



Friends of Quarry Newsletter February 2019

Friends of Quarry Projects

At the Annual General Meeting in November last year there was considerable support for a proposal to plant bulbs at the London Road and Beaumont Road entrances to Headington Quarry, as



shown in the pictures. It was envisaged that this would be a community effort, with the bulbs, mostly daffodils, provided by Friends of Quarry.



Discussions with the local Councillors have indicated that this work should be able to proceed in early autumn, starting in September 2019. We will need lots of volunteers to help us plant the bulbs, so please keep alert for notices advertising the planting



event. The AGM also gave support for a stone 'Headington Quarry' sign to replace the broken metal sign at the corner of the Green Road and Beaumont Road. Negotiations are currently underway about the feasibility of this project, getting quotations for the cost and looking at designs. A recent success was getting a dog waste bin installed on Spring Lane and we

encourage dog walkers to make use of it to prevent pavement fouling. Friends of Quarry are also continuing to explore whether a bench, funded by us, can be installed outside the shop on Gladstone Road.

Events

Following the success of our social events last year, we will be repeating two of these this year. The first will be a **Wine and Cheese Evening on Friday March 15th at 8pm**. We are delighted that David Kay, Chris Mills and Alan and Julie Kimber-Nickelson have agreed to provide us with music and stories, as they did last year. Tickets will be £8 and will be available from 01865 765290 and 0788 4137282 from mid-February.

If you would like to meet other members of the local community, then the **Quarry Coffee Morning** offers just such a chance. It is held in the **Jubilee Room of the village hall at 10:30am every Friday** and everyone, regardless of age or gender, is welcome to come along. The Jubilee Room entrance is off Margaret Road. Coffee and biscuits can be had for up to £1.50 and the company and good conversation are free.

As part of Oxclean, Friends of Quarry will be organizing a **litter pick in Quarry on Saturday March 2nd**. Volunteers are needed and should **meet in Quarry Hollow Park at 2pm**, where litter picks and bags will be available. Please do come along and join in this community effort to reduce the litter in Quarry.

Traffic

Friends of Quarry have obtained the results from the traffic survey carried out by the County Council at the entrance to Beaumont Road last summer. This has revealed that during the peak hours of 7-9am and 4-6pm up to 450 cars per hour pass through this section of Quarry, dropping to 200 per hour from 10am to 3pm. These numbers represent cars entering and leaving Quarry

through Beaumont Road, and do not include cars using Green Road and passing through Quarry High Street. Even at weekends during the day, 200 cars per hour use this route through Quarry. Comparing this data with previous surveys, some carried out by Friends of Quarry, there has been a clear rise in the traffic through Quarry over time, the vast majority of which is passing through en route to the city.

Given the problems of parking by non-residents in Quarry during the day, this amount of traffic causes congestion in Quarry Hollow and on Quarry High Street, as well as speeding on streets restricted by the parked cars.

Controlling parking in the area would go some way to alleviating some of the issues caused by the traffic, and it will be interesting to see the results of the City Council survey of controlled parking zones (CPZs) in Quarry and the surrounding areas when these become available.

However, the level of traffic needs to be moderated, especially considering the effects of the proposed housing developments in Barton and elsewhere on traffic. Friends of Quarry put forward a plan to regulate traffic through Quarry in 2013, which can be found on our website (go to friendsofquarry.org and look in 'Recent Posts'). Another idea that has been proposed by some local residents is to filter traffic within Quarry to make its use as a "rat run" less attractive. Filtering in this context means putting



obstructions to cars only on specific streets to prevent easy passage through Quarry, whilst not preventing access or egress for other pedestrians and cyclists. For example, one suggestion would be to prevent cars from exiting Quarry through the Quarry

Road end of Quarry Hollow and Quarry High Street as shown.

Other sites for the filters, and a discussion of this proposal, can

be found at <https://filterthequarry.wordpress.com/the-proposal>, where comments can be left.

We would like to hear your views about these issues and any ideas you may have about dealing with the traffic and parking in Quarry, so send them via our website, email or Facebook page.

Parking on the pavements in Quarry is a problem for pedestrians but, in some areas, is a necessity for residents in order to prevent the road from being blocked. However if the pavement is blocked such that a push chair, pram or wheelchair cannot pass then this is Obstruction, which can be reported to the police. Recently they have taken action on reports of Obstruction in Quarry, so it is worth reporting examples of anti-social parking.

Planning

We are continuing to monitor the building on the Beechers Development at the junction of Quarry High Street and Margaret Road, to ensure that the original boundary and hedge are reinstated.

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

If you want to contact us or subscribe to the email list, 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.