**Action** 



Registered Charity No. 1099173 www.headingtonaction.org

# Minutes of the meeting held on 29 July 2020 at 7.00pm Via video

Present: 20

Elsa Bell HONORARY SECRETARY, VICE CHAIR & TRUSTEE **Patrick Coulter** Headington Neighbourhood Forum - TRUSTEE

**Rosemary Belton** Friends of Bury Knowle Park

**Richard Bradley** Friends of Quarry - CHAIR & TRUSTEE **Cllr Liz Brighouse** Oxfordshire County (Churchill and Valley)

John Coyle Headington Fairtrade

**Bridget Durning** Community Schools Alliance Trust - TRUSTEE

**Keith Frayn** Ramblers Liz Grosvenor **ADMIN SUPPORT** 

London Court Residents' & Headington Singers **Carolyn Gulliver Sheila Hurst** New Headington Residents' Association

**Tony Joyce** Oxford Civic Society

**Carolyn Morningstar** Joint Chair Market Committee

**TREASURER & TRUSTEE** John Nealon

**Anne Partridge** U3A

**Andrea Siret** Oxford Brookes University

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

**Howard Stanbury** Friends of Old Headington

**Peter West** St Anne's Road etc. Residents' Associations & Headington/Marston Community Forum

**Lesley Williams Headington Schools Partnership** 

Frank Mckenna Guest speaker on Headington Liveable Streets

**Apologies: 3** 

**Judy Palmer** Ramblers

Cllr Glynis Phillips Oxfordshire County (Barton Sandhills & Risinghurst)

Sonja Roffey Mileway Gardens Residents' Association

1. Apologies, welcome and introductions.	
Apologies as above.	
The chair welcomed members to our first Committee meeting since 29 January.	
EB, Hon. Sec. explained that during lockdown we had taken the opportunity to review our database and reiterated that	
Members who all represent a group or association are permitted to vote.	
A member's representative is permitted to vote on their behalf.	
<ul> <li>Persons offering specific skills, but not representing Residents' Associations, may be co-opted onto the Committee as Full members.</li> </ul>	
<ul> <li>A group of "Interested Persons" will be informed of our activities and will be welcome at meetings but will not be permitted to vote.</li> </ul>	
We have welcomed CM and JS as Market committee Joint Chair to various meetings but had not	

ALL

formally co-opted them onto the Committee. This was remedied tonight, and they are duly co-opted.

 Viv Miles is running the connected communities initiative and in accordance with the above is now duly officially co-opted onto the committee.

### 2. Summary of HA activities

The executive have been meeting every two weeks during lockdown and the resulting Minutes have been distributed.

- We have been supporting people at street level during this time and have worked with Oxford Hub and the Street Champions as well as other relevant organisations.
- We have provided communications between various agencies and residents.
- Cari has developed a section of the Headington Action website to list all the events taking place in Headington this has been funded by the City Council.
- We provided funds for Barton Community to assist in their provision of food parcels
- Viv Miles on our behalf has worked extensively with local GPs to provide volunteers to help with counselling, assisted by the professional help of EB.
- We have funded food deliveries from various market traders to staff at Sobell House for several weeks
- We have engineered the move of the market from London Road to its temporary site in Quarry Hollow
- We have been carrying out Headington Future Conversations on four specific areas
- The Chair and PC have been attending regular stakeholder meetings on Covid support.

#### 3. Headington Market

- During lockdown the Market moved online for traders to do home deliveries. This is still happening and the traders have been pleased with the results.
- The market reopened at its new site at Quarry hollow Park and the feedback from traders and locals has been very positive.
- In the first week c. 800 people attended and since then the average has been around 650 per week.
- The market manager Ewan worked tirelessly to get this up-and-running.
- We recruited some volunteers to help with the stewarding **but we need some more.**
- CM thanked the chair and JN for their support in getting the market back.
- Huge thanks are required to Ewan and also to the council who have been very responsive and supportive.
- The plan is to eventually return to London Road when safe to do so.
- JC said that Headington Fairtrade had noticed a drop in takings with the absence of the market outside his door on a Saturday.
- We are coming to the end of our provision to Sobell House the last delivery, for a change, will be plants, most likely hanging baskets.

The effort put in by Cari to get the market up and running again has been huge. She was very heartedly thanked.

# 4. Headington Future conversations

It is well recognised that the Covid-19 pandemic has changed attitudes and behaviours, especially with respect to neighbourly support and views about the environment. Four 'conversations' were set up to look at the implications of this on Headington.

The **Headington Centre** strand, led by Mary Clarkson, has identified a number of desired improvements such as environmental and support to on-line trading. There is a need for paid management to make this happen.

The **Communities** strand, led by Steve Wheeler, is highlighting active citizenship, connected communities, and technology as key themes.

BD who is leading the **Environment/Traffic strand** said that there had been a good response to the questionnaire with a follow up virtual conversation also being popular.

PC advised that there had been two meetings on **Governance** and a report will be forthcoming. The setting-up of a Community Council has been deferred, but HA are looking to work together with Headington Forward, the Neighbourhood Forum, the councillors and the Residents' Associations. We are in conversation with the new Director for Community and Customer Services at the City Council and this has been very productive.

#### An overall report will be produced on the four strands of conversation.

LB advised that decentralisation is being discussed by central government and a white paper is expected in September. Her worry is at a local level, where Wood farm, for example has few community groups. The school in conjunction with Quarry is attempting to remedy this as this is a vulnerable area that needs support. An organisation called Wood Farm Healthy Partnership is promoting "the benefits of healthy eating, exercise and massage"

### 5. Low traffic neighbourhoods (LTN) and Headington Liveable Streets (HLS)

Frank Mckenna was introduced as being part of the HLS group which is looking at the issue of limiting through traffic in Headington

- He said that a HLS had liaised with various areas of Headington to consider measures to reduce through traffic volumes and speeds.
- Various draft maps were shown that indicate proposed traffic bollards/planters (modal filters) and alternative routes for traffic.
- HLS have identified three distinct areas of Headington each with their own challenges: Old Headington, Quarry, and Highfield. It is thought that each area can produce their own solutions independently and then work together to produce a joint plan.
- Local Residents' Associations' consultations and street surveys will be carried out to ascertain peoples'
  perceptions of rat running, position of bollards and alternative routes. A website is being established
  to reflect the findings with the aim of transforming the residential neighbourhoods currently blighted
  by too much traffic, rat running and speeding. So far, the survey results strongly favoured LTNs.
- PC pointed out that LTNs are now central government and city/county council policy and are supported by all our local councillors.
- PW said that his local streets had not yet been consulted and was directed to the Headington LS website rather than the Oxford LS.
- RS said that she has found a large range of opinions on this, there being winners and losers when traffic is displaced to other streets. She hopes that if/when these are implemented, they will be evaluated and adjusted if required. She is also concerned, on the grounds of GDPR, about the online survey not being anonymous. PC confirmed that measures for the provision of anonymity and privacy were in hand.

## 6. AOB

RB said he had received a copy of a message from DRARA which had been addressed to the two universities expressing concern about community transmission of Covid-19 when students return. AS said Oxford Brookes University had replied to DRARA and committed to share the information.

The meeting closed at 8.15

Date of next meeting for your diary: Wednesday 30 September 2020

LG 30/7/20