

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting of the Parish of Old Marston held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 3 May 2005 at the Mortimer Hall

Members Present

Mr. C.W. Haynes Chairman
Mrs. M.C. Stone Vice-chairman
Mesdames. Cox and Tiwari
Messrs Batey, Cann, Cox, Holmes, and Swift
The Clerk Mr. L.M. Garner in attendance
City Councillor Mrs. C. van Zyl
A member of the electorate also attended

Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Mr. Bartleet, Mr. McGinn, Mrs. Nurse and City Councillor Mrs. M. Clarkson

Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held 3 May 2004, confirmed by Council at the May 2004 Council meeting, were read.

Chairman's Report

Planning

There were several applications having a major impact on the Parish, R/o 109 Oxford Road erection of 10 houses was rejected on appeal; Site of 4 Mill Lane two applications for 10 dwellings refused and the demolition of 13 Oxford Road to permit the extension of the flats on the shop site, application pending.

The attempt to bring Building Regulation Controls into the public arena follows the reluctant admission that the City Council is required to secure compliance in all cases of building work. A legal opinion was being sought

Accounts

The Clerk regretted that he had been unable to complete the accounts for the previous year. On money matters the Chairman said the Precept had been maintained at the same level for three years permitting a major effort to upgrade maintenance of Council land and its play equipment. A grant of £10.379 had been received towards this work.

Recreation

Marston Saints had secured its Football Association Charter, a prerequisite for a grant towards a possible new pavilion. A survey of the land drainage at Boults Lane would also be required.

The proposed all weather pitch for community use at St. Nicholas School had stalled.

Highways

The Chairman and Clerk continued to serve on the joint County and City Council's Headington and Marston Area Traffic Area Strategy Group giving direct access to comment on traffic measures in the area required due to the extension of the JR11. Fortunately their voices had been regarded; the metalled footpath from Horseman Close to Elsfield Road on the Councils wish list for twenty plus years had now been constructed, the pedestrian lights at Marsh Lane and Cherwell Drive had also been secured. Another requested scheme had also been agreed, that of traffic calming in Oxford Road and Elsfield Roads. Discussions are already in hand for implementation of the work next year.

An additional lamp has been erected in Ponds Lane subject to a contribution of £500 from the Parish.

Kerbing the Oxford Road verges and resurfacing the footpaths in Oxford Road were agreed last year. Pressure will be applied in the hope of getting the work done this year.

The City Council had agreed to repair the Allotment wall.

Cherwell

Burial Ground

The City Council has agreed to provide maintenance work following the death of Mr. Cooper who had done the work for many years. The small area of paving and fixing the seat has still to be done, a contract having been agreed.

Other Items

Mr. D. Holmes was co-opted to fill the vacancy due to there being one nomination short at the election last year.

Mr. J. McGinn had been co-opted to replace Mr. Cowell who had resigned.

Thanks were due to the two City Councillors who had given immense support to the Council in its dealings with the City Council, to the Parish Councillors for their work for the Council, particularly to those to those who serve the community in so many other ways, and to the Clerk for his continuing efforts.

The Chairman thanked the Members of Council, the Clerk and City Councillors for their help and support over the year.

Open Session

An elector raised the question of the Elsfield Road verges and suggested that the south side should be improved to provide a footpath but it was very narrow at one point whereas the verge on the other side was more open and due to the tlc given by the lady and her husband. They were thanked for their efforts.

6/6/05

Embry