



Iffley Fields Residents Association

Minutes of a meeting held on 14 November 2022 on Zoom

Present: Ben, Christine, Sue (chair), Barbara, Samantha, Susan, Denise, Peter, Janet (minutes).
Cllr Chris Jarvis, Cllr Emily Kerr, Stephanie

Apologies were received from Luke, Simon, Thelma, Cllr Damian Haywood

1 Minutes of the meeting on 12th September were accepted as a correct record

2 Matters arising

Meadow Lane Car Park

Emily explained it is still under review, and there are three possibilities.

- 1). Falcon Club pays rent to the Council for a private facility.
- 2). It becomes a public pay and display car park.
- 3). A combination of the two.

Improving East Oxford's roads

Emily and Damian (county councillor) are working to get funding for a "walkway" which would lead to improvements at the Daubeny Road pedestrian crossing and a better crossing on Iffley Road at Jackdaw Lane. There is funding from central government, but Oxford could do well with their bid having already made significant environmental advances. We should know by spring next year.

Improvements at the Plain

Changes will be made at the end of November over four nights to make it safer for cyclists and pedestrians.

School Streets

Our local school has submitted a request for funding under Safer Streets, but it has not yet been allocated. Since councils have been allowed to run their own cameras, hundreds have applied and so it's all taking longer. It is agreed in principle.

The Covered Market

There is a consultation at present and details are on Facebook.

Interest Groups

Sue told us there have been 50 responses with over 200 different requests so far. The groups that have started are Book, Walking, Gardening and Local History groups. A film and a Wildlife group are also being explored.

Information for new residents

Sue thanked Christine for her work on the leaflet for new residents. As it's online it can be expanded and adding more information for HMOs might be useful - especially as the Badgers knock over the food bins if they are not secured at height through the night!

Meeting with Oxford Direct Services (ODS)

Chris has arranged for Simon Howitt, the ODS director, to speak with IFRA. It would be an opportunity to find out how ODS works and build a useful relationship in future. Chris will liaise with Simon and Christine to arrange a zoom meeting.

3 Table tennis table

Peter said fundraising has been successful and the order has been placed, though with covid and Brexit delays it won't be in place till spring. In the end VAT was avoided by the Council commissioning the work. The University Community and the Councillors Fund contributed, and crowdfunding was boosted by an anonymous donor. £4,600 was raised in all. The table tennis table will be placed near the lane and opposite the garages.

4 Basketball net

We agreed it's a good idea and hope Catherine will come to the next IFRA meeting to tell us more.

5 A defibrillator for Iffley Fields

Stephanie explained how after a friend's experience she wants to raise awareness of where these life saving devices are. Use of a defibrillator doubles the chances of someone surviving an emergency. Locally they are at:

- 1). The Riverside Centre at Donnington Bridge, available 24/7
- 2). Sts Mary and John School, available 8.00-5.00 during school terms.
- 3). The Falcon Club when it is open.
- 4). The University Sports Ground but only on the premises and not at night.

Stephanie and Tom are proposing placing a defibrillator at or near the pub as a fairly central hub of our area. Becky has to talk to their brewery about this. It would cost around £1,500 including its lockable cabinet. It would be available 24/7.

Once a place has been identified, we can look at possible sources of funding, including the Councillors funds and crowdfunding. IFRA would also want to promote first aid courses and instructions online to local residents.

6 Financial Report

Ben told us we have had no income since 2019 and we have no unallocated funds. But this is because we have been so busy over the last three years. Money left in the account is to go to the Meadow Lane and Waterways projects.

We need some £700 a year to host the website a 2 editions of the newsletter and occasional leaflets. It was agreed:

- to invite residents to become supporters of IFRA and give £5 or £10 each year, preferably through standing order. Christine and Ben agreed to produce a leaflet for Facebook, Whats App and the mailing list. If we have the funds to produce the IFRA newsletter in March and this can further encourage residents to support IFRA with a supporters donation.
- that 10% of funds raised at events or through grants would be set aside for IFRA to contribute to the publicity and consultation provided through the website and newsletters.

7 Waterways

Ben said George Townsend who has done a PhD on Parsons Pleasure is doing a project with a museum in Oxford and Ben had given him a letter of support. Samantha told us that the working party at Longbridges has liaised with Julian, the head ranger of ODS, and with Tom. They have been very helpful clearing and mowing a path all the way round. ODS have promised us a metal bench and we are disappointed that these are not yet installed.

We also noted that we need to approach the Council to ensure that the Ferry Lane path is maintained in future as an important access point to the river.

8 Friends of Meadow Lane Rec

Denise told us that ODS would be planting the trees in two weeks' time, and that she'd be meeting with Ruth and Jon to mark exactly where they should go with poles. It was agreed that a map with the exact layout of these, the table tennis and other proposals could be mapped. Barbara agreed to ask Laurie to draw up an accurate plan that we could all see on line.

9 Planning

Thelma has been attending meetings on the plans for Oxford 2040 for which we are grateful. Otherwise there has been no planning applications to concern IFRA, only for extensions in the area.

10 Broadband

Samantha noted that upgrading with fibre is now happening in our streets.

11 Next meeting and AGM

The first in the new year will be on zoom on Tuesday 9th January. The following one will be the AGM on Tuesday 13th March when we'll hope to meet in person.

At the AGM, we could feature presentations about local organisations providing support, such as Restore, Mutual Aid and Asylum Welcome.

We thanked Sue for all her work and she wished us all a good refreshing festive period!

Dates of future meetings, Mondays, 8 pm

9 January 2023, Zoom

13 March 2023 (AGM) in person

8 May 2023 Zoom

10 July in person

11 September Zoom

13 November in person

