

walls it grows on and it is entering the seeding season. We would encourage our residents to remove it from the walls of their properties and any alley walls where they find it.

Become a member

We rely on member subscriptions to fund our activities. If you are not a member and wish to support us, see our website for details on <https://friendsofquarry.org/join-us/> or phone 750731/ 07783 540 156.

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 including:

- Our website (www.friendsofquarry.org)
- Our Facebook page (The Friends of Quarry)
- NextDoor
- Subscribing to our email list

Our updates will continue to be available on the website and Facebook as well.

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.



Friends of Quarry

Newsletter August 2022



We were delighted with the success of the bulb planting which we carried out in the autumn of 2021. We would like to thank all those who helped us to plant 500 daffodil and tulip bulbs in the green opposite the Six Bells to match the bulbs previously planted on the other side of the entrance to Beaumont Road. This spring we were rewarded with a terrific display of colour and have received many appreciative comments from residents of Risinghurst and Quarry. A little guerilla planting was also

undertaken at sites adjacent to the bench at the grassed area on London Road at the end of Gladstone Road and at the small square opposite the nursery school in Quarry. We hope that next year the displays will be even better as the bulbs multiply and spread.

Planning

After continued representations by Friends of Quarry, local councillors and other organizations the City Council requested a retrospective planning application from the developers of 1 Quarry High Street. This was not forthcoming and eventually the Council issued an enforcement order requiring that the building be demolished within a specified time frame. This enforcement order has been appealed and was referred to the Planning Inspectorate earlier this year. We were told that a public planning enquiry in Oxford, at which residents would be able to make representations, might take place this August. However, due to Covid there is a significant backlog of cases for the

Planning Authorities to consider, and the proposed date in August appears unlikely. We will ensure that you are informed of when the hearing will happen as soon as we know the date.



We are currently investigating the sudden appearance of a long stretch of markings on the pavement opposite the village hall. Since there was an earlier attempt to put a mast at the entrance to Quarry Hollow these markings might indicate the position for a new 5G telephone mast. No planning application for such a mast has appeared but given the concern of the residents about the earlier mast, the city Planning Department was approached to see if they knew what the markings represented. We have been assured that an alternative site for the earlier mast has been

found and that they do not know what these markings are for. They have told us that they will investigate them and we will keep you informed of any outcome via our social media outlets, listed at the end of the newsletter.

Social Events

Because of the continued high incidence of Covid in Oxford throughout this year we have been cautious about social events especially those held indoors. We did organize the Oxclean litter pick in the Spring and would like to thank everyone who volunteered to help with this. We hope to be able to begin to start social events again in the autumn possibly with a quiz night at the Masons Arms. In addition we are hoping to be able to organize a lecture or walk on the

history of Quarry. Details of any events will be advertised by email and on our social media.

In the interim we have continued to support the coffee mornings run by Diana Pfetscher. Diana had been hosting these in her garden during the pandemic but has restarted them in the Jubilee Room in the village hall. These take place on a Friday morning at 10:30am.

Projects

We have been thinking about organizing a bench for the benefits of our residents and have identified a number of sites for it which include:

- Outside the shop on Gladstone Road.
- On the grassy corner of Gladstone Road and Quarry High Street.
- Adjacent to the Quarry Stone sign on Green Road, overlooking the bulb areas planted by us.
- On the grassy area on the left hand side of Trafford Road opposite Douglas Veale House.

If you have views on these sites or can suggest alternative sites within Quarry then please let us know via email or social media.

Red Valerian Hazard

One of the major features of Headington Quarry is the stone walls that mark the boundaries of different properties and the alleys in Quarry. Indeed these walls were a significant reason for conservation status being given to Quarry. However they are suffering from the rampant spread of red valerian illustrated here. This is an attractive plant but is highly destructive of the

