



Annual General Meeting 18th May 2018

We are pleased to announce that this year our AGM will be held in the Village Hall, Dunstan Road, at 8 pm on Friday 18 May. The outline Agenda is shown below. Non-members are very welcome, but please note that only those who can show a 2018 membership card may vote. All 2018 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 8.00; we will be available from 7.30. It would be helpful if those with Standing Orders for later in the year could amend these so that they are payable in January. Refreshments will be provided after the meeting.

We are seeking nominations for trustees. In accordance with the Trust Deed, the Secretary must receive nominations by 8 pm on Friday 11 May. Forms can be obtained from the Secretary by emailing secretary@foh.org.uk.

Agenda

1. Apologies for absence
2. Minutes of the AGM held on Friday, 12 May 2017 (attached and at <http://tinyurl.com/y7wy85qx>)
3. Matters arising from the Minutes (we would appreciate it if these are restricted to the essential)
4. Honorary Treasurer's report
5. Adoption of annual accounts for 2017 (TBC)
6. Appointment of Auditor
7. Chairman's Report
8. Enhancement Award 2018 (nomination form attached and at <http://tinyurl.com/y74jq4of>)
9. Election of Trustees (nomination form attached and at <http://tinyurl.com/yc2atplx>)
10. Any Other Business: an opportunity to raise points of interest and concern

Subscriptions for 2018

Our Membership Secretary is Julie Harrod (membership@foh.org.uk), and she would be grateful if those who still owe £5 for their 2018 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 2018, as this saves time and effort for you and for us. Forms can be downloaded from the website, and copies are available from the Membership Secretary. Please note that this is £5 per person - not per property.

Now that the Friends has Gift Aid status, we are keen that as many members as are eligible sign a declaration so that income from subscriptions is maximized; do please consider helping us in this way. Forms available on the website at <http://tinyurl.com/yafitty4b> and as above, and trustees will help with Gift Aid declarations at the AGM.

Enhancement award

This award is made for work on buildings, walls, trees etc. that in your opinion, and ultimately that of the Trustees, has enhanced the conservation area. To qualify, any proposal must be for work completed since the last AGM and visible from the street. Please send your suggestions to Howard Stanbury (secretary@foh.org.uk or at 29 St Andrew's Road) by 11 May using the attached form. The trustees welcome proposals from residents, but if no single project proposed stands out they may decide not to make the award.

Advice on planning

The trustees continue to monitor planning applications and other issues that may affect the character of the conservation area. Correspondence on these issues can be seen in the planning corner section of our website at <http://tinyurl.com/y7qkn878> . This includes comments on 4 planning applications submitted during the past year. If you are thinking of submitting an application relating to your property we would appreciate



being kept informed, as we may be able to offer useful suggestions, and this can help to keep the process running smoothly.

The Green Book

Many of our members will know of (and doubtless frequently refer to) the 'Green Book', first published by the Friends of Old Headington in 1990 and available as a PDF on the home page of our website. It is a guide to promote an understanding of the details that should be considered when maintaining the old buildings or creating new ones within the Conservation Area. The book had a useful Annex listing sources of materials and specialist firms and craftsmen - the Annex was subsequently published as a supplement but was last updated some ten years ago. The Trustees would like to revise and re-print this Supplement.

If you have had any personal experience of traders or craftsmen/women (e.g. stonemasons, woodworkers, window and staircase manufacturers, ironmongery, tiles, cast iron rainwater goods, roofers, general contractors etc.) who have done good work, in keeping with the character of the area and who you could recommend, please let us know by emailing or sending a note of their names / contact details to any of our Trustees or to John Rawson, our architectural adviser (St Andrew's House, St Andrew's Road).

In the meantime, if anyone would like a copy of the current edition of the Green Book, do let us know <http://tinyurl.com/ydb9e4tj>

Lime Trees in Old High Street

The Lime trees outside the Priory in Old High Street were removed and the Trustees are in discussion with the City council concerning replanting.

