The Friends of Old Headington
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Mr. Michael Crofton-Briggs
Planning Control and Conservation
Oxford City Council
Ramsay House
10 St Ebbe's Street
Oxford OX1 1PT

17 February 2011

Dear Mr. Crofton-Briggs

Planning application 11/00285 – Bury Knowle Stables and Barn

Thank you for sending us this application for the changes proposed to the stables and barn in the Bury Knowle estate. We have considered the application carefully and though we support the conversion of the barn into two houses we strongly oppose the changes proposed for the stables.

We support the comments made by Joseph Winkelman in connection with the roof of the barn which adjoins his property insofar as it concerns rainwater disposal and the roof support structure. Clay tiles should be used of the same quality and type as on the building at present. We also support his comments that the dormer windows should have pitched roofs as the proposed design of the dormers and windows is not in keeping with a building of the period.

We oppose strongly the proposal that the stables should be converted to dwellings and suggest that they should be used as studio/workshops instead, for which they are entirely suitable as they are small with each having its own entrance. Considerable investment will be required to create the dwellings whereas the stables could be let as they are with minimal repair costs. We are aware that there is a demand for such space because of the imminent closure of workshops in Northway. We feel in any case that the design proposed for the stables is entirely unsuitable for living accommodation, as the building is long and thin and only has windows on one side.

Yours sincerely

Stella Welford
Hon. Secretary

Copies to: Councillor David Rundle, Councillor Ruth Wilkinson, Oxford Preservation Trust, Oxford Civic Society

President: Mrs. Penny Richards MBE MA *Vice-President:* Ray Wilsdon Esq