



Minutes of Oxton Society Committee Meeting Sep 2nd, 2025, 7pm St Saviour's

Present:

Chris Jarrey	(CJ)	Chair
Jeff Willis	(JW)	Conversation and Planning
Alan Chape	(AC)	Conservation and Partnership / Vice-Chair
Rowena Beighton-Dykes	(RBD)	History Group
Annette Capper	(ACa)	Friends of The Arno
Dominic Wilkinson	(DW)	Head of Conservation and Planning
John Heathman	(JH)	Secretary
Allan Brame	(AB)	WBC
Steve Weber	(SW)	Conversation and Planning
Hugh Owen	(HO)	Membership

Apologies were received from Griff Round, Heather Alcock, John Field, Carla Walker, George Harrison

1. Approval of minutes. The minutes of the last meeting were approved.

2. Conservation/Planning

- a. No new planning applications.
- b. Rose Cottage, Rose Mount. Damage to sandstone wall. WBC are aware of the damage. We await the outcome of the planning process.
- c. 3 South Bank roof works. Actual materials used needs to be checked. **Action DW**
- d. Local Listing. Process appears to be in chaos with several of our submissions rejected. **Action AC** to write to Mandy Lewis to register our concerns.
- e. Ashton House. Looks like this might go to auction. (The boundary wall is on our Local Listing list)
- f. 1-3 Shrewsbury Road. We have written to Christian Hercules stating that our first priority is that the properties should be kept and refurbished. Regarding our own internal processes, whilst we should continue to engage with developers, we need to make sure DW is aware of any such meetings.
- g. Riverhill – some interest from the owners has come in the form of a request for history of the property and its past inhabitants.
- h. Trees. **Action JH** to write to Erik Bowman asking for an update on the proposed TPO review.
- i. Design awards – Planning group are to assess any submissions for awards at AGM.

3. AGM

- a. The AGM will take place on **Wednesday November 12th** at St. Saviour's. Normal routine i.e. drinks at 6.30, meeting starts at 7.00, mixture of AGM business, awards and speaker (Mandy Lewis from WBC has been invited).
- b. Chair's annual report to be put together by CJ. Overall theme for the report and AGM meeting to be the new strategy with a Q&A session for members

input. **Action ALL** – *written submissions for the annual report (Planning, Finance etc) to be with CJ by September 19th.*

4. Comms.

- a. Next newsletter is to advertise AGM and to be delivered with the AGM papers. Consequently, planning/Friends of Arno and other *copy is to be submitted to Carla by Wednesday 8th October.*
- b. Website management: JW reminded the committee that he is still looking after this important task as a temporary measure. **Action JH** to speak with Carla Walker to see whether a handover can take place.

5. Sub-group reports:

Friends of The Arno. See report sent out. Open day was very successful

History Group. See report sent out.

- a. Re-affirmed that additional orders to print the bound periodicals book has been approved by the committee, as required by level of sales.
- b. RBD noted that the article in the newsletter promoting the play about Jessie Gavin contained no reference to the massive input to this by RBD and the History Group. **Action JH** to speak with Carla Walker to make a statement to rectify this in the next newsletter.

Membership.

As per report sent out. Committee approved to move ahead with membership survey on strategy/project options. Assistance from Mike Beighton Dykes was offered.

Action HO to progress.

6. Community items

- a. Green areas in the village (3). On-going (CJ/JH)
- b. Street signs. On-going (CJ/JH)
- c. Xmas Lights event. (JH) Date not fixed yet due to availability of resources.
- d. Park bench to commemorate Dave Barden. JW is arranging delivery and an unveiling event.

7. Date of next meeting

Proposed to be **Tuesday 4th November 2025, 7pm** at St. Saviour's

The meeting finished at approximately 9.00pm