29 Old High Street

We hope to have an update and further news at the AGM. The owner has appealed against refusal of planning permission issued by the Council for the application to certify that Proposed sub-division of the existing house to form 2x 2-bed flats and the erection of x3 dwellings to create a 2x 2-bed flat and 1x 1-bed flat is lawful (planning reference 17/02576/CPU). The appeal will be following the Public Inquiry procedure and the hearing will be at 10 a.m. on 12 June. A representative of the Friends will attend.

Access to Headington

The situation with regards this project is still under discussion. At present the Council's intention is to start the Headley Way works in the summer running to Christmas 2018 (weather permitting). The national database for roadworks (Elgin) lists the dates for the scheme as 23 April-18 February with a lane closure alert. The relevant trees are to be felled after checking that there are no birds nesting in them. Work at the Marsh Lane roundabouts will be as in the original programme. There will be a pre-construction exhibition at a location/time TBC. The funding allows the reintroduction of the pedestrian crossing on London Road at the Osler Road bus gate and work began in April and is nearly complete.

Open Gardens

This will be held on Sunday 1 July.

Growers' Group

In order to ensure that the Plant Stall has a reliable amount of interesting items for sale, a group has been established who will grow plants for the Friends in readiness for Open Gardens. If you feel you could help with this, please contact the trustees on info@foh.org.uk

Appreciation of Stella Welford (1932-2017)

Stella Welford, who died suddenly and unexpectedly on Boxing Day, 2017, was member of the Friends of Old Headington for many years. She was also our Secretary/Membership Secretary for 13 years (from 1999 to 2012), in which role she was amazingly efficient. Indeed, the word 'efficient' featured in all the eulogies delivered at her memorial service at St Andrew's Church, and her efficiency is further proven by the fact that when she retired, her work had to be divided amongst three trustees (we now have a Minutes Secretary, a Membership Secretary and an Administrative Secretary!). Sarah King recalls that typed minutes of the



previous evening's committee meetings (noted down in Pitman's shorthand) would be delivered to her door at first light the next morning.

Stella had lived at her charming cottage at 33 Old High Street since 1968, buying the other end (no. 35) in 1987. The full church at her memorial service was testimony to the enormous esteem in which she was held by her many friends and neighbours. I think we all learned something new about her that day. Who knew that she was an accomplished archer? Or about her love of folk music, exotic overseas travel, theatre, rambling and her interests and work for the Slimbridge Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust, the RNLI and St Michael's Church, Cumnor?

Stella's knowledge of the Conservation Area and its residents was compendious and, even after she had retired, we would constantly call upon her knowledge. She is sadly, and will be sorely, missed by us all.

Appreciation of Lesley Maddock 1922-2017 By Sarah King

Leslie Maddock, who became secretary to the Friends of Old Headington in 1988, was born in 1922 in Sussex. She spent much of her early childhood with her parents and sisters, Evelyn and Rosemary, in Bolivia, where her father was working as an engineer. In due course they returned to England and in the 1950s came and settled in Osler Road in Headington.

On retirement, in 1988, Lesley came home to Old Headington, from Edinburgh (where she had worked in the Scottish Office for several years) and was asked by the committee of the Friends to become secretary – a position she held for the next 10 years. She worked diligently and with enthusiasm on the Friends' behalf, keeping an eye on all the matters that we had to deal with to protect this Conservation Area and, with her experience of liaising with staff during her several years in the Scotland Office, easing enormously the dealings between the Friends and the officers of Oxford City Council.

She was a joy to work with but she had two failings which she mentioned at the outset: she was no good at filing and her writing was impossible to read. She was correct on both points but these shortcomings were far outweighed by her abilities.

When it became time for Lesley to retire I managed to persuade Stella Welford to become Lesley's successor (Stella held the post from 1999-2012). I was lucky indeed during my 17 years as chairman to have had two such excellent secretaries.

