programmes in attempt to redress the balance. For example, it asks organisations offering summer internships to ensure that some funding is available so that those from less privileged backgrounds are able to take up the offer or, where funding is not available to construct the placement is such a way that allows time for students to take up parallel paid work.</p> <p>Questions were asked about the possibility of involving students in longer term activities such as environmental activities, the development of the Neighbourhood plan and where opportunities might enhance course content. It was clarified that some of these might not come under the Hub's umbrella and that other strands of Brookes' volunteering programme might be the more appropriate route. It was noted that Brookes is attempting to set up a single point of contact for those offering volunteering opportunities. Members of the committee who currently have such opportunities should contact Maggie Maguire on: m.maguire@brookes.ac.uk who will forward the request to the appropriate section including the HUB.</p> <p>It was agreed that descriptions of the opportunities need to be clear and attractive to students and</p>	

<p>that Brookes can offer help on matching opportunities to students' requirements and interests. Ab was congratulated by the committee on her demonstrable enthusiasm and her commitment to the development of the HUB and was invited to join the committee and attend on a regular basis.</p>	
<p>6. Headington Market</p> <p>In KF's absence the Chair reported that the Market is flourishing with typically 16 stalls per week, sometimes more. Charlie Manning, the market manager, is dealing with a large number of enquiries from potential new traders as word of the market's success spreads. It would now be helpful to expand the area covered by the market, and the favoured option is to locate some stalls on the north side of London Road, from outside Nat West Bank down towards the Osler Road junction. Glynis Phillips and Roz Smith have been very helpful in guiding KF and Charlie on to how to proceed with an application to the County Council: it will require an amendment of the present agreement. Charlie and KF will begin the process by talking to the various shops and businesses concerned.</p> <p>The committee once again noted its appreciation of the work of the current manager.</p>	<p>KF</p>
<p>7. Headington Festival 2017</p> <p>EB reported that everything is going to plan and that the festival committee is to be commended for their level of expertise and commitment. It was noted that the City Council had not awarded a grant this year citing HA's reserves as influencing the decision at a time when the Council's grant-making facility is reduced. It is likely that the amount not granted will be covered by a local organisation and that, when this is confirmed, the budget will be on track.</p> <p>Volunteers are needed to sell raffle tickets on a Saturday morning at the Market in Headington and/or volunteering to help on either or both the Saturday/Sunday of the Festival (June 4 and 5). The first Saturday for which volunteers are required is 22 April and then on the following 6 Saturdays. Margaret Simpson on msimpsonoxford@gmail.com is organising the rota and requests that those who are available contact her urgently.</p>	<p>All members</p>
<p>8. Festival Lights</p> <p>RB reported that the possibility of lighting some trees in the shopping area is being explored. Should this be agreed the lights would be in addition to the tree sponsored by Andrews at Christmas but could also be used at other festivals periods. He presented slides of possible options. It was agreed that this should be pursued further and realistic costs ascertained. He confirmed that the current proposal was for HA to fund lighting for two or three trees and use them to encourage future sponsorship. He was reminded to investigate light pollution issues for flats above any proposed sites; to explore the possibility of using part of the 'amenities' grant awarded to residents who had been disrupted by the development of the heat pipe-line. To the suggestion of exploring the possibility of solar power he confirmed that this had already been done and he had been advised that this would not work in the winter months.</p>	<p>RB and Exec</p>
<p>9. Neighbourhood Plan</p> <p>The Chair reported that the plan will definitely go to referendum on May 4th. The locality has granted £3k for publicity and the first stage had been to take out an advertisement and write a cover story for Headington Monthly. Households within the Plan area will be leafleted. All members are asked to ensure that they publicise the referendum to their organisations.</p> <p>A working group has been formed to begin planning for the next stage (should the referendum be in favour of the Plan) and the Forum will need to take an active role in deciding priorities for action. Ruth Wilkinson suggested that University housing needs might be an area of priority for discussion. The Scrutiny Committee's Housing Panel had produced a report with recommendations and this is on the agenda for City Executive Board to discuss on 6th April. The Panel interviewed key senior representatives from both Universities and its paper sets out changes in planning policy that the</p>	<p>All members</p>

Universities would like to see.	
<p>10. AOB</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lye Valley. HA reported that an open day will be held on June 20th and encouraged all present to attend and to support this valuable and rare amenity. • Swap Shop. Held on the 3rd Saturday of each month at Headington Community Centre in Gladstone Road. This has been a good resource but is under threat if a replacement manager cannot be found from May onwards. The duties would be – to count the café takings each month; calculate and pay volunteer expenses annually; collect the PAT kit from Orinoco the week before the swap and return it afterwards; compile and enter the stats on the CAG database each month; put the banner up the week before the swap; publicise the swaps on the Oxford Mail events page; be the point of contact for queries and CAG news & updates; coordinate volunteers; open up and lock the centre on swap days. JH will forward details to Brookes and all members are asked to canvas for possible candidates. • Bullingdon Community Centre. Noted that a group of men meet on Tuesdays 10- 12 and will mend anything that is brought to them • Cllr Van Coulter. The Chair paid tribute to Van Coulter who had died suddenly. His commitment to the community, ease of accessibility and his readiness to take up matters of importance had been greatly valued. In relation to HA, his work with the market in its early days and with the HA committee had helped to build firm foundations on which the Association’s activities could flourish. The Chair commented that the death of this kind, honest and committed man is a great loss to the community he so diligently served. The Chair will attend the funeral and write to family members on the Association’s behalf. 	<p style="text-align: center;">JH and all members</p> <p style="text-align: center;">PC</p>
<p>11. The meeting closed at 9pm.</p>	
<p>12. Next Meeting The next meeting will be in Room JHB 128 on Wednesday 31 May 2017.</p>	

EB