

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of the Parish of Old Marston held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 4 April 2000 at the Mortimer Hall

Members of the Council Present

Mr. C.W. Haynes (Chairman)
Mrs. E.Nurse (Vice-chair)
Mesdames Bradley, Cox, Stone and Tiwari
Messrs Agent, Batey and Taylor
The Clerk Mr. L.M. Garner in attendance
City Councillors Mr. J. Coats and Mr. K Tiwari.
Four electors were also present.

Apology

An apology for absence was received from Mr. Drinkwater.

Eulogy

The Chairman paid tribute to the late Mrs. B. Deam who died on Sunday 2 April 2000 after a short illness. He reminded those present of her contributions to the community, having been a member of this Council for 45 years, a member of the Bullingdon Rural District Council for some 15 years before the transfer of the Parish into the City in 1991 and a Trustee of and a tireless worker for the Oxford Animal Sanctuary. She had also served on the Mortimer Hall Committee. A period of silence was observed in her memory.

Clerk's Service

The Chairman, supported by the those present paid tribute to the Clerk who had completed 40 years service to the Council.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 20 April 1999 were read and signed.

Chairman's Report

This was the first Parish Meeting since the election last May and he welcomed the new members and thanked those who ceased to be members at that time, particularly Mr. Alun Jones whose service had been particularly noteworthy. He then reviewed the items of main interest to the Parish in the past year.

The Council had continued its consultative role in planning matters that had been mainly routine. The exceptions were, although outside the Parish, the Islamic Study Centre in Marston Road that the Council did not support, it having its rear elevation very close to Marston Road and a dome of 25 meters and a tower of 35 meters high. Mr. Coats, who would be present at the Planning Meeting the next day, said he would take these views to that meeting. The other being the massive extension to the Oxford Radcliffe Hospital to accommodate the services being transferred to it from the Radcliffe Infirmary, which would be closed. Completion being planned for 2003. No objections had been made to the proposal but the Council would continue to press for ameliorating traffic measures.

Problems relating to dazzle from the City F.C. floodlights have been resolved. The Club Chairman has admitted instructing the lighting contractors to remove the baffles. The City Council has given instructions for their replacement and told the company to accept no further instructions from the Club.

Problems with the diversion of the footpath to accommodate the Burial Ground extension, that caused delay, had been resolved. During the exceptionally rainy period recently two trial holes had been dug in the wettest area to the east. These had proved to be too wet for burials to take place in those conditions. Further trial holes would be dug to the south. Arrangements had been made to improve the standards of maintenance this year.

CT

A committee had been formed to further the possibility of Lottery funding for a replacement pavilion in Boults Lane. The City Council had been approached to request a further area of land to the east to release space for it.

Finance Report

As the financial year had only just ended the year's accounts had not been prepared but would be published in due course. An outline was presented which was much in accord with budget.

Open Discussion

City Councillor Mr. J.A. Coats outlined the discussions that had taken place between the City Council and the Hospital Trust concerning the level of developer's contribution that should be made towards road and parking infrastructure necessary to cope with changes in traffic flows changed as a result of the development. £300,000 had been offered against the City Council's estimates of £1.6 m. plus a further £400,000 for the Nuffield and Churchill Hospitals. Discussions were continuing.

There was little likelihood of a direct access to the JR2 from the A40, the estimated cost being a questionable £14m.

Ms. Bradley considered that the creation of such a large concentration of facilities in one place was not in the best interests of all concerned.

1 May 2001

R. Mayo /