FOH trustees

Trustees are

Peter McCarter (Chairman)	Howard Stanbury (Secretary) secretary@foh.org.uk
Julie Harrod membership@foh.org.uk	Jinny Blom
Hugh Ferris Treasurer@foh.org.uk	Roddy Deans
David Cartwright	Laura DiCarlo (co-opted 20 August 2017)
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 john.clarke@foh.org.uk or Howard Stanbury (Secretary) secretary@foh.org.uk



The Friends of Old Headington

**Draft Minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on
Friday, 12 May 2017 at the Village Hall**

Present: Lady (Nancy) Kenny (President), Dr Sonia Brough (Vice-President), and 60 members and friends.

Peter McCarter (Chairman) welcomed members and friends and chaired the meeting, with Howard Stanbury (Secretary) assisting.

1. *Apologies for absence:* received from Brian Aldiss, Jinny Blom, Ellan Derow, Anthony and Celia de Vere, Vicky Haeri, Claire Harvey, Peggy Howarth, Clive Hurst, Yvonne Jehenson and Peter Dunn, Bernadette Lavery, Julian and Carmelina Lawton Smith, Karin Osborne, Nell Slocock, Nelly Stanbury, and Joe & Lowell Winkelman. City Councillor Ruth Wilkinson also sent her apologies.

2. *Veronica Hurst*

The President, Nancy Kenny, paid tribute to the contribution to the Friends made by Veronica Hurst, whose untimely death on 14 January 2017 had robbed us of one who had brought a great deal of energy and commitment to the organisation, helping to mobilise opinion and represent the Friends on local bodies. Among Veronica's achievements was the work done in helping steer the Headington Neighbourhood Plan through to completion and the subsequent approval of the Plan gave recognition to her efforts to make the local community a better place. The death was also noted of Penny Richards in 2016 – she was a founding member of the Friends, Chairman, and past President. Among Veronica's achievements was the work done in helping steer the Headington Neighbourhood Plan through to completion and the subsequent approval of the Plan gave recognition to her efforts to make the local community a better place.

3. *Minutes of the Annual General Meeting 13 May 2016*

After two minor corrections were noted, the adoption of the draft minutes was proposed by Innes King and seconded by Diana Tickell, and were unanimously approved by the meeting.

4. *Matters arising from the Minutes*

There were no matters arising from the minutes, the Chairman having asked members to raise only urgent matters, or those not otherwise on the agenda.

5. *Treasurer's Report*

The new Treasurer, Hugh Ferris, introduced himself and presented the accounts for 2016.

A surplus of £1,713 was reported (£904 in 2015). Income was up 8% at £2,304, with annual subscriptions amounting to £960. This reflected an increase in membership following a recruitment effort during the year. Open Gardens raised £1,174, about the same as 2015. Expenditure (£591) was less than half that for 2015.

The balance sheet indicated that our current assets and reserves totalled £14,647 on 31/12/2016, up from £12,934 in the previous year.

In response to an inquiry about whether the Friends were members of the Oxford Preservation Trust, Howard Stanbury said he would make inquiries and Stella Welford offered to help.

11. *Adoption of the Annual Accounts for 2016*

The accounts were adopted (proposed Jim Malcolmson, seconded by John Rowling) unanimously.

12. *Appointment of independent examiner of the accounts*

The Treasurer thanked Adrian Williams for his examination of the accounts. The Chairman proposed that he be appointed for 2017. This was seconded by Innes King and approved *nem. con.*

13. *Chairman's Report*

The Chairman began by reminding members of the purpose and mission of the Friends as expressed in our constitution:

... to preserve the rural amenities and village charm of Old Headington and to seek to prevent the village succumbing to urban pressures. ... [To] work actively to encourage and foster the preservation of the character of the village. At the same time, acknowledging that change is ever with us, ... seek to ensure, when change is being considered, that if made, it is effected only in a sympathetic fashion ...

Membership in 2016 stood at 230 members including 44 life members. He urged members to use standing orders to facilitate payment of membership: 125 currently do so.

The trustees regretted the loss in the past year of members. In addition to Veronica Hurst and Penny Richards, mentioned by Nancy Kenny, others included Wattie Fletcher, Penny Glaspole, Very Revd Bob Jeffrey (Life Member), Judith Lea and Sue Shaw.

