



AGM 2022

North Oxford Association

7pm Tuesday 8th November 2022

PRESENT

Committee: Shamus Donald [Chair], Bob Colenutt, David Nimmo Smith, Deborah Bryceson, Henk van Es, Natasha Robinson, Geoffrey Randell, Neil MacLennan, Chris Pownall

Councillors: Lawrence Fouweather, Andrew Gant, John Howson

Members: Maita Kessler, Elizabeth & Roger Zetter, Wendy Scott, Colin McDiarmid, Paul Lewis, Diana Roberts, Jonathan Bard, Jeremy Hudson, Ed Pentz, David Sprigings, Don Anderson, Barbara Lyes, Rosalind & Dougal Philps, L Murphy, Christopher Gowers, Dorothy Smith, Martin Illingworth, Robin & Aileen Laurance, M Beechey-Newman, Josephine King, M Phelps, S Crow, T Treuherz, Jane Binyon, Emerita Pilgrim, Gillian Morriss-Kay, Liz Cairncross, Rosalind Elliott, Liz Greenhall, Gerda Lysely, Virginia Tite, Simon Wratten, Olivia Pownall, Bridget Briant, Gail Walker, Ian & Caroline Laing, approximately 15 more not registered.

Apologies: Margaret Shannon, Katherine Miles, David Madden, Sam Clarke

The meeting being quorate, it was opened at 7.06 with an introduction and welcome from the Chair and explanation of how the meeting would be conducted, and topics on the agenda.

CHAIR'S REPORT FOR 2022

Shamus Donald gave his report of the preceding year [the slides can be found on the Forum website] highlighting the CIL fund grants disbursed, and the progress being made by the 4 working groups [Alexandra Park, Diamond Place, Transport and Planning]. Shamus has now served 2 terms on Steering Committee, including as Chair, and will be demitting at this AGM.

Members of the **Steering Committee** are David Nimmo Smith [Vice Chair], Henk van Es [Treasurer], Natasha Robinson [Secretary], Deborah Bryceson, Geoffrey Randell and David Madden. Bob Colenutt, Chris Pownall and Neil MacLennan have served as co-opted members.

Local Councillors are ex-officio members [Laurence Fouweather, Andrew Gant, John Howson, Tom Landell Mills, Katherine Miles]

CIL funds have been awarded during 2020 [2 rounds], 2021, and 2022. Not all funds have been finally paid where projects remain incomplete. Awards were made for the following:

- Jubilee bunting for Summertown
- Christmas lights for 2022 Christmas/New Year season
- Renovation of kitchen at CCA
- Renovation of Cutteslowe Primary School playground
- Replacement benches and picnic tables at Sunnymead Park
- Cutteslowe children’s summer project
- Thermal imaging camera for Library of Things
- Alexandra Park ground works and mural

We currently have a lower amount of reserves than previously and may have to defer the January 2022 application round until we receive some additional funding, expected later in 2023.

Alexandra Park Working Group [led by Henk van Es] has continued to improve the area through tree planting, renewed play surfaces, added seating, and the wall murals painted by local children, mostly funded by CIL. The aim is for significant work to be completed by the centenary in 2025, and to continue thereafter.

Diamond Place Working Group is chaired by Bob Colenutt. Tripartite meetings are now underway between the Forum, Council and University [OUD], emphasising the importance of an integrated overall plan with high design standards, and the ongoing need for a new health centre.

Transport Working Group The group leadership has now transferred from Deborah Bryceson to Neil MacLennan. Key issues have included the potential impact of countywide transport proposals, and work undertaken to address amelioration of traffic problems in Woodstock and Banbury Roads.

A Planning Working Group is now established, led by Bob Colenutt and is a recognised statutory consultee for neighbourhood planning applications

AGM BUSINESS

MINUTES OF AGM 2021

These were published on the website. They were proposed and approved nem con.

