



## Iffley Fields Residents Association

### **Agenda for IFRA meeting to be held on Monday 13 July 2026 at 8PM at the Falcon Boat Club**

- 1. Apologies for absence**
- 2. Minutes**
  - Meeting 11 May
  - SGM 28 May
- 3. Matters arising**
  - Application to register with HMRC (Christine)
  - Meadow Lane Carpark update
  - Donnington Bridge repairs update
  - Logs on the Kidneys
  - New trees on the Recreation Ground
- 4. Oxford Preservation Trust land-** Stephen Dawson will attend to discuss plans for the river front land they own.
- 5. Reports from Groups**
  - Children's play ground (Tom/Usha)
  - The Kidneys (Margaret Thompson)
  - Guerilla Garden (Susan)
  - Longbridges (Adam/Tom)
  - Planning (Thelma)
  - Interest Groups (Sue)
- 6. Financial Report (Sam)**
  - Annual statement 2025-26 attached.
- 7. Reports from Street Connectors/ AOB**

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

# Iffley Fields Residents Association

## Minutes for Monday 11 May 2026 8PM held on Zoom

1. Appoint a note taker – Janet Hall

2. **Present** - Sue Hale, Barbara Ashcroft, Susan Bedford, Luke Bolton, Thelma Martin, Janet Hall, Rosemary Southworth, Ruth Ashcroft, Tom Green, Brad Baines.

**Apologies** Christine Hogg

### 3. Minutes of the meeting

- 12 January were correct and signed
- AGM 9 March were correct and will be signed at the next AGM. The thermal imaging talk was very interesting and useful

### 4. Matters arising

#### **Meadow Lane Carpark update - Brad**

Work has begun on the Meadow Lane car park and is expected to be completed by the end of this month. It will then become an official public paying carpark.

#### **Donnington Bridge Rd – the bridge**

Over the next seven months the business case will be made for deciding whether the bridge gets reinforced or replaced Brad understood that this decision whichever way it goes will impact the IFRA community. He said he could arrange for an officer, or engineer from the County Council to come and speak to us. **It was agreed this would be useful.**

#### • **Trees on the Recreation Ground**

It was noted that there was a new tree thriving in place of the old tree that had died due to the drought last summer. The tree that had been damaged by vandals that is between the two benches with their backs to the children's playground had recovered and looked healthy.

#### • **Astons Eyot Swings**

The chestnut tree has too many swings on it and it is damaging its overall health. The ground surrounding the tree is very compacted and this is also bad for the overall health of the tree's roots. There is grave concern about the liabilities and responsibilities for the safety of the users of the swings so for all the above reasons the swings are being taken down. There were strong feelings about this particularly from parents of young children. They wanted to encourage their young children to be in nature and in the nature reserve and encourage children to walk in Aston Eyot. The swings got children and parents halfway round the nature reserve. Losing the swings will make encouraging children to enjoy the nature area more difficult.

It was agreed that more thought and care needs to be undertaken. **If anyone has some good ideas for encouraging some nature and child friendly activities and for taking this forward, please get in touch with either Iffley Fields Residents Association- IFRA or Friends of Aston Eyot - FOAE**

### 5. Longbridges – proposal for drainage work

The Longbridges working group are looking for all year access to this nature reserve from Donington Bridge Rd. They are exploring the idea of building a footbridge across a little stream in summer and the same though larger stream in winter. They are looking at feasibility and costs.

## 6. Reports from groups:

### • **Playground on Meadow Lane - Iffleyfields NaturEscape** (Tom/Usha)

The good gym has been to the playground twice and removed metal fencing and some planting. This has opened up the site but there are still fun hiding places to be found. The playground working party have planted a variety of sensory plants. There are plans to set up logs in a circle with bark chippings underneath. It was noted that the play area looks the best it has ever done and it is very well used by many children from a wide range of ages. **The Playground group are always looking for more participation from interested individuals.**

### • **The Kidneys** (Margaret/Ruth)

Four, five year old matured, smooth logs have been positioned round the edge of the Kidney's Meadow. Stakes have been used to stop them rolling. The log near the river has been especially staked carefully. People are already using these new seats. The seats mean that the Kidneys is more accessible to wider group of people in our community as there are now regular resting places.

### • **Planning** (Thelma)

Thelma said she had nothing new to report, though she has again been dropped off the weekly reminders. She has again asked to be reinstated. There have been numerous objections to the proposed overdevelopment of 270 Iffley Rd. Several people feel uncomfortable about the vehicle parking on the pavement and forecourts of the shops near Howard St. This is a difficult problem to solve as we want the businesses to stay open and continue to serve our community.

### • **Gardens** (Susan)

Susan and Barbara are feeling very encouraged by the increasing numbers of volunteers who came to work on the guerrilla garden (the garden opposite the children's playground on Meadow Lane) at the last working party. Many hands do make light work and many of us get a great deal of pleasure from the garden as we walk down Meadow Lane.

