

Oxford Waterside Residents' Association

May 2017: Issue 62

Two big dates for your Diary:

Tuesday 6th June 8pm our AGM at St Margaret's Institute, jointly with the OWMC. Overleaf is the Agenda, with a round up from your Committee about the past year's achievements and our accounts. Please come, meet us and tell us your views, and why not get involved – nominations for new Committee members are still open.

Saturday 10th June Sports Day and BBQ. We can promise you a great day of fun sports for all the family and a very sociable evening in the square.

This year surplus funds will be donated to local homeless charity OxfordGatehouse.org

All set for Waterside's Big Day Saturday 10th June

SPORTSDAY

The sports/games run between 2 and 4pm in and around Merrivale Square,

Please note that the Square will be closed to traffic between 2 and 4pm for the games.

There will be people running and cycling round the Square in this period so, if you are expecting visitors, please alert them to the situation. We will be as flexible as possible but safety is a prime concern. The sports and games are fun and not to be taken too seriously, so hopefully many people will join in; egg-and-spoon and sack races don't require a huge amount of training!

Proposed timings:

2-3 pm: Racing events, to include running, cycling, slow cycling and scooter races around the square.

3-4 pm: Sporting events, to include various short races such as 3-legged, sack, egg & spoon, wellie and paper aeroplane throwing competitions.

No need to register in advance but if you fancy having a particular event included, or have equipment you are looking after for us, or are willing to lend/donate, please contact us at owra.owmc@gmail.com

An agenda for the sport events will be posted on the Waterside Facebook page the week prior to the event.

If you have an easily transportable garden table and chairs, please bring them to the Square for the afternoon/ evening.

BBQ

Adult tickets cost £6 in advance, £7.50 on the gate. Children under 15 years £4 in advance, £5 on the gate. Babies are free.....

For this you get main course, dessert and a drink!

From 4-7pm children's food will be available (more of the delicious pulled pork, frankfurters and veggie option), the BBQ proper starts serving food at 5pm, continuing beyond 7pm until all extra food has been consumed.

The bar will be open from 4pm or thereabouts until it has all been drunk, Shotover Brewery was such a success in 2016, we shall be featuring their brews again.

Expect a doorstep visit inviting you to buy tickets, or call at 10 Merrivale Square before the AGM on 6th June.

We need volunteers to help, so talk to the ticket seller or e-mail us at owra.owmc@gmail.com if you'd like to assist:

- Getting set up Fri/Sat
- Making chocolate brownies in advance
- Making salads Sat am
- Bouncy castle supervision
- Sports day helper
- Taking/selling tickets on the gate
- Serving at the bar
- BBQ-ing hot food
- Serving cold food
- Clearing away afterwards and/or on Sunday morning

Next event: International Lunch 2nd September

OWRA AGM Tuesday 6th June 8:00, before OWMC AGM

Oxford Waterside Residents' Association

AGM AGENDA 2017

8pm on Tuesday 6th June 2017
at St Margaret's Institute, Polstead Road

1. Introduction and welcome
2. Apologies for absence
3. Minutes of the 2016 AGM (attached)
4. Report of the Committee on it's actions in the past year (attached)
5. Chairman's Statement
6. Annual accounts (attached)
7. Launch of Neighbourhood Watch
8. Agree a recommendation from the Committee "That the annual fee for OWRA should remain at £5 per household"
9. Election of the Committee
10. Issues raised from the floor
11. Close

RAIL UPDATE

On March 15, the City Council's Planning Review Committee overturned the West Area Planning Committee's decision to uphold the original conditions imposed on Network Rail, which were to install Silent Track and to restrict train numbers. This reversal was based on legal advice that if the case went to judicial review, Network Rail would be likely to win. The Wolvercote Residents' Group crowd-sourced funding (including contributions from Waterside) to seek further legal opinion. This confirmed the advice given to the City Council. In short, there are now no mandatory restrictions on Network Rail in terms of noise and vibration. However, the Waterside Rail Group, along with other residents' groups that are affected by the trains, will continue to pursue options for both monitoring and mitigation with the City Council, the Rail Minister, and Network Rail.

OWRA Income and Expenditure Statement 2016/2017

Income	£	Expenditure	£
Membership fees	455.00	P Kershaw stationery	3.49
BBQ surplus	124.35	Hire of St Maggies	20.00
M Doorley D of E	31.00	Domain name /hosting fees	88.95
Penny & Sinclair Halloween sponsorship	65.00	Replace tongs lost at BBQ	8.95
		Hallowe'en Expenses	71.76
		Fairy lights	41.36
		H&D House BBQ	111.16
		H&D House M Doorly	31.00
TOTAL	675.35		376.67

Balance Brought Forward 6/04/16	1261.41
Payments In (Subscriptions)	330
Payments In (Other)	220.35
Direct Credits (Subscriptions)	125
Payments Out	376.67
Sub Total	1560.09
Less Prepaid 16/17 Subs	115.00
Plus prepaid 17/18 Subs	125.00
Carried Forward Reconciled balance as at 05/04/17	1570.09
Total Subscriptions:	91

Patrick Kershaw, OWRA Treasurer for 2016/2017

Notes on the accounts

A quiet year financially. Membership decreased from 97 to 91 households, the new envelope system and direct bank payments continue to work well.

