

**OIRA committee meeting, 2 March 2026, 8 pm  
18 East Street**

Present: Alison Burdett, Eleanor Dickey (secretary), Maria Holt (treasurer), Sarah Parker (chair), Karen Schoenemann, Philippa Lanchbery, Kate Stewart, Cllr Susanna Pressel

Not present: Andrew Boag, Cllr Lois Muddiman

1. Minutes of previous meeting were accepted with one addition (item 10) and will now be sent to Jane for posting on the web site.
  2. Environment update

The street cleaning has apparently happened.  
Osney Mead development consultations are coming up; we need to engage with these to get our views out there at an early stage.  
Sewage problems are serious. Thames Water has promised to increase sewer capacity by 2030. **Kate** will pursue Thames Water about this issue and continue raising it with Susanna.
  3. Councillors' slot

Susanna is trying hard with Thames Water. There is more bad news about Osney Bridge: SSE has cables running through concrete, so nothing can be done until that concrete is removed.
  4. Events

Tea on the Towpath: **Sarah** is trying to organise this to coincide with Artweeks, and has approached Elizabeth Newbury. She also needs to find someone on East Street to host (start by approaching the yoga studio) and then pick a date that coincides with Artweeks on the island. It would be nice to have some more activities associated with this. A web page about the artists on the island?  
Freebie day: combine this with Tea on the Towpath.  
Quiz night: Alison will pursue this.
  5. Committee admin

Chairship and division of labour: the pre-circulated document was approved. Sarah will be chair, Eleanor will be secretary, Kate will host meetings, **Alison** will look after the archive and the grit bin and find a home for the gazebo, **Karen** will support the people who manage the planters (starting by contacting them to find out who does which planters and whether they need anything).  
AGM: April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 7:30 pm, at the church.
- **Sarah** will run this, with **Kate** taking the minutes.
  - It will start with a brief introduction from **Sarah** (she will liaise with **Alison** about what to say and agree a time limit), then all officers and committee members get elected (individually), **Maria** does a treasurer's report, Jude talks about the daffodils (**Alison** to liaise with her and agree a time limit), **Alison** says very briefly what she's brought from the archives, the police introduce themselves briefly (**Susanna** to invite them and agree a time limit).
  - If possible, Alan and Jula should be thanked at the AGM. **Sarah** will write them and ask about this.
  - Then we have drinks and three stands: the police, **Alison's** archive finds, and **Sarah's** post-it board.
  - Maria has booked the church; the sound system has been replaced, but **Sarah** needs to go to the church after a service on a Sunday and be shown how it works; at the same time she can ask whether they have a post-it board.

- The church will provides glasses etc., but we need to wash up and put them away afterwards.
- Refreshments: **Alison** will ask Jula what and how much to buy, and then **Karen** and **Maria** will buy it.
- Publicity: **Eleanor** will produce a flyer and get it printed for distribution at least 14 days in advance. Once it's printed she will ask the others to come collect batches from her and distribute them as follows (the numbers are how many houses = copies needed):
  - Bridge 114: Sarah
  - Mallinson Ct 11: Philippa
  - South 36: Karen
  - West 68: Maria
  - West Ct 21: Eleanor
  - Swan 8: Maria
  - Doyley 5: Kate
  - East + lock 34: Alison
  - North 6: Kate

Recruitment of additional committee members? This is not seen as urgent (and there would not have been space for more around Kate's table), but at the AGM we could encourage additional members to come forward.

6. Date of next meeting – as agreed last time.

7. Any other business

It was discussed whether the minutes should be posted on the noticeboard as well as online, but for space reasons we thought not, unless we receive requests to that effect.