

of Quarry's concern has always been the precedent that this development sets for the height of future building in Quarry. If the appeal is successful there will be further harm to the public's faith in the planning system, and the wrong kind of encouragement to developers.

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 October 2024

Celebrating 65 years 1959-2024



Quarry Wall Survey

Stone walls and alleys are probably the most visible symbols of Quarry's industrial past and from and and form an important part of the Conservation Area.

We would like to map the extent and features of those remaining walls and accordingly invite

anyone interested in taking part in a Quarry Wall Survey to come to an initial meeting on **Sat 26th October at 2.00pm**. We will meet in the Six Bells carpark where maps and instructions will be given out. The survey will involve walking through Quarry recording the height and length of walls as well as whether they have vegetation growing on them and rating the wall's condition on a scale of 1 to 5. To ensure comparable results from the latter training on the scoring will be given out. Participants can then complete the survey in their own time. If you would like to take part, please contact Lawrence Kelly on 07767 884642 or email lawrencekelly1969@yahoo.co.uk

AGM

Friends of Quarry Annual General Meeting will be held on **November 14th at 8pm** in the village Hall

Traffic

Following an earlier meeting to discuss traffic issues in Quarry there was a further meeting with interested parties and City

Councillors including Andrew Gant and Stewart Wilson. There was a general agreement that there needed to be a strategy for reducing the volume of traffic through Quarry especially in light of proposed developments in Barton , and the Warneford Hospital which could increase the volume of cars passing through Quarry. This could be exacerbated by future traffic filtering measures which are to be introduced in the city.

Two previous solutions considered by the City Council were an LTN at the junction of Quarry High Street, Quarry Hollow, Margaret Road and Quarry Road or the closing of the entrance to Beaumont Road from the Ring Road. When surveyed residents were opposed to both of these. In discussions a number of other ideas were put forward for further consideration. These included a school street at the nursery, a give way sign at the top of the turn on Quarry Hollow and a time dependent traffic filter like the one in the High Street placed on Beaumont Road.

Any such scheme would need consultation with the residents and funding which would be hard to find currently. There was also a reluctance for the council to start any major scheme in Quarry until they see the results of other traffic control measures in Oxford. However the problem of traffic in Quarry is now fully on the agenda for the council and the meeting ended with a decision to try and find other simpler measures that could ameliorate the problem. Further meetings are planned.



Quarry social

The social was held on the 5th October in the village Hall and was attended by over sixty residents, friends and families. There was general agreement that it had been successful with the fish and chips universally rated excellent.

The event gave the residents an opportunity to catch up with friends, meet new people and importantly allowed new residents to meet the community in an informal setting. The feedback from the attendees was very positive and we are encouraged to consider running more of such evenings.

Planning

The planning inquiry into the appeal against the demolition of 1 Quarry High Street took place over the 24th-27th September this year. Mr Beecher's barrister used evidence from two expert witnesses to argue that the damage to the conservation area was minimal and that the building's size was also only slightly larger than the original plans. Cross examination by the barrister for the council cast doubt on these claims. There was agreement that there had been a mistake shown in the height of the music shop relative to the mews building on the approved plans.

The Council's case for the enforcement notice drew on this, and other issues of scaling on the plans, which gave a false impression of the size of the mews compared to the surrounding buildings. They also argued there were a number of other discrepancies between what was built and the submitted plans, with the final building larger than that shown on the plans. The result was a building which was not in scale with the music shop. Indeed the council argued that the building could not have been implemented in accordance with the approval plans as even this would not recreate the relationship between the shop and the mews shown in these.

Other issues raised were the ecological consequences of the building's demolition with the attendant wastage of resources and the loss of six dwellings. Both were acknowledged as regrettable but the council pointed out that the local plan has provision for enough housing for the City until 2036.

We do not know when the decision of the planning inspector should be expected but will let you know when we get it. Friends