Iffley Fields Residents Association

Agenda for IFRA meeting to be held on Monday 9 November 2026 at 8PM at the Falcon Rowing and Canoe Club

1. **Apologies for absence**

2. **Proposal for the development of a Community Preparedness Plan.** Jack Abraham (for further reading as to what this is and key considerations: https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/fire-and-community-safety/emergency-planning/community-resilience

3. **Minutes 14 September (attached)**

4. **Matters arising**
   - Meadow Lane Carpark
   - Donnington Bridge repairs update
   - New trees on the Recreation Ground
   - Simon's Bench
   - Chester/Daubeny Crossings
   - Parking outside businesses at top of Fairacres Road
   - No 3 and 3A bus

5. **Location of electric charging points in Iffley Fields (Brad)**

6. **Reports from Groups**
   - Children's playground (Tom/Usha)
   - The Kidneys (Margaret Thompson)
   - Community Garden (Susan
   - Longbridges (Adam/Tom)
   - Planning (Thelma)
   - Interest Groups (Sue)

7. **Financial Report (Sam**

8. **Reports from Street Connectors/ AOB**

9. **Dates of future meetings**
   We meet on the second Monday of every other month. It has been suggested there might be a more convenient time? The AGM will be in May, not March, so that the accounts will be available.
   2027 January 11 (Zoom), March 8 Zoom or in person? May 10 (AGM) – in person; July 14 (Zoom); September 9 -in person; November 8 - Zoom

If the gate is closed when you arrive, please ring/text 07989725471

Iffley Fields Residents' Association Meeting

14th September 2026, on Zoom.

1.Apologies for absence:

2. Notetaker - M T

Present: Sue Hale, Christine Hogg, Barbara Ashcroft, Susan Bedford Margaret Thompson, Janet Hall, Thelma Martin, Jane Fisher, Jon Rees, Peter Sidgewick. Luke Bolton, Alexander

Alex Donger, Cllr Brad Baines.

3. **Minutes of last Meeting** - agreed.

4 Matters arising.

Meadow Lane Car Park- Brad had asked for but not received a response. Sue commented that it was working well as it is.

Donnington Bridge Repairs - Brad had received a detailed response to his query:

Donnington Bridge is a complex structure and the investigative work is iterative and a highly specialist activity.

Further specialist survey work to the pier legs is being procured and is planned to be undertaken later this year. In parallel, a feasibility study is being prepared looking at options to strengthen the bridge. This will require the results of the pending surveys and so is planned to be issued by the end of the year. Until the surveys and feasibility study is complete it is difficult to know what works will be required and hence to give a timeframe. As the weight limit is a structural weight limit, this doesn't fall under moving traffic legislation, so any enforcement, even using ANPR, will require applying through the courts. ANPR would make gathering evidence easier as well as being a clear deterrent.

Exemptions for buses/some buses will be considered once the survey has concluded.

As I believe you are aware, we submitted a bid into the DfT structures fund and the outcome of this will in part determine what options are possible/affordable; it is understood we will hear the outcome of this later this Autumn.

Trees on the recreation ground - Thanks due to those who have watered them - Susan, Barbara and others. The vandalised tree may be replaced with Emily's help. Alex Donger was thanked using his truck to deliver water.

Simon's Bench - While about £500 has been raised the bench may well cost twice that. Jane asked that the request for community funding be circulated again.

Benches on Meadow Lane - These ought not to have been varnished and need sanding and oiling with teak oil. **Christine** to ask for volunteers on Facebook.

Chester Street/ Daubeny Zebra Crossing - Brad said that the beacons had been upgraded. The core problem was the behaviour of cyclists and sometimes motorists. The 20 mph speed limit has to be enforced to make a difference. Iffley Road Residents' Association share our concern. There are to be additional crossings further towards town.

3 and 3A bus failure to stop at Lower Westgate - Brad had received the answer that there was no space for buses to stop even briefly at the old position. Margaret was concerned for Oxpens College as well as Westgate shoppers. Brad wondered whether the County could require them to stop there and will make further enquiries.

5. IFRA Safeguarding policy - Usha and Tom have succeeded in obtaining a £10000 grant to upgrade the children's playground with a nature emphasis. A safeguarding policy needs to accompany it - Sam will be 1st name, Sue 2nd. The policy was approved.

6**. Reports from Groups –**

Children's Playground -

In addition to the £10,000 Usha has also succeeded in gaining a £1000 grant for a gardening project for the children with a shed and tools.

It has been agreed that the adjacent **Guerilla garden** will become a Community Garden and operate in conjunction with the Children's Playground group.

A notice-board for the garden, attached perhaps to the railings, will be discussed at the upcoming Working Party. The dry summer has been very hard on the garden which has shallow soil that limits what will thrive. Thanks due to Susan and Barbara. For their efforts.

The Kidneys - The river path is satisfactory though Thelma pointed out that there is Himalayan Balsam flourishing. A small plaque placed on one log which was paid for by a resident in memory of her mother. Margaret and Ruth are to take a walk around the site soon. Volunteers are hard to find and keep.

Longbridges - The Council have responded to the recent drowning with a 'No Swimming ' notice .

Planning - Thelma believed that the Oxford Plan 2040 does not affect us and in practice most of it won't be realised for lack of funds. 208 Iffley Road has divided up its garden and there are fears that they may wish to develop it. So far no planning application had been made. 244 and 246 will be HMO's with 12 people in each house.

Interest Groups - are going well. The Extra Time lunch has an average of 12 participants . There is a Games Group. The Book Group meets regularly.

Sue will be convening the Out of the Office Group shortly.

7 Street Connectors - The annual meeting will be arranged by Sue.

8 AOB - Sue is concerned about the cars parked outside the local businesses at the top of Fairacres Road and wondered if space could be allocated for them elsewhere. It is not clear who owns the frontages. Brad may raise this with the County.

The meeting ended at 20.50