

FRIENDS OF SOUTH PARK

Minutes of the eleventh Annual General Meeting held on Thursday 31 October, 2024 St Clement's Centre, Cross Street, Oxford

Present

Committee: Rob Waterston (Chair); Lesley Court; Andrew Lack; Liz Rooke; Peter Rooke

Members: Susan Brownill, Aeron Buchanan, Geraldine Coggins, John Colehan, Anne Copley, Peter Edwards, Sarah Gardner, Joanna Gilmour, Sue Harmer, Mariabelle Headlam, Laura Hollitzer, Jemima Hunt, Roger Jenking, Matt Kelly, Jonathan Kirkpatrick, June Matthews, Elizabeth Mills, Hannah Mortimer, Dominic Parkinson, Rosemary Pocock, Andrew Roscoe, Matt Rosenfeld, David Runciman, David Saunder, Christine Somerville, David Waller, Sophie Zhou.

Oxford Round Table Members: Owen Baily, Artur Chamara, John Collinson, Joseph Garbett, Andrew Harrison, Neil Holdstock, Nick Jones, Chris Langston, Stuart Langston, Rolat Ququ, Richard Shannon, David Shepherd, Josh Worsfold.

Hebborn & Son Members: William Hebborn (proprietor), Paul Anderson, Andy Cleary, Leslie Danter, A Edwards, G Eyesham, Dylan Fiddes, Ashley Holloway, Phillip Jennings, Freddie Nixon, Stephen Sheppard, James Trafford.

Oxford Brookes University: Anastasia Maslova, Madhusa Mendes (Community Wardens)

Oxford City Council (OCC): Chris Bell (Green Space Development Manager)

Oxford Preservation Trust (OPT): Anna Eavis, Director; Stephen Dawson, Operations Director; Julian Munby, Trustee.

The Chair welcomed everyone to FoSP's 11th AGM.

1. **Apologies**

Apologies were received from: Cllr Louise Upton; Cindy Carlson; Rosemary Clayton; David and Christine Colbeck; Melanie Hamill; Mike and Sandra Kent; Marie Power; Mandy Wood; George Wormald.

2. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 12 October 2023 were approved as a correct record.

3. **Matters Arising**

There were no matters arising.

4. **Chair's Report**

The full report is attached to the Minute Book. A copy would be emailed to all FoSP members, but items covered included:

- The damage resulting from the 2023 fireworks event and remedial action taken.
- The remedial action needed re the waterlogging around the lower Morrell Avenue gate.
- The poor state of the railings.
- The vacated distillery site and bids for its use.
- Tree planting in the coming winter.
- Progress on the provision of new signage at entrances.

5. **Treasurer's Report**

The balance in the account was £242.95. Income during the year had been from subscriptions. Outgoings had been mainly stationery and the hire of the hall for the AGM.

6. **Election of Officers**

Sue Harmer had been nominated for the post of Chair and gave a brief introduction, adding that she would like to help those who love the park.

The following Officers were elected:

Chair:	Sue Harmer (Proposer: Sue Brownill; Seconder: Andy Roscoe)
Treasurer:	Andrew Lack (continuing from previous committee)
Secretary:	There were no nominations for this post
Membership Sec.:	Cindy Carlson (Proposer: Dominic Parkinson; Seconder: Elizabeth Mills)

7. **Election of Committee**

Stephen Dawson was co-opted as the OPT representative.

Others elected to join the committee were: Sue Brownill; Aeron Buchanan; Geraldine Coggins; Melanie Hamill; Dominic Parkinson; Mandy Wood.

8. **Any Other Business**

(a) Oxford Brookes: Anastasia Maslova explained the role of Community Wardens, which included carrying out local litter picks twice a week and advising students on how to behave. They would be helping with the clean-up of the park following the forthcoming fireworks event.

(b) Groups in the park: The Chair explained that any activity consisting of 50 or more people or with infrastructure such as a gazebo, needed to have prior permission from the Council as it would count as an event.

(c) Oxford Round Table: Neil Holdstock said the Round Table had spent the last year listening to people and addressing most of the issues raised. They thanked the Council's Parks and Events Teams for their support, guidance and feedback and had had considerable dialogue with members of the FoSP committee, although there had been constant complaints from other members of the public.

Sue Harmer thanked the outgoing Chair and Committee for their hard work over many years and expressed her appreciation of the work that goes on behind the scenes.

9. **Date of Next Meeting**

To be notified

Following the AGM business a talk was given by Julian Munby on the history of South Park.