Report of the OWRA Committee

June 2016 - May 2017

Overall Strategy

Maintaining the local environment and good social networks, and providing opportunities for residents to develop strong bonds with their neighbours has continued to be our priority. Email and Facebook, have enabled us to respond effectively to external issues such as the Network Rail activity, planning issues and local policing.

Highlights of the year for gardens:

Waterside MC made a contribution to the planting of new trees on the Spinney. These are in memory of a colleague of James Fry's and we are delighted that the City Council agreed to them being planted on their land.

The wildlife hedge planted by residents last year along the south fence of the Aristotle Lane entrance has grown well and this winter additional similar hedges have been planted by the west fence, by the low wall the north side of the entrance and along the fence by Aristotle Court. Many wonderful residents habitually **litterpick** throughout the year, but we do a deep clean twice a year with occasional disappointing results when we run out of litter early.

A revitalised **OWRA/OWMC Rail Group** has continued to promote our interests during the Aristotle Lane bridge developments, and planning battles to get planning conditions upheld.

We have met with our local Community Support **Police Officer**, and are launching a Waterside Neighbourhood Watch Group (see attached letter). The OWMC have been asked to consider fake CCTV in sensitive areas, and we have passed on via the Newsletter potential weakness in security within Waterside.

Waterside Events:

The 2016 **Sports Day and BBQ** was triumphantly delivered by a new team headed by Patrick Kershaw, ably assisted by his hard working (over) committed team. The **International Picnic** once again brought together many delicacies, thanks to Richard and Ying's organising skills.

Our third annual **Hallowe'en Party**, organised by Emma, was the highlight of the year for many young participants. The introduction of Doorstep Pumpkin Judging made a huge impact on the Waterside ambience, although we had to forgo sections for different age groups.

The **Easter Egg Hunt** on a perfect sunny Sunday was loved by the few kids who had stayed in Oxford over the weekend.

Waterside Communications:

The email and Facebook pages have been very busy sharing issues and concerns about planning, railways, crime and general information, plus helping get defib trainees booked in. Three newsletters have been published and paper copies distributed to all households (also via email where available).

The email list for sending OWRA and OWMC information now covers 134 individuals. Send an email to owra.owmc@gmail.com to be added.

The closed **Oxford Waterside Facebook group** has been very successful, there are currently 80 members (see address below). **We would encourage everyone to join this group as it is a major source of useful Waterside insight.** Thanks to Emma Dadson for moderating this group.

The new website is still under construction.

Welcome packs have been updated and new residents (not all, only the ones we get told about!) briefed on how to make the most of Waterside.

Your Committee:

The Committee, comprising Emma Dadson, Kay Gordon, Patrick Kershaw, John Krebs, Sarah Monro and Helen Saunders-Gill, met 4 times.

Emma is standing down from the Committee after 3 years of fantastic hard work which has been praised by everyone involved. Emma is inspiring!

New Committee members are always welcome, call Kay on 01865 420532 to discuss.

MINUTES of the OXFORD WATERSIDE RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

17th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2016

Held at 8pm on Tuesday 28th June 2016 at St Margaret's Institute, Oxford

- 1. Minutes of the last meeting were approved.**
- 2. Report of the Committee** (attached to Newsletter No 59)

The Chair went through a few key points from past year and some to come;

The focus on communicating with young families and tenants continues, with great success.

The OWRA Facebook is acting as a very good neighbourhood conduit with over 60 members.

This is complemented by 120 plus on the OWRA email list.

The imminent availability of a defibrillator within the Waterside estate is a great resource.

The International Lunch will be in the Square Saturday 3rd September 2016

- 3. Annual Accounts (attached to Newsletter 55)**

Patrick Kershaw presented the accounts. Account balance at 30/4/2016 stood at £1341.73

We continue to spend most of our income on printing and stationary.

The envelope system for subscriptions, supported by as strong doorstep presence has resulted in exceptional levels of membership income with 97 subscribers.

- 4. Chairman's Statement**

Special thanks were given to:

Richard Groves who has given us 12 years of excellent service and stood down from the Committee in January, but will continue to organise the International Picnic.

Michael Ward who has found the funding and masterminded the installation of a defibrillator on

his garage wall in The Crescent plus organising excellent training this Autumn.

It was noted that estate agents now advertise Waterside as being especially desirable because of the strong community spirit of it's residents!

- 5. Annual Fee**

A recommendation from the Committee "That the annual fee for OWRA should remain at £5 per household" was agreed

- 6. Election of the Committee**

Current members are continuing to stand: Kay Gordon, Patrick Kershaw, Emma Dadson, Helen Saunders-Gill, John Krebs and Sarah Munro

- 7. AOB**

A call was made for residents to join a revitalised Rail Group as there continues to be a strong need for representation by Watersiders during discussions and consultations. Names were collected.

Waterside Neighbourhood Watch

In 2017 Waterside has had a number of incidents involving the Police: Grafitti, cars and garages broken into, cars and bikes stolen. We have had a good dialogue with our local coppers, and shared their recommendations with you. The principal direction is to 'show them that they have been seen'. We are very grateful to the residents who communicate so effectively via Facebook, and would encourage all residents to join our Closed Group. Allison Hood has kindly agreed to be our local co-ordinator and the attached letter is for you to sign up to help keep our estate safe.