



Registered Charity No. 1099173

www.headingtonaction.org

Minutes of the meeting held on 28 July 2021 at 7.00pm

Via video

Present: 15

Heather Armitage	Friends of Lye Valley
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
Bridget Durning	Community Schools Alliance Trust – TRUSTEE
Keith Frayn	Ramblers/ Co-Chair Market Committee
Theresa Frayn	Co-Chair Market Committee
Liz Grosvenor	ADMIN SUPPORT
Angela Jones	Street Champion Coordinator
Tony Joyce	Oxford Civic Society
Peter McCarter	Friends of Old Headington
Frank McKenna	Headington Liveable Streets
John Nealon	TREASURER & TRUSTEE
Sonya Roffey	Mileway Gardens RA

Apologies: 10

David Colbeck	Friends of Headington Hill Park
Sheila Hurst	New Headington RA
Philippa Logan	Shotover Preservation Society
Viv Miles	Project Lead on Connected Communities
Anne Partridge	U3A
Hilary Seal	St Anne’s Road etc. residents
Andrea Siret	Oxford Brookes
Cllr Roz Smith	Oxfordshire County (Headington & Quarry) Oxford City (Quarry & Risinghurst)
Howard Stanbury	Friends of Old Headington
Lesley Williams	Headington Schools Partnership

	Action
<p>1. Welcome and introductions. Angela Jones, our new Street Champion Coordinator, was welcomed to the meeting.</p>	
<p>2. Minutes of previous meeting held on 26 May and of Executive on 12 July Agreed.</p>	
<p>3. Matters arising EDI next steps A plan had been agreed at our last meeting. The City Council contributed and a representative will be present at our next meeting in September when we will consider its relevance to our members.</p>	
HNF AGM	

<p>This will be arranged for late September and will be in the form of a panel discussion to reinvigorate the Forum.</p> <p>Response to issues</p> <p>The paper, already distributed, arose from approaches made to us to support certain projects. There is a wide variety of opinions amongst our membership and we decided that, normally, we will respond to approaches only after our membership have been consulted.</p> <p>There are 3 types of issues:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Planning applications – we will not respond normally, partly because some of the Councillors in our membership have planning portfolios and this would create a conflict of interest. Planning is the job of the Headington Neighbourhood Forum (HNF), but we would go to pre-planning meetings if invited. 2. Formal consultations will be looked at on a case-by-case basis, and we would encourage members to respond directly on their own behalf. 3. General matter of concern – the Executive will respond as long as the issue complies with our policies and plans, bearing in mind the comment re Councillors above. If time allows or we are in doubt as to how we should respond we will email members direct for their opinion. <p>Lye Valley update</p> <p>The matter of cars belonging to the houses on the edge of the Valley using the footpath into the Lye Valley has still not been resolved. Local stone walls have also been damaged, and there is a “land grab” issue as well as vehicles driving over a nature reserve.</p> <p>The Council promised a bollard but this has not materialised, and the No Parking sign has been removed. Some councillors made a site visit but the Friends of Lye Valley (FOLV) were not invited. FOLV are now going to request a meeting with the Council with H. Action support.</p> <p>FMC suggested that a farm gate would only cost about £1,000 if they thought that would be a solution, but it was thought that a lockable bollard would be more suitable as this would enable more speedy emergency and easier disabled access.</p>	
<p>4. Progress against Plan</p> <p>The key headings are:</p> <p>Connected Communities</p> <p>Connected Communities week has been postponed again because of the pandemic. A Street Champion Coordinator has been recruited. The Connected Communities project team has two new members.</p> <p>Greening</p> <p>BD is working on getting a steering group together and two residents have joined the team.</p> <p>Headington Centre</p> <p>A vision has been produced from workshops with stakeholders. The City Council are on board and the next task is to develop a brief for a consultant to identify and cost some projects. Bury Knowle Park is included in the area. PC reported that CIL money can now be used to “employ” a consultant for Headington Centre. Previously, CIL money could only be used for infrastructure projects.</p> <p>Walking and Cycling</p> <p>This is being encouraged through existing groups and local authorities. HA have given a grant to Liveable Streets to consult on proposals.</p> <p>Supporting Headington Groups</p> <p>HA already supports HNF. There has been no progress on developing links with Headington Community Associations, new Residents’ Associations, and Carbon Reduction groups.</p> <p>The Chair reported that a very useful meeting had taken place with RBe regarding disability access to BKP. PC commented that Barton Park is not a good example of disability access having been thought about. FMC pointed out that it was important for Greening and Headington Centre projects to liaise closely so that there is a coherent plan and that, for example, greening and any other projects do not add to street clutter</p>	

