

Headington Committee for Development Action (HCDA)

Minutes for meeting on 30th November, 19h00, Oxford Brookes University, Gipsy Lane

Present

Sue Baker
James Bloice-Smith
Bob Clarke
Angela Cristofoli
Jill Cummings
Marion Fiddes
Mary Hope
Stephanie Jenkins
Tony Joyce
Mike Stranks
Arthur Treherne
Marie Vickers
Stella Welford
Jean White

Apologies from

Anne Ashley
David Bartrip
Paul Cunningham
Janet Isaac
Kat Luddecke
Audrey Mullender
David Rundle
Diana Townsend
Steve Walker

1. Minutes of last meeting held on 26.10.05.

Minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman:

2. Any Other Business

- Headington Library – Mike

3. Matters arising from the minutes

Duties of the Treasurer and Book keeper – Arthur will be present at one more meeting. He spends about half an hour a month dealing with receipts and banking, and about four hours during the month of the Festival, resulting in about 12 hours a year. Mary asked for offers to take over the Treasurership. It had been suggested by James that there should be a book keeper as well, and it is necessary to have a computer.

Noticeboards – Stephanie is currently looking after the noticeboards while Janet Isaac is unwell. She explained the problems because of their height and difficulty of access. Angela reported that newer boards should have easier access and there could be money in the Area Committee budget to buy replacements: there is a health and safety issue here. The existing boards might be sold to another local organisation. The ideal solution would be to have smaller boards at a lower level, and double sided. Stephanie appealed for the return of the missing key.

Headington Festival

Mary reported that the subcommittee had agreed that the festival will take place on one day only on the first Sunday in June based in the park. An application for a grant from the City Council is being submitted. The Co-op has agreed to contribute £500 and Charles Lawson has agreed to sponsor. It was agreed that HCDA reserves could be used if necessary. Public liability will definitely be covered. A meeting will be held in the Dunstan Road Parish Hall on 11th January for all who have expressed interest in helping..

138 London Road

Change of use to retail has been confirmed. Tony Joyce opened discussion on the possibility of no further loss of shops and will take it up at the Area Committee.

Matters arising from the Minutes of the AGM

Minute 3.1

Mike Stranks raised the need for a date for discussion on a change in the Constitution to establish associate membership for some groups including stakeholders.

4. Christmas Event

Jill summarized the arrangements and handed round the programme for the day. The Lord Mayor will be present

5. OX3 Guide

James reported on the progress. Mary reported that 200 copies of the invitation to advertise had been delivered to businesses in Headington and Marston. All residents associations will also be notified. James will put a notice on the board. There is the possibility that 'home businesses' may want to be mentioned. It was agreed residents' associations should have copies which could result in advertisers having to be chosen for inclusion. The list will be finalized in January. It was agreed details should go on the HCDA website and consideration should be given to reimbursing Stephanie. Angela said the County could contribute £800 and there could be money from the Area Committees. Arthur asked about paying the designer: this should be proposed by a member of committee rather than a supplier.

6. London Road Traffic Study

Mike Stranks summarized the results of the County Executive meeting. Approach 2 – the closing of part of London Road – had been abandoned. Approach 1 would be taken forward and go for further consultation. The County had recognized that the consultation last time was not good. Bob said there is a group, with the City's Environmental Health, considering air pollution in the city centre but not locally. Angela said the County is doing a local transport consultation plan and one of the objectives would be the Headington shopping area. Arthur mentioned the Osler Road bus route which would have bus controlled lights onto the London Road.

7. Ideas for future liaison with key stakeholders

Mike spoke to Tim Chapman. There is currently a change being put in place for PCT in Oxfordshire. Marion agreed to talk at the next meeting in January before the business meeting, and asked for questions to be sent to her beforehand. Audrey Mullender has agreed to speak at the February meeting. Mary suggested schools might be a subject for a future meeting. Sue will mention this possibility at the Schools Partnership meeting in January. Tony said it would be useful to know what uptake there is for extended pub hours and traffic implications, with discussion on traffic safety at the St. Andrew's School crossing. Angela mentioned the new policing arrangements and suggested an officer might come to a meeting. Brookes could be invited as a stakeholder. Local amenity groups will be invited.

8. Treasurer's update

Arthur reported that the current account stands at £2090 and the savings account £6360. There is still a shortfall in covering the cost of the tree sculpture. Mary has recently written 20 letters inviting sponsorship for the tree. Knowles (Oxford) have given £100. It had already been agreed to close the appeal in February 2006.

Minute 3.5 of the AGM

Arthur reported that an addition needs to be made to the minutes that there is no annual fee for the services of an auditor, and there is no longer a requirement to have one.

9. AOB

Headington Library

Mike Stranks raised the issue about Headington Library and the recent press article. Angela responded as she had discussed with the relevant City Officers who confirmed that the recent property review recommended that the building be turned over to a commercial use once the lease to the County Council comes to an end. However, the North-East Area Committee were opposed to this and suggested that the building remain in community use and this recommendation will be reported back to a future meeting of the Executive Board of the City Council. It is only after this meeting that there may be a change to any future plans for Bury Knowle House. Responsibility for improving the disabled access to the library is with the County Council. Oxford City Council owns the building and the library space is leased to Oxfordshire County Council and the tenant, the County, is responsible for making any alterations necessary to comply with the Disability Discrimination Act, not the provider of the building. Angela agreed to keep HCDA informed of any further news.

New member

James said that Diana Townsend would come representing the Marston churches, and there will be a new Minister for the Collingwood Road church

9. Date of next meeting

Wednesday 25th January from 7pm - 9pm in the Board Room, Oxford Brookes, Gipsy Lane.