

HILL TOP ROAD RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION

A summary of actions since its formation in 1977

EARLY HISTORY

Before the HTRRA was formed, the HTR Residents' Group fought a campaign over the plans by Lincoln College to demolish Southfield Farm and to erect Southfield Flats. This concluded with the flats being built but with certain restrictions outlined in a letter of 16 August 1971 (in the files).

June 1977

The Queen's Silver Jubilee celebration street party. Dr Whan (71HTR) who worked at the Warneford arranged for the Hospital to mow an area of grass in the meadow for an evening bonfire and barbecue for all residents of HTR. This was in the meadow because, being a cul-de-sac, the road could not be blocked off for the street party held in other areas.

July 1977.

No39 HTR was then owned by the Methodist Church as a manse. The Methodist Church submitted a planning application for change of use to 6 bed-sitting units (multiple occupancy) [application A605/77]. A petition was submitted containing 62 signatures from the road and the application was refused. The Church subsequently sold the house.

1977: Hill Top Road Residents' Association formed

Following the petition over 39 HTR, we were told by the City Council that opposition to planning applications would carry more weight with the Council if presented by a formal residents' association. In addition to this, the Association would receive all notices of planning applications that affect the area, as well as other relevant council documents.

HTRRA was formed in late 1977 and registered with the Council with myself as chairman and Buster Organ as secretary.

4 August 1981.

No 45 HTR (St. Gabriel's) Planning application for change of use from residential to a 14 bed hostel. [application A584/81] The house had been left to the Warneford Hospital and used as doctors' flats and, for a limited period, as a hostel for patients. Now the Regional Hospital Board was selling the house to Cherwell Housing Trust for a more densely populated hostel. After assurances about the management from the Trust, the application was allowed. It is managed by the League of Friends of Littlemoor, Warneford and Park Hospitals.

A subsequent application in 1998 [98/00487/NF] for change of use from hostel to residential care home for 14 residents was not disputed.

1982

25-27 HTR for demolition of the house and the erection of 18 flats [application A3069/82] This application was made after the site had already been put up for sale, with no intention of development by the then owner (Mr Harold of Kennington). The application was rejected.

1984

Oxford Local Plan Inquiry: Oriel Playing Field.

Oriel planning applications: GOZ/1022/86; NOY/1270/88

13 August **1984**

No66 HTR. Temporary change of use to multiple occupancy for student accommodation. The application was not proceeded with and the house subsequently sold.

15 October **1992**

71 HTR: Planning application [NF993/92] by the Oxford Mental Health Trust for the Learning Disability Trust, for the demolition of existing dwelling and the erection of a 2 storey dwelling for the accommodation for 4 disabled people with 24 hour supervision. The application was rejected and went to appeal. It was not proceeded with.

1993

20 HTR. Confirmation of the existing use for multiple occupancy. This was contested but there were no grounds for rejection as the house had been so used for the preceding 10 years. This house and four others in the Divinity Road area are owned by Narmtay Properties Ltd, Didcot.

ORIEL FIELD

1992

Letter from Oriel College about clearing some woodland above Oriel playing field.

1993

Oriel field. Proposed sale by the College with outline planning permission for student accommodation and general housing of 46 houses. [application NOZ/0980/93].

1994

Public meetings on the above (Oriel Field).

October **1997**

Correspondence against the development. (Oriel Field)

1999

Planning application [NFZ/000589/99] by Cherwell Housing for student accommodation for 237 students. This was contested. DRARA was very active in this campaign. A public inquiry was held after which the Inspector allowed the application with 17 conditions to be fulfilled.

December **1999**

The preceding application was scaled back to 200 students [application NFZ/00992/99], and Sinnet Court was built on the site of Oriel tennis courts.

July **1993**

Submissions to the Oxford Local Plan inquiry, 1991–2001

1994

Meetings of HTRRA and of Highfield Residents' Association to oppose student accommodation on Warneford Meadow.

16 February 1996

Planning application [96/00244/NF] for a Teaching Nursing Home on Warneford Meadow at Roosevelt Drive by Guideposts Trust Ltd. This application was withdrawn by the applicant on 21/6/96 but subsequently built slightly further west than in the previous plan in order to preserve more of the wild life corridor along Boundary Brook.

Correspondence with Councillor Turner is in the file.

2000–2003

Oxford Local Plan 2001–2016.

February 2001

78 HTR An application [01/00198/*F] for a first floor side extension for student lettings. HTRRA supported a complaint from 72HTR. The extension was built and the house subsequently sold.

2002

Definitive list of footpaths

RELATION BETWEEN HTRRA AND DRARA**1993**

There is some correspondence with DRARA questioning HTR, as a subset of DRARA, having its own residents' association. It was explained that HTR wished to retain its own identity for matters directly affecting this road but residents should also join DRARA for wider issues.

GLS

August 2006