

Friends of Iffley Village

Annual General Meeting 2019

Tuesday, 14th May 2019 at 7 pm in the Church Hall, Iffley

AGENDA

- 1. Welcome and apologies for absence**
- 2. Minutes of the 2018 AGM** (see handouts)
- 3. Committee elections**
To re-elect members willing to serve another 3 year term: Laura Cope, Celia Palmer, Caroline Pond, Sue Reynolds
To elect recently co-opted members: Diana Nettleton
To elect new members: Paul Pemberton, Rosie Penna, Martin Reed
- 4. Chairman's report**
- 5. Treasurer's report** (see handouts)
- 6. Iffley Community Shop report and accounts** (see handouts)
- 7. Film Nights report** (see handouts)
- 8. Committee reports** (see handouts)
 - i. **Highways**
 - ii. **Planning**
 - iii. **Security**
 - iv. **Trees & Greenspaces**
- 9. AOB**

INTERVAL

**Drinks & Refreshments celebrating
FOIV's 60th Anniversary**

PRESENTATION

**Dr Wendy Morrison
Chilterns Conservation Board**

Beacons of the past: Iron Age landscapes revealed

Friends of Iffley Village

Minutes of Annual General Meeting 2018

Sunday, 20th May 2018 at 1500 h in the Church Hall, Iffley

Present: Caroline Pond (chairman), David Wiles (minutes secretary), Kate Griffin, Ged Guinness, Daphne Hill, Jane McBain, Celia Palmer, Sue Reynolds, Richard Vernon (committee), Andrew McKearney, Ed Turner (*ex officio*) and about 30 others.

1. Welcome

The Chairman welcomed everyone and invited them to stay for the ensuing Party, for which tickets would be sold after the meeting.

Apologies for absence received from: Will Brossler, Felicity Gray, Laura Cope, Gail McLintock, Pauline Maclean, Marianne Puxley, Tina Reid (committee), Terence & Judith English (members)

2. Minutes of the 2017 AGM: approved, subject to correction of one typing error.

3. Committee elections

Elected for a further three-year term: Felicity Gray, Ged Guinness, Gail McLintock, Tina Reid, David Wiles (proposed by David Penwarden, seconded by Celia Palmer)
Co-opted members formally elected: Will Brossler, Marianne Puxley (proposed: Ged Guinness, seconded: Kate Griffin)

Elected as a new member: Mike Starks (proposed: Ged Guinness, seconded: Sue Reynolds)

4. Chairman's report

FOIV Membership and Events

- a) 2018 subscriptions received are currently only 328, as against a record 425 in Sept 2017, despite the best efforts of membership secretary, Gail McLintock and the collectors, establishing a deposit box in the Shop where those unavailable when collectors visit can leave their subs, and Court Place being included in the collection area. High membership is important to FOIV's credibility with the Councils as well as to fund its running costs, and subscriptions are very low cost. Thanks to all collectors for their hard work, including ex-committee member Helen Potts.
- b) In spite of these disappointing figures, the Newsletters continue to be popular, with 660 copies distributed. The FOIV website has been visited 31,164 times in 20 months, leading to emails to the Chairman from as far away as New Zealand enquiring about Iffley people and buildings, and the Iffley Calendar is well used. Thanks to Tina Reid for managing the websites and deliverers for distributing the paper newsletters.
- c) Although films continue to be popular, attendance at other FOIV events is falling, hence the decision to combine the AGM & Summer Party on the present occasion. The 2018 Winter Supper was successful under its new management, with the first course again produced by professional caterers. The many helpers were thanked, especially the organisers Laura Cope, Kate Griffin, Daphne Hill.

Iffley infrastructure

- d) OCC have replaced the East Church barrier with a padlocked gate (its permutation known to emergency services & event organisers), thus creating an alternative route to SW Iffley, plus improved access for pedestrians & cyclists.
- e) OCC replaced the 3 fallen posts supporting the railings beside the Mill Lane steps, but the 6 others are also rotting and will soon need replacement. OCC asked FOIV for a small contribution towards the costs but after much discussion, the Committee decided that FOIV must not pay for projects properly undertaken by Councils because it is a volunteer-led, subscription-supported (thus low budget) organisation, without tax-raising powers. Thanks to Ed Turner for his support in both projects.