TREASURER’S REPORT

The report is available on the website. Henk van Es, Treasurer, spoke to the report and explained that our current position had been assisted by a grant from our CIL funds to purchase some necessary items, a fundraising event, and some donations from the community. However our financial position remains insecure as we do not receive a regular source of income. Residents were invited to donate to help the work of the Forum to continue.

Henk thanked Shamus Donald for his work as Forum Chair for the preceding 4 years, during which time the Forum had become well established and had achieved significant improvements in the Neighbourhood.

ELECTIONS

4 full members of the Forum Steering Committee were eligible for re-election, and 3 co-opted members for election. The maximum number of members is 10.

1. David Nimmo Smith [Proposed for re-election to a second term by Natasha Robinson and seconded by Shamus Donald]
2. Natasha Robinson [Proposed for re-election to a second term by Geoffrey Randell and seconded by Bob Colenutt]
3. Deborah Bryceson [proposed for re-election to a second term by Natasha Robinson and seconded by Shamus Donald]
4. Geoffrey Randell [proposed for re-election by Bob Colenutt and seconded by Shamus Donald]
5. Bob Colenutt [Proposed for election by Chris Pownall and seconded by David Madden]
6. Neil MacLennan [Proposed for election by Shamus Donald and seconded by Geoffrey Randell]
7. Chris Pownall [Proposed for election by Bob Colenutt and seconded by Natasha Robinson]

All the above were approved for election to the Forum Steering Committee nem con.

It was noted the City & County Councillors for the Neighbourhood also attend Steering Committee meeting, ex officio.

David Nimmo-Smith, Vice Chair, has been invited by the Committee to become Chair to follow this AGM, and the Committee expects to co-opt further members to fulfil vacant roles or specialist advisory functions. DNS introduced himself to the audience.

Shamus Donald introduced the Committee Members to the audience.

CONSTITUTION [amendments]

Amendments have been made to the original Forum Constitution to remove outdated content and reflect some minor changes in the Forum's function. This information is available on the website and any comments should be addressed to the Forum Secretary by the end of November [*post meeting note: no objections were raised and the amendment was deemed to be **AGREED***].

AOB

There was none.

QUESTIONS

None

INTERVAL

There followed a 15 minute refreshment break to enable those present to meet the Committee prior to our speaker session.

PRESENTATION FROM CITY AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR ANDREW GANT, COUNTY COUNCIL CABINET MEMBER FOR HIGHWAYS

Cllr Gant introduced himself and explained his role and the transport priorities of the Fair Deal Alliance who lead the County Council. These include reducing the adverse impacts of the enormous and continuing increase in car usage, and improvement to the public realm of the city through various proposed measures which include pedestrianisation of Broad Street, Low Traffic Neighbourhoods, workplace parking levy, Zero Emission

Zone, bus filters, controlled parking zones, 20 mph zones and also the impact of the City rail station works. Ongoing work to improve the road surfaces and extend cycle lanes to ensure safety is also required. Funding for all of this work has fallen due to previous local government funding arrangements, and some work is contingent on other projects being fulfilled [eg 'Growth Deal' funding.]

He explained the purpose of the experimental bus filter proposals [ETRO] and how they would be tested, monitored and managed.

He also explained the financial priorities that had affected the implementation of the Woodstock and Banbury Road projects.

There were a very large number of questions from the audience to which the following replies were made:

- Access from Botley Road into Frideswide Square will be closed to all but pedestrians and cyclists for a year from 9/1/2023 This decision was made by Network Rail at a national level and did not involve the Councils. *[post meeting note: this date has been delayed due to a subsequent decision by Network Rail].*
- Bus filter trials will be delayed to allow the above to take place and will now commence in January 2024. The ETRO will last for a minimum of 6 months and maximum of 18 months during which it will be continuously reviewed and outputs analysed and reported. The Marston Ferry Road bus filter arrangement may be amended before the ETRO commences.
- There are plans in hand to spend £89m on e-buses.
- There is no current plan to re-develop traffic arrangements through Summertown, but this was a proposal in which the County Council would be keen to work with the Forum.

David Nimmo Smith thanked Councillor Gant, and the meeting finished at 20.45