



Annual General Meeting 12th May 2017

We are pleased to announce that this year our AGM will be held in the Village Hall, Dunstan Road, at 8 pm on Friday 12 May. The outline Agenda is shown below. Non-members are very welcome, but please note that only those who can show a 2017 membership card may vote. All 2017 membership cards will be delivered before the AGM for those who have paid by standing order, but if you need to renew your membership, or would like to join, do come in before 8 o'clock; we will be available from 7.30. It would be helpful if those with standing orders for later in the year could amend these to make them payable in January. Refreshments will be provided after the meeting.

We are seeking nominations for trustees. In accordance with the Trust Deed four trustees' terms expire at this AGM. Of the four, three intend to seek re-election and we still seek nominees for other trustees. The Secretary must receive nominations by 8 pm on Friday 5 May. Forms can be obtained from the Secretary by emailing secretary@foh.org.uk.

Agenda

1. Apologies for absence
2. Appreciation of Veronica Hurst
3. Adoption of the draft minutes of the AGM held on Friday 13 May 2016 (available at <https://tinyurl.com/fohminutes2016>)
4. Matters arising from the Minutes (we would appreciate it if these are restricted to essential items)
5. Honorary Treasurer's report
6. Adoption of annual accounts for 2016
7. Appointment of independent examiner of the accounts
8. Chairman's Report
9. Thanks to the Chairman and Treasurer
10. Announcement of Enhancement Award 2017
11. Election of trustees
12. Any Other Business: an opportunity to raise points of interest and concern

Subscriptions for 2017

Our Membership Secretary is Julie Harrod (membership@foh.org.uk), and she would be grateful if those who still owe £5 for their 2017 subscription could send it to her at Monckton Cottage, 56 Old High Street, OX3 9HW. We would encourage those who have not yet set up a standing order for their annual payment to do so for 2017, as this saves time and effort for all concerned. Forms can be downloaded from the website, and copies are available from the Membership Secretary. Please note that membership costs £5 per person - not per property.

Now that we have Gift Aid status, we encourage eligible members to sign a Gift Aid declaration, as this maximizes our subscription income. Forms are available on the website at <https://tinyurl.com/fohforms> and paper copies will be available at the AGM.

Enhancement award

This award is made for work on buildings, walls, trees etc. that has enhanced the conservation area. Proposals must be for work completed since the last AGM and which is visible from the street. Please send your suggestions to Howard Stanbury (secretary@foh.org.uk or at 29 St Andrew's Road) by May 5 using this form <https://tinyurl.com/fohenhancement>. The trustees welcome proposals from residents, but if no single project proposed stands out they may decide not to make the award.



Planning matters

At their meeting 9 March the City Council Executive Board endorsed the Headington Neighbourhood Plan and approved its progress to a referendum to be held on 4 May coinciding with the local elections. The Board complimented the Neighbourhood Plan Forum for its achievement in being the first in Oxford to produce a Plan.

Bury Knowle car parking issues

There are concerns about misuse of the car park in Bury Knowle Park by shoppers, local residents and commuters. The City Council offered to incorporate the car park into the network of City Council car parks, which would mean charging for tickets and increasing the size to make the upgrade cost-effective. The trustees’ view is to keep things as they are and support efforts to ensure that the facility is not abused to the detriment of library- and park-users. We feel that extending the car park is not acceptable, and restricting parking to blue-badge-holders seems unfair to other legitimate users.

29 Old High Street We hope to have an update and further news at the AGM.

Advice on planning

The trustees continue to monitor planning applications and other issues that may affect the character of the conservation area; relevant correspondence can be seen in the planning corner section of our website at <https://tinyurl.com/fohplanning> If you are thinking of submitting an application relating to your property, do let us know, as we may be able to offer useful suggestions to keep the process running smoothly.

Access to Headington - The second phase of work on the Slade is expected to take 6 months.

Hospital energy pipe project - The target completion date is the end of May with the London Road work carried out over 3-28 April.

Open Gardens - This will be held on Sunday 25 June.

Growers’ group

We have set up a group to grow plants to sell at Open Gardens. The aim is to have a range of interesting items to sell – perennials, shrubs, herbs etc. – so if you would like to help by propagating material from your own garden, please contact Alison Soskice at <mailto:asoskice@tiscali.co.uk>

Memories of Veronica 1949-2017

We were deeply saddened by the death of Veronica Hurst in January; she had been our Chairman from 2013 until last year’s AGM, when she had to retire because of ill health. She had an impressive knowledge of the area and its people, and she devoted many hours to safeguarding the distinctive character of Old Headington by representing us on various consultations and working groups. We shall miss her for that, and for the sheer love of life which infused her leadership.

We offer our deep sympathy to her husband, Clive, and with his permission and help we are putting on record our affection and gratitude by bringing together the tributes paid at her funeral by friends representing various aspects of her life. They will be available as a booklet at our AGM in May, and at about the same time they will be available to download from our website.

FOH trustees

Peter McCarter chairman@foh.org.uk	Howard Stanbury secretary@foh.org.uk
Robert Grimley Press@foh.org.uk 07812 436831	Julie Harrod membership@foh.org.uk
Hugh Ferris Treasurer@foh.org.uk	Roddy Deans (elected March 2016)
David Cartwright	
John Clarke (Website administrator) john.clarke@foh.org.uk	
John Rawson serves as the trustees’ planning advisor. If you have any questions please contact our Website administrator john.clarke@foh.org.uk or Howard Stanbury secretary@foh.org.uk	