- f) Council budgets for grass & hedge cutting, tree management etc have been reduced so Iffley residents must recognise the de facto need to do such work for themselves, both on areas adjoining their own property and on communal, Council-owned land.
- g) The FOIV planning Group (Alex Coren, Ged Guinness, Gail McIntock, Caroline Pond, Tina Reid, Richard Vernon) works very hard to review Council policy documents and all substantial planning applications, some with scores of files. FOIV tries to be constructive as well as critical, and has used its archives to draw attention to relevant natural and human-generated features that architects unfamiliar with Iffley apparently overlooked.
- h) Glebe field: For first time, it was open for Oxford Preservation Trust's Open Doors on 9 & 10 Sept. 2017. An urban beekeeper has set up a beehive at the East end near the allotments, which should improve plant pollination in SW Iffley.

Shop

- i) Many local people work tirelessly to run Iffley's Community Shop, especially Sue Reynolds & Cheryl Sharp, who undertake the administration and organize rotas, Alan Whitaker and Herman Huyg responsible for the stamps and postage, bakers such as Sally Levell, marmalade and jam makers, Paul Butler et al. who bring in supplies.
 - j) The Shop is designated as commercial premises so, like the pub, its activities involve people, vehicles, bins and machinery that in close proximity to homes can lead to inconvenience – noise, parking etc. Its position in the centre of Iffley is essential to its prosperity, so we thank the landlady, Meg Bent, for letting these premises for use as the Shop that local people value so highly.
 - k) Following the 2016 upgrade, home-made cakes and jams, a wide range of bread etc. were introduced to increase the footfall and thus improve the Shop's financial viability. Although Sue has recruited and trained several new volunteers recently, Cheryl's rota has barely enough people to fill the slots, and finding substitutes for those busy with family issues & holidays is harder. So the moral is: use it or lose it.
 - l) **Data Protection:** The next Committee meeting will discuss compliance with the new General Data Protection Regulations. FOIV itself only holds members' names & addresses and records names of ticket purchasers, and does not use emails, phone calls or personal letters, so does not anticipate major issues.
 - m) **Committee:** FOIV needs more members & more volunteers to stand for election to the Committee.
5. **Treasurer's report:** The accounts were presented by Kate Griffin and approved. John McIntock was thanked for his auditing. (see attached)
 6. **Iffley Community Shop report:** Sue Reynolds presented the annual accounts, which were accepted, and commented on the causes of declining profitability. The application to the Donnington Hospital Trust for an annual subsidy (earmarked to meet the cost of parcel collections) was unsuccessful in 2016 & 2017, because Iffley had made substantial demands on the Trust for work on the Church horse chestnut tree. The cost of reorganizing the shop was substantial but the main problem is that footfall is still too low. Ged Guinness pointed out that profit margin was reduced from 22% to 15% of turnover this year. SR promised to investigate. Alex Coren suggested levying a charge for taking in parcels. The Shop received 10% of cover price for selling tickets for events organised by FOIV and the Iffley Music & History Societies.
 7. **Film Nights:** The tabled report shows that the Films continue to be successful and well attended. The Chairman thanked the Film Group for organizing a varied and original programme and noted that films brought a wide range of people to Iffley.
 8. **Committee reports**
 - i. **Highways**

The tabled report was accepted and led to lengthy discussion about parking. The chairman reported receiving many complaints about parking and traffic jams, often exacerbated by proliferation of delivery and collection lorries. There is no universally acceptable, permanent solution to the problem: FOIV actively supports planning proposals for off-street parking and deplores those for garage conversions; the Iffley Calendar helps to avert clashes between simultaneous major events; several recent newsletters urged all road-users to show consideration and compromise. Ed Turner said that areas designated residents-only parking are creeping nearer to Iffley, and such restrictions lead to pressures in adjacent areas, so parking controls in Iffley will soon become inevitable, in spite of long-standing opposition to double yellow lines. Daphne Hill expressed concern about the hazards created by local & commuter parking in Iffley Turn, often spreading into nearby roads. Ed Turner promised to convene a meeting with the OCC highways officer and with his opposite number on the County Council to review this area, plus Mill Lane and the top of Meadow Lane.