<p>that would impair mobility. BD advised that this connection was already in hand.</p>	
<p>5. Connected Communities</p> <p>AJ, Street Champion Coordinator advised that she has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Set up a dedicated email and phone number to deal with Headington Action issues streets@headingtonaction.org • Met up with Oxford Hub to discuss how they set up the SCs at the beginning of the pandemic, and how this can be continued. • Dealing with GDPR issues regarding collection of email addresses • Promoting Neighbours’ Day (ND) • Setting up WhatsApp Groups for spreading information • Setting up an HA Instagram platform to promote ND and the street network. She encourages everyone to join. • Is considering changing the term “Street Champion” • Asking the membership to submit names of champions in their street. <p>PC pointed out that Residents’ Associations are well organised in most of these areas and AJ is happy to come to talk to them.</p> <p>ND is on 18/19 September and is being widely advertised – see the HA website.</p> <p>It is hoped that Councillors will contribute some of their ward monies to supporting it.</p> <p>The onus is on the residents to approach the Council for permission to close a road – they normally need 6 weeks’ notice but in reality they will accept 4 weeks. HA has agreed to bear the cost of these closures.</p>	ALL
<p>6. Market</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • TF sought confirmation that ND leaflets will be distributed at the market on 31 July. The stewards will help with this if needed. • Market attendance is down at the moment – probably due to holidays being taken. • They are very grateful to the stewards and Ewan is particularly grateful for their help. • During August and September there will only be two stewards on duty,. • Ewan is on holiday on 28 August and more help is being sought to cover for him. JN has already offered to help with collecting the gazebos. • Plans are still being made to ultimately return to London Road – hopefully for 18/19 September- although those local to Quarry Hollow will be disappointed. • A reminder that KF & TF are stepping down at the end of their years’ tenure at the end of September, and replacements are being sought. <p>Criteria are being worked on to determine who can use the Community Stall. It is important to have <i>bona fide</i> groups rather than one-man-bands that are not accountable to anybody for their views. The festival committee has produced a form that is issued to potential stall-holders asking them to confirm that their activity is in line with HA values and practice and this might be used as a template for the market.</p> <p>We are keen to be welcoming and inclusive, but we need to protect the aims of HA and comply with its Charitable status.</p>	
<p>7. Finance</p> <p>As agreed at the last meeting an enhanced grant of £500 was given to BKP for bulb planting.</p> <p>Our website has clarified the difference between a Community Grant and a Small Sparks grant as this has caused some confusion in the past as to which to apply for.</p> <p>The Lottery Fund has agreed that we may carry over the unused festival money (c. £3,000) into community based projects e.g. to cover additional costs for the market and the food we donated to Sobell House at the</p>	

<p>beginning of the pandemic. We are grateful to the Lottery Fund for its generosity and thanks were expressed to EB for writing the letter that prompted the Lottery Fund’s response.</p> <p>Sn106 money from a Brookes development is in the region of £30,000 and will need to be spent before the end of this year – any ideas for its use will be welcomed.</p> <p>The hanging baskets are in place and look good this year. It was agreed that CIL money could be used to cover the cost.</p>	
<p>8. Open discussion on matters of interest</p> <p>The Women’s Bike Ride, a national event expected to be covered by television and other media, will pass through Headington on 4 October. The City Council has asked that local businesses etc. collaborate to make it a festive event. It is unclear who will coordinate local activity. RB will contact the Council in the first instance and report back on whether any action is required of HA. At the very least, we might be able to provide bunting and encourage flag waving. We understand that cycle shops in Oxford will be involved.</p> <p>HA mentioned Friends of Lye Valley’s submission to a consultation on the Urban Forest. Their response contains suggestions for suitable native on-street trees. The submission is attached – it may be of interest to our members.</p> <p>The Chair asked if our meetings should be face-to-face meetings versus Zoom meetings in future –some members feel we should get back to normal, others that it is not safe to do so in an enclosed space. Those without internet access have been dis-enfranchised. We understand that Brookes will not make a decision about letting out rooms until well into September. We will ask Brookes if we can do a hybrid version and, if we do return, whether there is a possibility of our having a room with better ventilation. We will send out an email questionnaire to ascertain feeling amongst members about the way forward.</p>	<p>Chair/LG</p>
<p>9. AOB None</p>	
<p>10. The meeting closed at 8.22</p>	
<p>Date of next meeting for your diary:</p> <p>29 September 2021</p>	

LG 29/7/21RB