



## Minutes of Oxton Society Committee Meeting October 29th, 2024, 19.00 St. Saviour's

### Present:

Chris Jarrey	(CJ)	(Chair)
Jeff Willis	(JW)	(Vice-Chair)
Alan Chape	(AC)	(Conservation and Partnership)
Bob Knowles	(BK)	(History Group)
Annette Capper	(ACa)	(Friends of The Arno)
Dominic Wilkinson	(DW)	(Planning Lead)
Steve Weber	(SW)	(Conservation/Planning)
John Heathman	(JH)	(Secretary)
Don Firth-Williamson	(DFW)	(Businesses rep)
Allan Brame	(AB)	(WBC)
Alistair Beattie	(ABe)	(Web design)

**Alistair Beattie** was welcomed to the meeting. He will take on the role of website designer from Jeff Willis.

- 1. Apologies** were received from Dwain Chong, George Harrison, Heather Alcock, John Field, Griff Round, Carla Walker.
- 2. Approval of minutes.** The minutes of the last meeting were approved.
- 3. Conservation/Planning**
  - a. Planning**
    - 1-3 Shrewsbury Road. DW visited the property and recorded its state as just about serviceable. There are no potential buyers or development proposals known of as yet. Price was considered very high. **Action AC** to contact Brennan Ayre O'Neal to carry out a formal society visit.
    - Ashton House. Another new planning officer handling this case. Decision expected "soon" (AB)
  - b. Local Plan.** New govt proposals on revised new house build numbers is likely to force a review of the Local Plan at an early stage of its life (<5 years?). This might place pressure on the "No build on green belt" restriction in the plan.
  - c. Street name signs.** JH to survey and draw up proposal of costs.
  - d. Local Listing.** Project to start autumn/early 2025. Scope to be published by WBC in due course.
- 4. Finance** See Reports doc sent out with agenda.

5. **Communications.** Next newsletter to go to print 11<sup>th</sup> November and be ready for delivery approx. 25/26 November. Just awaiting Planning report - **Action DW**

6. **AGM**

- Format same as last year. All committee to be present at 18.30 to meet/greet members over a glass of wine.
- JW has secured a wine serving team.
- SW to welcome members at door and ask them to sign attendance.
- *Still need 2 x committee members to attend at 18.15 to assist set up of room*  
**Action ALL – advise JH if available**

7. **Sub-group reports:**

a. **Friends of The Arno.** See reports. **Action JW** to contact WBC about possibility of installing a park bench at the Rose Garden in honour of Dave Barden

b. **History Group.** See reports. Next blue plaque Spring 2025. The next formal publication of the last 25 History Periodicals will take place after the first 2025 newsletter delivery.

c. **Membership.** Hugh Owen has confirmed he will join committee at AGM in November 2024 and take over as Membership Secretary in January 2025.

8. **Community items**

a. **Business update.** Continuing liaison with businesses, but limited only to their donations (looking good for 2024 Xmas lights event). Businesses do not want to engage with event organization.

b. **Hanging baskets.** Coming down week commencing 11/11. JW and John Booth leading organization and new supplier liaison for 2025 (Follyfield). **Action ALL – do we not know anyone who will take this on?**

c. **Xmas Lights** Permanent lights are up. Organising group debating best way to secure donations from the event attendees. Usual event programme.

9. **Date of next meeting**

Agreed to be Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> January, 2025, 7pm at St. Saviour's

The meeting finished at 8.45pm