Open Gardens

We were pleased to welcome the Lord Mayor, Councillor Altaf Khan, to Open Gardens on 26 June. The event raised £1,383, or £1,174 net after expenses. The Chairman thanked Jenny Butler for organising the event; the gardeners who shared their gardens with us; Alison Soskice and colleagues in

the growing group for their work in preparing a successful plant sales stand; and Marilyn North and the ladies of Otmoor WI for their teas and cakes in the Village Hall.

Winter Meeting

We were pleased to hold this again on Friday 18 November at Ruskin College. The guest speaker was the eminent landscape architect Hal Moggridge and he spoke on Capability Brown at Blenheim. (Mr Moggridge was the landscape consultant for the planting at Blenheim Palace, 1981-1999.)

Planning matters

The *Headington Neighbourhood Plan* - the result of three years' work by members of the Headington Neighbourhood Forum (a groups of more than 100 members of the local community including elected members of Oxford City and Oxfordshire County Councils) - was approved by referendum on 4 May by 3,310 votes in favour to 543 against.

[Subsequent to this AGM, at a full meeting of Oxford City Council on Thursday 20th July 2017 the Council resolved that the Headington Neighbourhood Plan be 'made'.]

29 Old High Street

Unfortunately, Councillor Ruth Wilkinson was unable to attend this meeting and so an update on the current state of play could not be presented. [This long-running saga resumed later in the year when the owner presented a new application to re-develop the site. This has been rejected by the city council because of the excessive size and bulk of the proposed extensions and the proximity to the boundary of the site with a neighbouring house.]

The meeting was updated on developments at *Barton Park* – work had started on the first phase of homes, the so-called Mosaics development at the western end of the site. Traffic-light controlled access to Barton Park would be introduced later in the year with access to Northway limited to buses, emergency vehicles, bicycles and pedestrians.

The Chairman raised the question of *threats* to the Conservation Area. The *Oxford Spatial Options Assessment* by Oxfordshire County Council on behalf of the Oxfordshire Growth Board had identified 'land north of Old Headington' (green field sites from Ruskin Fields in the west to the OPT field to the east) that might support 550 dwellings by 2031. There are proposals that the Wick Farm site in the Green Belt north of Barton might support developments of over 2,200 houses. We should remain vigilant to these and other threats to the Conservation Area.

The question of seeking Article 4 Direction for the Conservation Area had been discussed and reviewed by the trustees. The history of the issue was reviewed and in the past year had been raised with the city planners. The city remains ambivalent towards the idea and has expressed the view that their priorities are elsewhere at the moment. Not all Conservation Areas in the city have character appraisals at the moment and a handful enjoy Article 4 direction. It was the trustees' view that we should wait perhaps 24 months before revisiting the question and that we could perhaps join with others to make progress. [The option was raised in the trustees' response to the city's Local Plan Preferred Options consultation later in the year.]

The Chairman concluded by thanking the trustees for their support and commitment throughout the year. We were grateful to John Rawson for his sage advice on planning

applications, and to others who had given us advice from time to time. Finally, warm appreciation was expressed to Robert Grimley for his role as Acting Chairman, especially during the time of Veronica Hurst's illness and afterwards.

The President thanked the Chairman for his report and expressed her own thanks to him and the Secretary for their hard work in the previous year.

9. *Enhancement Award 2017*

We were fortunate this year to have more than one nomination, a reflection perhaps of the interest in the built environment in the Conservation Area and also the fact that residents and others who take on these tasks strongly respect the history and the setting they are working in. We are fortunate to be able to make a choice when we decide who the recipients should be.

The trustees decided there would be just one recipient of the Enhancement Award this year, and we were delighted to announce that the winners for 2017 are

Rachel Croft and James Scott Brown for the extension at 94 Old High Street facing on to St Andrew's Road.

The nomination for the award summed up the qualities of the project:

'In my view this is a successful extension project, which converts an awkward living space into a pleasant home.

