

FRIENDS OF HEADINGTON HILL PARK
MINUTES FOR AGM 24 APRIL 2018

Attendees: Alistair Buchanan, David Colbeck, Alison Boulton, Ian Gourlay, Sylvia Lymbery, Christine Colbeck, Trevor Mostyn, Ann Buchanan, Zoe Sparrowhawk, Patrick Coulter, Patrick Denby, Julie Harrod, Rosemary Clayton,

Apologies received: Caroline Chanides, Ian Thompson (Oxford City Council OCC), Marie Power, Barbara Stapleton, John Foran

Approval of minutes of last AGM: Passed unanimously

Election/re-election of Officers: The Chair thanked Barbara Foran for her contribution as Secretary for 2017-2018. Alison Boulton was elected Secretary along with her existing role as Vice-Chair, and the rest of the current Committee was re-elected for 2018-19:

- Alastair Buchanan, Chairman
- David Colbeck, Treasurer
- Alison Boulton, Secretary and Vice-Chair
- Ian Gourlay, Special Advisor
- Sylvia Lymbery, Membership Secretary
- Chris Colbeck

Constitutional amendment: The Treasurer proposed an addition to the current constitution for future grant applications as follows: ‘Membership is open to all. The Friends of Headington Hill Park are an equal opportunities organisation, and when accepting membership or appointing Committee Members will not discriminate on the basis of Race, Class, Faith, Gender or Disability’. It was proposed by Professor Ann Buchanan, and seconded by Patrick Denby.

Treasurer’s report and Approval of Accounts 2017/18: Audited accounts for £2,367.33 were approved unanimously. The Chairman noted his satisfaction at the level of current funds achieved. While it ensured short-term financial crises could be avoided, fundraising was on-going. This included a proposed meeting with the Islamic Centre in Marston Road to propose a regular annual financial donation. Patrick Coulter of Headington Action was thanked for his group’s support, and Patrick noted that further funding applications from FoHHP would be welcome. Oxford International School’s contribution was noted, and EF was discussed as a potential future donor to the Park.

Progress report on current projects: The Chairman and Treasurer outlined a busy year of Committee initiatives

- A workday last autumn on the Lime Avenue and the Redwood hollow cleared fallen timber and leaves, and stripped ivy from trunks to prolong tree life. A second workday in March was cancelled due to snow, and a future workday

was delayed until September at OCC's request , so as not to disturb nesting birds.

- The annual gift of a single rare tree by the FoHHP took place in November 2017, when the Lady Mayoress, Councillor Jean Fooks planted a Monkey Puzzle (*araucaria araucana*). A second tree: the Wellingtonia is proposed for November 2018, and will complete the Park's trio of *sequoiadendron giganteum*). Ian Gourlay noted that current Park planting is too crowded, the result of lack of planning over the years, and the failure to remove dead and superfluous trees from key species.
- A web site has been developed by Sylvia Lymbery. SL appealed for botanical help to identify flowers within the Park. Trevor Mostyn (who knew Mrs Morrell as a child) requested information about the Morrell family, to add to the Park's history.
- A new mapped Tree Trail of 52 trees has been devised by AB, DC and IG. It will be published on the website, and a mobile phone link will be included on a noticeboard to be sited by the car park. Only 14 trees will be listed on the noticeboard, with additional information easily sourced if required on a Park visit. Each tree will be marked on a map, and individually labelled.
- Replacing timber fencing opposite St Clement's Church in Marston Road with a set of railings in keeping with the Park's main gates is proposed
- Oxford Brookes' initiative to restore the original carriage entrance between Headington Hill Hall and the Park was outlined by IG. It has been welcomed by the Friends, making Oxford Brookes' campus safer for its students, and linking the House once more by pedestrian access to its gardens . The addition of a café with public lavatories for joint Brookes/Park use is also proposed on the Oxford Brookes site.