



FORUM MEETING

Report of the Forum Meeting held at St Andrews School, London Road on
Tuesday 29 April 2014 at 7pm

Email - HeadingtonPlan@gmail.com Web - <http://headingtonplan.org.uk/>
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Interim Steering Group present (ISG) 10

Adam Symons (**Project Manager**) AS, Mike Ratcliffe (**Chair**) MR, Patrick Coulter, Liz Grosvenor (Admin. Support), Veronica Hurst, Fiona Mckenzie, John Nealon, Nicholas Rollin, Ian Wilson, Ruth Wilkinson

Apologies:

Karl Chadwick (JR Hospital, Transport)

Forum members present: 7

Heather Armitage, Richard Bradley, David Henwood, Jan Clark, Jill Cummings, Cicely Havelly, Jennifer Pegg,

Interested parties present: 18

Sheila Allcock, Judith Fantozzi, Jill Freston, Sue Greenwood, Kim Griffiths, Ross Hitchcock, Bridget Hope, Tony Joyce, Innis King, Sarah King, Glynis Phillips, Paul Rogers, Cllr Dee Sinclair, Cllr Roz Smith, Jane Strother, Marie Vickers, Stella Welford, Charles Young

Total 35

| 1. | Welcome to new members and guests | Action |
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| 2. | Minutes of last meeting and matters arising if not covered on the agenda Minutes of the last meeting in October were taken as agreed and no further matters arising. | |
| 3. | Designation of the Area The area map was approved by the Oxford City Council Executive Board on 23 April. Loosely speaking the area goes from the bottom of Headington Hill to the Ring Road (west to east) and from the JR Hospital to the Churchill (north to south). There will be ongoing discussions with neighbouring areas, for example the boundary abutting Risinghurst & Sandhills and Wood Farm are determined by these areas being a parish council and a regeneration area respectively. We will also be in contact with Marston parish council. Comments received during the consultation included the exclusion of Northway and Barton, and as close neighbours they will be kept up-to-date with our deliberations. | |

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| <p>4.</p> | <p>Project Outline</p> <p>The current Interim Steering Group have been organising the legalities and bureaucracy required to bring this project to ultimate fruition.</p> <p>We identified the need for a Project Manager to steer the various groups with a rigorous eye, and <i>Headington Action</i> kindly agreed to fund the services of a project manager who was appointed after a series of applications and interviews in March.</p> <p>Adam Symons is an environment consultant with extensive experience of working in the public sector and local communities and has worked for industry, local authorities and as a freelance consultant on a range of public policy issues. He has recently been teaching MSc Planning students at Oxford Brookes.</p> <p>He gave a presentation to explain the creation of a Neighbourhood Plan, stressing that there was a strict legal process to follow. The Plan needs to be thoroughly sound before it goes to referendum and he declared that the timescale was very tight to achieve this by May 2015 to coincide with the General Election/Local Elections.</p> <p>Click for Slide show</p> <p>Following on from the Vision for Headington slide, attendees identified that they were generally comfortable with the basis for the vision, but that consideration should be given to the following points raised by individual attendees:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green Spaces • Environment • Consider where is the heart of Headington – or will this be one of the aims? • Is the identity of this vision specific enough to define Headington? • The embryonic vision statement was considered to be a bit too woolly but with too much detail which made it “a muddle”. • It was pointed out that the actual aims will follow, but the idea of the “Vision” is to draw out issues – it is not at this stage set in stone. • The key message should be to create a balance for people who live, work and study here – appreciating the fact that some people partake in more than one of those activities. • Should we change “partner” to stakeholder? • There was no reference to the future, but it was pointed out that the nature of planning is for the future. • It was thought that there is already a characteristic neighbourhood identity in Headington and a heart. • The identity of Headington should also be its character (particularly in the conservation areas) and so we will alter the Policy Group to read Character and Identity. The integration of the conservation areas (and their character assessments) with the rest of Headington needs to be addressed. • Heritage Lottery monies are available for future character assessments. • The built environment will cut across more than one policy group and joint workshops will be organised to address this. • We must engage with the institutions to ensure that they see the Forum as ‘partners’ in the same way that the Forum sees the local institutions as ‘partners’ in the development of the neighbourhood plan. | |
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| | <p>The answers to questions that arose during the presentation included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Councils across the country have been given £25,000 to fund this process • It is difficult to get an accurate picture of the transient population of Headington – we have some data for the area but it does not include information like when a student or professional moves on. • Our partners are the institutions, the local authority, schools etc. • Our neighbours are the adjacent parishes and other regeneration areas that abut our area. • We have looked at the history of Headington, but need to look at the heritage, for example the excellent transport system, and the fact that Headington is an amalgam of four villages. • ACTION POINT – THE STEERING GROUP TO GO AWAY AND WORK UP A FINALISED DRAFT VISION FOR THE ISSUES AND OPTIONS CONSULTATION | STEERING GROUP |
| 5. | <p>Student Groups</p> <p>MR explained the role of the Oxford Brookes undergraduate Planning students who have been engaging with the issues we have been looking at. The two most impressive projects have looked at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Identity of Headington and introduced a number of design techniques and made a suggestion that an entry feature would give a sense of having arrived. A cohesive design for the centre of Headington was deemed to be essential. • Community engagement was explored with many suggestions for engaging with the diversity of residents that we have in Headington. <p>The slides from their presentations will go on our website in due course.</p> | |
| | <p>Volunteers were requested to populate the Policy Groups and these are the participants so far:</p> <p>Amenities Patrick Coulter, Ian Taylor, Glynis Phillips, Heather Armitage, David Henwood</p> <p>Education Mike Ratcliffe, Roz Smith</p> <p>Housing John Nealon, Marie Vickers</p> <p>Character and Identity Richard Bradley, Cicely Havelly, Jan Clark, Mary Hope, Ruth Wilkinson, Veronica Hurst</p> <p>Jobs and Development Fiona Mckenzie</p> <p>Retail & Business Nicholas Rollin</p> <p>Transport Headington Transport Group</p> <p>Environment Low Carbon Headington</p> | |

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| | <p><u>Action Group</u> Community Engagement Nicholas Rollin, Roz Smith, Ruth Wilkinson, Kim Griffiths, Jenny Burnell, Liz Grosvenor, David Henwood</p> <p>ACTION POINT – THE POLICY/ACTION GROUP LEADERS TO DRAW TOGETHER THEIR MEMBERS, AND USING THE TERMS OF REFERENCE HIGHLIGHTED IN THE PRESENTATION, START IDENTIFYING THE ISSUES AND OPTIONS IN EACH AREA TO ENABLE THE ISSUES AND OPTIONS CONSULTATION</p> | <p>POLICY GROUP LEADS</p> |
| <p>6.</p> | <p>AOB None. The meeting ended at 9pm</p> | |

Liz Grosvenor 30.4.14