The original stone/brick building fronts Old High Street and St Andrews Road at a central part of the conservation area. The St Andrews end was messy, having been adapted from Mrs Bond's shop.

Any acceptable conversion would have to be sympathetic to the neighbouring buildings; this I feel has been considered and deserves recognition. The size of the extension; the choice of building materials; the attention to matching brick work and suitable windows all achieve a welcome outcome and enhancement of the conservation area.'

The Chairman offered congratulations to the winners, and presented a framed award to James.

10. *Election of Committee Members*

Four nominations had been received by the deadline of 8 p.m. on 5 May, all of whom were current trustees; three, having come to the end of their terms of office, were willing to be re-elected and one co-opted trustee was now seeking election. The following were duly elected en bloc:

Jinny Blom (Proposer David Cartwright, Seconder Julie Harrod) Hugh Ferris (Proposer Howard Stanbury, Seconder Robert Grimley) Julie Harrod (Proposer Robert Grimley, Seconder John Clarke) Howard Stanbury (Proposer Jinny Blom, Seconder Peter McCarter)

11. Any other business

Matters raised included:

1. Marian Brown pointed out that the pavement running from Emden House towards the centre of the village, on the north side of Barton Lane had an adverse camber which made it difficult for less-able users to use. [Subsequent to the meeting the city council repaired this path.]
2. Tony Kenny encouraged the trustees to promote bee-friendly initiatives in gardens and open spaces in the village, perhaps through the use of an annual award for the most bee-friendly space. The difficulty of judging such an award was pointed out, and it was also stated that the PCC was encouraging a wild part of the churchyard, and this might be co-opted to use bee-friendly species.
3. Peter Shaw inquired what plans there were for the assets of the Friends. This is a topic under discussion by the trustees but an immediate need had been identified to move reserve funds into more productive savings and investment accounts, and a general principle had been agreed for enacting this.
4. John Tiffany remarked that the volume of traffic in the centre of the village is getting worse. Results of recent initiatives by the Friends to review traffic were summarised, and the matter remains under review.
5. Innes King remarked that ambulances seem to be using the Osler Road entrance to the JR Hospital, resulting in difficulties in Osler Road itself.
6. Julie Harrod suggested that initiatives might be taken to allow increased movement of hedgehogs between gardens through the creation of tunnels or holes between gardens.

There being no other business, the formal part of the meeting closed, and members enjoyed refreshments and informal discussion.



The Friends of Old Headington

President: Lady Kenny | Vice-President: Dr Sonia Brough

Chairman of the trustees: Peter McCarter, Monckton Cottage, Old High Street, Oxford

OX3 9HW **E** chairman@foh.org.uk **T** 01865 751471 **W** foh.org.uk

Nomination for Enhancement Award 2018

This award is made for work on buildings, walls, trees etc. that in your opinion, and ultimately that of the Trustees, has enhanced the conservation area. To qualify, any proposal must be for work completed since the last AGM and visible from the street. Please send your suggestions to the Secretary (address below) by 8 pm on Friday 11 May 2018.

I wish to nominate

Name

Address

Telephone / Email

Reason for nomination

Please continue on a separate sheet if necessary. Photographs in support of the nomination are welcome, and can be submitted by email to the Secretary

Signed

Proposer

Address / telephone

Secretary: Howard Stanbury, 29 St Andrews Road,
Oxford OX3 9DL **E**
secretary@foh.org.uk **T** 01865 764022



The Friends of Old Headington

President: Lady Kenny | Vice-President: Dr Sonia Brough

Chairman of the trustees: Peter McCarter, Monckton Cottage, Old High Street, Oxford OX3
9HW E chairman@foh.org.uk T 01865 751471 W foh.org.uk

Trustee nomination form 2018

We wish to nominate

Address

.....

Telephone

E-mail

Proposer

Secunder

I am willing to accept this nomination

Signed:

Date:

This form must be completed and returned to the Secretary (address below) by 8pm on Friday 11 May 2018.

Secretary: Howard Stanbury, 29 St Andrews Road,
Oxford OX3 9DL E
secretary@foh.org.uk T 01865 764022