

Friends of Old Headington Autumn Newsletter October 2018



Friends of Old Headington Autumn 2018 newsletter

We are pleased to announce that this year our **Winter Meeting** will be held in the village hall at 8 pm on Friday 30th November. The talk by [Professor William Whyte](#) of St John's College entitled 'Unlocking the church: the lost secrets of Victorian sacred space' will be followed by drinks and nibbles; members and non-members alike are very welcome to attend.

The AGM was held on 18 May; the draft minutes will be made available shortly. Paper copies of the minutes will be distributed to those on our list of members without internet access; any non-members who would like a printed copy should contact one of the Trustees listed below.

60th anniversary - In 2019 the Friends will celebrate its 60th anniversary and we would welcome suggestions for events and activities that might be included in a day of celebration.

Open Gardens - The Friends of Old Headington Open Gardens was on Sunday 1 July this year. We were blessed with good weather, but on the day had to compete with other attractions including the Cowley Road Carnival, World Cup football, and a disinclination to go out on a hot day (it was 31 C!).

Visitor numbers held up and a more visible location for the plant stall on the forecourt of the terrace of houses next to St Andrew's meant that funds raised were not far behind last year's total. The trustees of the Friends are extremely grateful to all who helped make this year a success: the gardeners who graciously opened their gardens for all, Alison Soskice and the volunteers who grew plants and manned the plant stall, Otmoor WI for providing delicious teas, Father Darren and the team at St Andrew's for welcoming us and opening the church room for the afternoon, Jenny Butler for her dedication in organising the event so efficiently, and of course to all who came and so generously supported us on the day.

Photos showing some of the gardens that were open can be viewed online at the Friends' web site (www.foh.org.uk) or by going directly to [open2018](#)

A provisional date of 16 June has been set for next year's Open Gardens

We have a growers' group to produce interesting plants for sale on the Plant Stall at Open Gardens. If you would like to help with this, please contact the Trustees on info@foh.org.uk.

Oxford Local Plan 2036 - This is expected to go forward for the final round of public consultation in October/November. Papers published on the city council web site for a meeting in October to approve the draft and release it for consultation suggest that Dunstan Park is no longer listed as a site for possible development. At the present moment the status of Ruskin Field(s) is not clear and we are seeking clarification.

Planning Matters - The Trustees continue to monitor planning applications and other issues that may affect the character of the conservation area. Our correspondence on these issues can be seen in the planning section of our website at [planning-letters](#) .

If you are thinking of submitting an application relating to your property, or undertaking alterations which will be visible from the road, we may be able to offer useful suggestions, help to smooth the process and keep nearby residents up-to-date. Guidance documents are highlighted on the home page of our website <http://www.foh.org.uk>

29 Old High Street - the planning inspector has not yet reported on the appeal that was heard on 12 June.

Friends of Old Headington Autumn Newsletter October 2018



Street trees - we are in touch with the city council about replacing the lime trees that were cut down outside the Priory in Old High Street. We are also thinking about a project that could go further with street trees and will seek funding to help achieve this. If members feel there are good locations that could support new planting, please let us know your thoughts. The Woodland Trust has a campaign to support trees and you can find out more at <https://www.woodlandtrust.org.uk/get-involved/street-trees/>.

Meadow Larkins, Larkins Lane - there is a planning application for the erection of 3 x 3-bed dwellings on this site. The planning reference is 18/02588/FUL and full details and links to comment on this application can be found at <https://tinyurl.com/yacy4vlc>

Ivy Lane accommodation at the JR Hospital: there are plans to replace the accommodation at Ivy Lane over the coming 3 years. The owners a2dominion wish to replace the existing accommodation with new blocks that offered more private facilities. The existing red-brick blocks will be removed and replaced by new modern flats and apartments. Many of the new buildings will be taller than the existing blocks, with one section, at the rear near the car parks and hospital proposed to reach 6 storeys. A planning application is expected to be submitted by the end of the year. Please contact a trustee if you'd like to hear more about this development.

Parks and green spaces -The city council is running a public consultation on parks and green spaces. This is available [online](#) and is a good opportunity to comment on parks nearby such as Dunstan Park and Bury Knowle Park. The closing date is 31 December and if you wish to comment on more than one park in the city we recommend that you use the downloadable response form, one for each park, available from the web page.

An [eight-week public consultation](#) opened on Monday 3 September 2018 on the **City Council's Oxford Central (City and University) Conservation Area Appraisal**, which covers the historic core of the city.

FOH Trustees

The following members were elected as trustees at the AGM: David Cartwright, Roddy Deans, Peter McCarter, and John Clarke. The constitution provides that the Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer shall be elected by the trustees at their first meeting following the AGM, and they accordingly re-elected Peter McCarter as chairman, Hugh Ferris as (Treasurer) and Howard Stanbury as Secretary.

Peter McCarter (Chairman) chairman@foh.org.uk 01865751471
--

Howard Stanbury secretary@foh.org.uk
--

Roddy Deans

John Clarke (Website administrator)

Jinny Blom

Julie Harrod membership@foh.org.uk

Hugh Ferris (Treasurer)

David Cartwright To sign up for an email version visit https://tinyurl.com/ybugknmy

John Rawson is the Trustees' adviser on planning matters
--