ii. Planning

The tabled report was accepted, followed by discussion about the four areas identified by OCC as possible sites for development. Ed Turner described the University's plans for redevelopment of Court Place that he hoped would include affordable housing. Iffley Mead was under review, but access is poor. Vyvyan Salmon raised concerns that Developers and the Donnington Hospital Trust were discussing plans for scores of new homes on the fields between Meadow Lane and Church Way. Ed Turner said the only decisions so far is that access will be from Meadow Lane, which would still increase traffic in part of Church Way. The Chairman reasserted that FOIV has no statutory powers but offered to meet DHT representatives if desired, and promised that the planning group would remain alert to any formal proposals. Helen Potts urged FOIV not to oppose such developments lightly as more housing was badly needed. Development of the OPT land beside the burial ground is not in any current plans.

iii. Security

A report was tabled, leading to discussion of increasing antisocial behaviour near the Lock and adjoining areas, all very important amenities for locals and visitors, and in Tree Lane and Woodhouse Way. Ed Turner undertook to ask OCC to implement preventive measures, and encouraged residents to report all antisocial behaviour.

iv. Trees & Greenspaces

A report was tabled. Richard Vernon and Celia Palmer were thanked for their work on soliciting, supervising and, in some cases, performing essential maintenance on Iffley's open spaces.

9. AOB

Major points relating to matters discussed earlier are incorporated into those reports.

Minor points included: More fresh fruit requested for the Summer Party

Repairs to the stone wall at 102 Church were welcomed; the Chairman responded that for several years, FOIV pointed out that the walls were dangerous and repairs urgent.

The meeting closed at 4.30. The chairman commented on the lively and useful discussions and thanked all those who had contributed. Fran Gardner of GreenSquare Group presented an illustrated account of:

Rose Hill Junior Youth Club – support, care & fun

Fresh scones for the tea party and jars of home-made soup made at Rose Hill JYC were presented. The summer party followed, in the Patio as well as in the Church Hall itself.

5. Treasurer's Report Kate Griffin, FOIV Treasurer

Summary of accounts 2019

Income 2018 – 2019		Expenses 2018 - 2019	
General Income	£	General Expenses	£
Subscriptions 2019	1023	Printing, newsletters, website	706
Bank interest	16	Miscellaneous expenses	84
	1039		790
Social events income		Social events expenditure	
Summer tea/AGM	161	Entertainment. Insurance	306
Winter supper	858	Hall bookings	1021
Film nights	3758	Film licences and DVDs	1216
		Food and drink	1374
		Shop commission on ticket sales	191
	4777		4108
Donations for swift boxes	60	Donation	50
Total income	5876	Total expenditure	4948
Less expenditure	<u>4948</u>		
Balance for year	928		
Cash at bank 1st April 2018	15965	Bank balance 1st April 2019	
1st April 2019	16893	Community a/c	5512
		Business money manager a/c	<u>11381</u>
Surplus 2019	928		16893

This year the overall balance has increased by £928, partly due to subscriptions being collected promptly in 2019 and to the very successful winter party. The increasing frequency and popularity of the film screenings is reflected in activity on the account and a surplus for the year of £423. This figure was reached after 'repaying' the loan of £150 that FOIV gave to help the original setting up of the film group and includes a £200 grant from Cinema for All. The total held on behalf of the film group at 31/3/19 was £1427, making £15466 the total available to the Friends.

I would like to thank John McLintock for yet again inspecting the accounts and making really helpful suggestions about their presentation.

6. Iffley Community Shop report & accounts Sue Reynolds & Paul Butler

The Shop has done better this year. Our accounts show that we almost broke even, a big improvement after the substantial loss of last year. We also replaced the freezer with a smaller, less noisy model which met with everyone's approval. We continue to sell locally produced, such as our Iffley apple juice, homemade cakes, jam and marmalade and we now have a new supply of honey. We welcome Paul Butler as volunteer Shop Treasurer.

2019 is a special year for us. This autumn is the Shop's 20th anniversary. We very much hope to continue to have your support and good will for the future.

