



Friends of Quarry Newsletter July 2018

Six Bells Pub



Following concerns expressed by local residents about disturbances issuing from the Six Bells pub, Friends of Quarry wrote to the city Licensing Authority to inform them of these concerns and ask for a review of the licence held by the pub. Their reply indicated that they were aware of the residents' concerns but that they had seen no breaches of the licence conditions when their inspectors visited the pub, nor were they aware of any serious concerns expressed by the police. In view of this and the fact that the pub was due to

be closed for an extended period whilst it was refurbished, they did not think a review was necessary at this time. Subsequently they have told us that when the pub is reopened it will have been substantially refurbished, and will open under new management possibly with revised conditions attached to the licence. Because of this Friends of Quarry have decided not to apply now for a review of the licence. However when the pub reopens the local residents should keep the authorities, and Friends of Quarry, aware if any problems develop. Links to the appropriate contacts are given in the section on antisocial behaviour.

Church Extension

On 6th December Friends of Quarry organised a meeting with local residents to discuss the proposed extension to Holy Trinity Church. This was well attended with over 60 people present. There was a forthright exchange of views, with deeply felt expression of views both for and against the proposed extension. A written summary of the views was sent to the Diocesan registrar for consideration. Subsequently the Church Authorities have given approval for the extension to proceed. The parish now have to raise the funds to allow the project to go ahead.

Proposed changes to the membership fees

Currently it costs £2 pa to be a member of Friends of Quarry. Collecting these small fees is time consuming and they have remained unchanged for some years. As a result the committee have been considering some changes to the fee structure with perhaps a small increase in the annual fee to £2.50 or £3 whilst offering a 10 year membership for £20. Collecting the long term membership could be done more easily and less often than is currently the case. Any such change would require acceptance by the members at an Annual General Meeting, and we ask the membership to consider this proposed change to the fees and let us know what their views are either before or at the next Annual General Meeting (date to be announced).

Antisocial behaviour and general nuisance

Over the last year a number of residents have complained about antisocial behaviour by some residents of Scrutton Close and as noted earlier some customers of the Six Bells. The worst of the problems with Scrutton Close seems to have been resolved and the pub is currently closed. The advice we have been given by both the wardens at Scrutton Close and the police is if you are concerned about, or witness antisocial behaviour report it to the Police on phone number 101 or by email at www.thamesvalley.police.uk/ro/report/asb/antisocial-behaviour/. The 999 number should only be used if a crime is being committed, or there is a risk of serious injury.

Report abandoned cars in your street to the council on:

www.oxford.gov.uk/info/20060/street_cleaning/170/. If you have a complaint about noise it can be reported here: www.oxford.gov.uk/info/20058/noise_pollution/145/. Alternatively you can use the Noise App (www.thenoiseapp.com) to which the City Council has signed up. If you want to check the conditions of the licence of a Public House then this can be done at: www.oxford.gov.uk/info/20025/licensing. Complaints about any breaking of these conditions can be reported here too.

Events

On the 16th of March Friends of Quarry held a Wine and Cheese Party which just happened to be the night before St Patrick's Day. In addition to the chance to meet your neighbours and enjoy some wine and cheese David Kay, Chris Mills and Alan and Julie Kimber Nickelson provided some splendid entertainment with their music and songs. A really enjoyable evening was had by all. On the 1st September we invite you to meet your neighbours and Friends of Quarry in Quarry Hollow Park, details to be announced.

Traffic

There are increasing problems with traffic in Quarry, including parking on pavements, speeding and traffic density. Friends of Quarry have been working with local councillors and the police to get data on the extent of the problem. We have found that up to 30% of the cars parked on Quarry High Street between 8am to 8pm belong to people who are parking in Quarry during the working day. On Wednesday 11th July some committee members worked with the police to carry out a speed camera survey during the evening rush hour. Other speed checks will be carried out over the next weeks at different times, and we will publicise these when the results become available.

You may have heard that the City and County Council plan to implement further controlled parking zones. The areas to have these have been placed in groups of descending priority. Quarry is in group two along with four others. Friends of Quarry would like to know your views so please let us have these by email, or by contacting the committee members, so that we can represent these at any discussions with the councils before the zones are implemented. Councillor Roz Smith is organising a meeting on the 26th July from 6pm to 7pm in the Masons Arms where a highways officer from Oxford City Direct Services will speak about the services they offer.

Planning

Our comments on recent planning applications can be seen on our website (see below).

Communications

We will continue to produce Newsletters periodically, but would like to be able to communicate with you more regularly than that. There are a number of ways that you can engage with us to get our news and other updates:

- Our website (www.friendsofquarry.org)
- Our Facebook page (The Friends of Quarry)
- Subscribing to our email list (email friendsofquarry@gmail.com or via the 'Contact Us' page of our website)

If you want to contact us, the best way is to email friendsofquarry@gmail.com or send us a note via the 'Contact Us' page of our website or phone 01865 760026, or 01865 762418. Our updates will continue to be available on the website and Facebook as well.