**An IFRA resident suggested that the garden would benefit from a plaque saying what it is and also how we can all help as we pass – weed, water, supply plants, donate compost, take home litter etc**

Thank you Susan and Barbara for taking a lead on this.

## **Social Groups**

Today was the launch of a new group for IFRA for the over 60s called **Extra Time**. They have agreed to meet on the second Monday of the month at 12:15 pm at the Chester. Becky, the landlady at the pub, will need to know approximate numbers, using the 'Extra Time' WhatsApp or a note through Sue Hale's door 38 Argyle Street, attending 4 days in advance so pub know numbers to cater for. About 20 people attended with 30 indicating an interest for being part of this group. At the inaugural meeting two attendees were new to Iffley Fields and an interest in playing Scrabble and sharing photographic skills were also explored. **The next meeting of Extra Time will be on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June 12.15pm at the Chester**

IFRA Book group has been meeting since November 2022 and is thriving and 27 books have been read so far.

The Walking group have enthusiastic members. More members with new initiatives are welcome.

It is planned to launch two more groups - one called 'Out of Office' for people who work from home and would benefit from meeting others and making connections with others who also

have that working arrangement. The other is for parents, carers, grandparents, and their babies, toddlers and under fours to explore being outdoors together.

### **Street Connectors**

**We are looking to recruit more Street Connectors for the following streets Stratford St, Fairacres Rd, and Argyle St. If you are interested please talk to our Street Connectors or get in touch with Sue Hale or email on the IFRA email address.**

### **7. Financial Report (Sam )**

Not available

# Iffley Fields Residents Association

## Minutes of a special general meeting held by Zoom on 28 May 2026

### Present

Sue Hale (Chair), Janet Hall, Laurie Saunders, Luke Bolton, Thelma Martin, Christine Hogg

Apologies: Barbara Ashcrift, Margaret Thompson, Peter Sidgewick, Jon Rees, Sam Alston

Christine explained that IFRA had applied to be registered as a charity with HMRC which would mean we could claim for gift aid. HMRC had accepted that IFRA had charitable objectives but needed additional changes to the Constitution by 22 June.

IFRA's Constitution had been devised when IFRA was an organisation with limited funds and these changes were essential to its governance as well as to meet HMRC requirements.

### 12. ALTERATION OF RULES

Existing Constitution reads 'Alteration of these rules shall be made only at an Annual General Meeting or at a Special General Meeting. Written notice of any proposed alteration must be in the hand of the Secretary at least 14 days before the date of the meeting. Alteration shall be by voting on show of hands and a simple majority of those present at the meeting.'

To add No amendment shall be made which would have the effect of making the charity cease to be a charity at law.

Proposer Thelma Martin

Secunder Sue Hale

This was agreed unanimously

### 13 VOLUNTARY WINDING UP OR DISSOLUTION

To add new Section 13

IFRA may be dissolved by resolution of its members at a general meeting. Subject to the payment of any debts, any remaining assets will be transferred to a charity or charities with similar objects to IFRA. The remaining assets must be applied for charitable purposes the same as or similar to those of IFRA.

Proposer: Luke Bolton

Secunder: Janet Hall

This was agreed unanimously

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 20.15



**IFRA**

**Statement of income and expenditure 1 April 2025– 31 March 2026**

	<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	<b>Restricted funds</b>	<b>Total</b>
<b>Income</b>			
Donations	1045.68		1045.68
Bank interest	118.38		118.38
Open gardens <sup>1</sup>	511.07	1107.87	1618.94
Children Playground <sup>2</sup>		3038.09	3038.09
Picnic tables		2438.61	2438.61
<b>Total income</b>	<b>1675.13</b>	<b>6584.57</b>	<b>8259.70</b>
<b>Expenditure</b>			
Print/website	508.40	0	508.40
Playground		997.25	997.25
Open gardens (donations)		1107.87	1107.87
Picnic Tables		4524	4524
	508.40	6629.12	7137.52
Opening Balance 1 April 2025	4208.95		
Closing Balance 31 March 2026	£5331 <sup>3</sup>		
<b>Restricted funds held 1 April 2026</b>			
Children's Playground	2263.84		
Waterways (Longbridges)	270		
<b>Total restricted funds held</b>	<b>2533.84</b>		
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	<b>2710.73</b>		
Funds committed			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• £1035 for the logs for the Kidneys</li> <li>• £60 contribution for tree felling Longbridges</li> <li>• Mulching for Recreation ground trees (£130)</li> </ul>			
<b>Unrestricted funds available 1 April 2026</b>	<b>1485.73</b>		

<sup>1</sup> The Income minus expenditure from Open Gardens was divided between IFRA, Asylum Welcome and Donnington Doorstep

<sup>2</sup> £3000 from Cllr Haywoods fund

<sup>3</sup> Excludes £754 loan