IFFLEY VILLAGE COMMUNITY SHOP ASSOCIATION
Income and expenditure for the Year Ending 31st October 2018

2017			2018
42,374	SALES		48,065
	<i>Less Cost of Goods Sold</i>		
7,147	Opening Stock	7,126	
36,035	Add Purchases	37,442	
1,708	Add S. Creditors	569	
		45,137	
7,126	Less Closing Stock	-7,859	
36,056	Cost of Goods Sold		37,278
6,318	GROSS TRADING PROFIT		10,787
	<i>Add Other Income</i>		
35	Bank interest	19	
	Commission	363	
	Insurance claim	30	
	Sale of equipment	500	
35	Other Income		912
6,353	GROSS PROFIT		11,699
	<i>Less EXPENDITURE (Operating Expenses)</i>		
4,528	Rent	4,704	
676	Insurance	555	
564	Phone	609	
944	Royal Mail collection fee	944	
1,459	Electricity	1,706	
	Photocopier	209	
168	Repairs & maintenance	705	
642	Overheads	344	
	Donation	107	
791	Depreciation	864	
	Purchase of freezer	1,034	
9,772	Operating Expenses		-11,781
3,419	Net LOSS for Year		-82
	Shop Equipment		
2,638	Opening balance	1,847	
	Add Purchase of freezer	1,034	
791	Less depreciation (at 30%)	-864	
1,847	Value of Equipment carried forward		2,017
	CURRENT ASSETS		
1,292	Cash in hand (inc floats)	953	
5,384	Barclays Current Account	3,498	
10,150	Barclays Savings Account	10,169	
7,126	Stock held	7,859	
300	Debtors (customer books)	484	
24,252	Total Current Assets	22,963	
	LESS Current Liabilities		
1,708	Creditors (invoices to be paid)	-569	
	Net Current Assets		22,394
24,391	NET ASSETS		24,329
	REPRESENTED by		
14,873	Profit & Loss Account brought forward		11,511
- 3,362	Net Loss for year		-82
11,511	Profit & Loss Account cf.		11,429
12,900	Contingency		12,900
24,411	Accumulated Fund carried forward		24,329

Paul Butler, Treasurer, of Iffley Community Shop 31st March 2019

7. Film Nights Report Kathryn Wilkinson, Film Nights Coordinator

The aim of Film Nights is to offer adventurous and enjoyable films, at a reasonable and sustainable price, engaging community, accessible to all. In the last year, we've offered 12 films, averaging 59 seats per show. Our hall capacity is 80 and we aim to average 70 ticket sales per film. Last year included a very well-received September weekend of French films, that we will repeat this year with European film classics.

We were pleased to be invited to participate in *Cinema for All's* 'Sustain' programme this year, which awarded us a £200 bursary, and three helpful tutorials. We are innovating, moving towards short seasons of films, advertised in advance. We now post interviews and film reviews on Next Door, offer online booking and are considering a FilmNights website. An annual survey and feedback after each film improves our familiarity with our audiences. Many costs are increasing. Film licenses, Church Hall bookings, shop sales fees, posters and leaflets, and larger audiences need more refreshments! So we are reviewing our offer, and considering small increases in ticket prices.

None of this would be possible without our dedicated group of volunteers. Laura Cope covers our extensive mailing list, Paul Hopkins, Greg Birdseye and Alan Dixon are our projectionists, Kate Griffin is treasurer and handles the door with Susie Seville, Mike Starks covers posters and publicity, Gail McLintock prints all our tickets and Ged Guinness is behind the bar. We have two new and valuable recruits, Wendy Greenberg and Graham Topping.

Many thanks for your continuing interest, and for the support of FOIV.

8. Committee reports

i. Highways Michael Starks

Flooding prevention After heavy rainfall, water used to pour down Tree Lane (which as a bridle path lacks standard street drainage) and into Cordrey Green, flooding some houses at the bottom. In July I approached Oxford City Council in conjunction with Phil Hart who chairs the Cordrey Green residents' group. The Council responded swiftly and effectively to install gulleys across the top of Cordrey Green and elsewhere in Tree Lane that guide the water towards the drain near the foot of Tree Lane. The gulleys, with residents' own flood prevention measures, have prevented further problems.

