

# OXFORD WATERSIDE RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION

## NEWSLETTER No.75 JUNE 2021

Hopefully, as you are reading this our long Covid nightmare will be a thing of the past. With this in mind your Committee had put together a programme of social events for 2021 to get you out, meeting old friends and making new ones. ALL RESIDENTS, tenant or owner, are invited, and we do appreciate you slipping us a £5 subscription! Your AGM Agenda and link to last year's minutes are overleaf.

### DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

#### TUESDAY JULY 20<sup>TH</sup> 6:30pm OWRA AGM & UNLOCKING PARTY

(assuming no further public health advice changes)



Last year we had a Zoom AGM, which was well attended but not very 'social', so this year we shall not be piggybacking onto the Management Company's AGM, but having our own AGM Party in Merrivale Square. If we have a serious weather problem we shall revisit. All the info is on the reverse of this page. Bring everything you need to enjoy a party in the fresh air and share (or not) your food and drink with your neighbours. We shall finally be allowed out!

AUGUST – date tba **Family Picnic** in Merrivale Square

SUNDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER from 12 the **Annual International Picnic**



We will bring our BBQ for you to use

More bright ideas sought – let us know on [owra.owmc@gmail.com](mailto:owra.owmc@gmail.com)

In the Autumn we plan to have a half term **Treasure Hunt** and a **Hallowe'en event**

In December the **'Advent windows'** were such a success we shall do it again!

### Meanwhile News of other Important Topics:

**Local Planning:** Now the road Expressway between Oxford and Cambridge has been cancelled, the 'East-West' rail link is going ahead. Consultation has just ended.

Because there was only weak support for the Council's plans for Walton Street they were forced to reopen the road. This will not end here, and the LTN is still under discussion, but the County Council is 'under new management' with a commitment to listen more.

Watch out for are the implementation of an 'Ultra Low Emission Zone' (ULEZ) on roads going into central Oxford from August this year - big charges if you accidentally go there, and the possibility of it being extended to our routes through Worcester Street/St Clements in another year or two, which would have a costly impact on all non-electric cars. Additionally Bus Gates have not gone away.

### **Electric Vehicle charging on Waterside: See our website for more information**

- Several residents are discussing with our Special Interest Group the best way to set up EV charging points for their residence. Some groups have already implemented one of the solutions – shared charging posts in the parking spaces. If you are looking at EV charging, contact Di on [dinewell.dn@gmail.com](mailto:dinewell.dn@gmail.com) or complete this survey <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/9BQN57S> to show interest/sign up for a zoom call.
- To get a grant for your EV charge point you need a letter confirming the allocation of your parking space to your house from Katie Leppard at Breckon & Breckon [katie@breckon.co.uk](mailto:katie@breckon.co.uk). There is a fee of £50 plus VAT.
- Note that trailing leads over pathways is **not** an acceptable option – it creates a duty of care and potential liability for you individually and for the Oxford Waterside Management Company (if it is a OWMC owned path). If you are currently doing this, *please* get in contact with Di – the intent is not to cause you an issue but we do need to support you to find an alternative solution.

**Oxford Waterside Annual General Meeting  
Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2021 6:30pm in Merrivale Square**

**Agenda**

1. Apologies for absence
2. Approve minutes of 2020 AGM (see [Oxfordwaterside.co.uk/Newsletters](http://Oxfordwaterside.co.uk/Newsletters))
3. Committee report (see to right)
4. Chairman’s review
5. Annual Accounts
6. Election of Committee
7. AOB

**OWRA Income and Expenditure  
Statement 2020/2021**

|                                   |                |                                |
|-----------------------------------|----------------|--------------------------------|
| <b>Bank Balance 31/03/20</b>      | <b>1051.27</b> |                                |
| Payments In (Subscriptions)       | 485            |                                |
| Payments In (Other)               | 0              |                                |
| Payments Out                      | 502.72         |                                |
| <b>Final balance as at 1/4/20</b> | <b>1033.55</b> |                                |
| Total Subscriptions:              | 97             |                                |
| <b>Paid Out</b>                   |                |                                |
| Date                              |                |                                |
| 14/4/2020                         | 164.68         | Printing supplies              |
| 03/11/20                          | 307.54         | Solar fairy lights, paper, ink |
| 12/11/2020                        | 30.5           | Halloween materials            |
| Total                             | 502.72         |                                |

**Treasurer’s report**

We had 97 subscriptions this year, and spent very little. Thank you to everyone who carried on with their subscriptions; 2020/21 continued to be very tough, and we know every little helps. We opened the year with just over £1000 in our bank balance, and with very little to spend on over the year, close it with just about the same. It’s promising to see the subs for 2021/22 already beginning to roll in (please set up your direct debits!), and here’s hoping that by late Summer we can make bigger plans to dip into the coffers again to support both our local community (the BBQ surplus - which we have missed for the past couple years - is traditionally donated to charity), and bring some more levity and much-missed in-person celebration back to the square.

**Committee Report**

The persistence of social distancing measures throughout this year meant many of our traditional events and activities were completely impossible. Merrivale Square saw increased usage, as everyone took advantage of the beautiful safe space to enjoy some quiet moments. Despite restrictions we managed to organise a bit of Halloween fun for the kids, kept the square twinkly during the darkest days with Advent Windows, fairy lights and your own sparkles, and kept residents informed via the newsletter distributed through everyone’s mail box & email.

The impact of local planning is a concern, as the Oxford County Council strategy for encouraging the use of ‘active travel’ and public transport appeared to disregard the needs of people who actually live in Oxford, but a mile from the nearest bus stop with complex lives and disabilities. Our Oxfordshire County Councillor is John Howson, a Liberal Democrat now part of the new coalition. Hopefully this will help us put your views across. We continue to keep a close eye on developments and will gather your views and concerns again if needed.

We welcome new Committee members, tenants and owners make equally valuable contributions to our lovely Waterside community – join in!!

**YOUR COMMITTEE**

- Kay Gordon (Chair), 10 Merrivale Sq. 420532
- Sarah Martin, 49 Plater Drive 07970 100286
- Sam Mahony, 39 Plater Drive 07739 009640
- Jen Watkiss (Treasurer) 28 Plater Drive 514615
- Allison Hood, 16 Plater Drive. 07469 259510 (retiring)
- Sarah Munro, 9 The Villas. 580650 (retiring)
- Sally Atkinson, 2 Merrivale Square 07788 915246 (new member)

**JOIN US – GET INVOLVED IN WATERSIDE**