Parking regulation In response to points raised at last year's AGM, Councillor Ed Turner convened an on-site meeting of traffic experts and FOIV representatives to discuss selective introduction of parking restrictions near the corner of Anne Greenwood Close & Iffley Turn and in Church Way between Hartley Russell Close and Meadow Lane. Local residents were consulted informally, then the City Council passed the proposals to Oxfordshire County Council who consult the public and Westminster Government. The outcome will be decided at the Cabinet Member Decision meeting that the general public may attend at 10 a.m. 31st May at County Hall, New Road, Oxford. Details and links to relevant Council documents are on the FOIV website. Concern about congestion in Church Way continues, particularly around the bend near the Prince of Wales pub with several reports of traffic jams requiring extensive reversing, coaches and other wide vehicles getting stuck, damage to parked cars and obstructed pavements. We are searching for ideas for easing Iffley's parking problems that meet the needs of its residents, pedestrians, drivers, cyclists, the shop, the pub, visitors including coach parties and the village as a whole. As happens throughout Oxford, badly damaged or legally disqualified vehicles parked for long periods on public roads are reported.

ii. **Planning** **Caroline Pond**

FOIV has commented on several minor projects and proposals for major reconstructions including: rebuilding of Iffley Academy and use of the adjoining field (work started early Feb 2019), 26 Mill Lane, 1 Eastchurch and 3, Iffley Turn. We look forward to facilitating plans for the much-needed renovation of The Priory 37 Church Way.

We reviewed OCC *consultation on plans to 2036*. It listed 3 Iffley sites earmarked for development over the next twenty years:

Court Place Gardens Owned by Oxford University who will expand the current c. 50 homes to about 100 homes for senior students and employees, bedsits, flats and new or upgraded houses. Vehicle access will continue to be via Rose Hill, with a pedestrian/cycle route through East Church.

Iffley Mead playing fields Designated for 84 homes, with vehicle access via Iffley Turn/Augustine Way/ Maywood Rd, after the field is no longer needed as carpark and site offices for Iffley Academy rebuild from c. 2021/2.

Land west of Meadow Lane to Church Way 49 homes proposed, with vehicle access through Church Way to Meadow Lane.

Together, these sites will provide 233 additional homes, 50% to be 'affordable', some rented, that will increase Iffley's population by around 30%. In each case, FOIV has pointed out problems with access and the need to preserve Iffley's rural ambience. Developers will submit competing proposals during the next decade. FOIV will review all proposals in detail and push for linked developments that benefit the whole Village, e.g. the central Meadow Lane/Church Way site could include a general carpark large enough for one or two coaches or service vehicles, a GP doctors' surgery and perhaps a more spacious Community Shop.

iii. **Security** **Ged Guinness**

Iffley has had no major incidents during the past year but low-level crime persists, including graffiti, a break-in without anything being stolen, vandalism, in particular breaking the windows of a car (again with no robbery), and several cases of burnt out and otherwise abandoned vehicles.

Drug dealing and/or using continues in parts of Iffley and can trouble nearby residents, notably in Iffley Turn and its surroundings, and around the Lock. The Police and Cllr Ed Turner would like to be kept informed of such antisocial behaviour, especially if there is a threat of violence.

Local security concerns can be reported to security@iffley-village.co.uk Iffley can be a target for scams and other forms of fraud. This free service offers useful advice:

<https://www.neighbourhoodalert.co.uk/#SignUpSection>

iv. **Trees & Greenspaces** **Richard Vernon and Celia Palmer**

We thank the Donnington Hospital Trust for drilling out the stump of the Church horse chestnut tree; they will replace it with a sweet chestnut tree planted nearby.

Five swift nesting boxes are now installed in two locations, including The Old Parsonage.

An Iffley resident has proposed planting trees in the Glebe Field, as a contribution to mitigating climate change and forest clearance elsewhere. Two walnut trees were planted a few years ago but further tree planting would obstruct the annual mowing which is essential to maintain the wild flowers and yields valuable hay. Oxford Preservation Trust has been consulted and Iffley residents are invited to comment.

Refuse, mostly drink cans, thrown on and from the paths around the lock remains an eyesore.