

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Old Marston Parish Council
held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 2 April 2002
at the Mortimer Hall**

Members Present

Mr. C.W. Haynes Chairman
Mrs. C. Stone Vice-chairman
Mesdames Bradley, Cox, Nurse, and Tiwari
Messrs Agent, Cann, Macfarlane and Taylor
The Clerk Mr. L.M. Garner in attendance
City Councillor Mr. J. Coats.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 2 March 2002 were confirmed and signed.

North East Area Committee

Mrs. Stone reported that no further action could be taken to impose parking restraints on contractors working on the White Hart development.
Police attended the meeting and produced crime statistics for the area showing that in Old Marston burglaries had decreased, comparing April 2000 to February 2001 with one year later, by 58% but violent crimes had increased by 73%, all crimes decreased by 1%.
The statement that planning site visits would not generally be held in future was regretted.
Mrs. Stone would identify the source of the statement made that the City Council had made a profit out of the recreation ground maintenance contract.

Code of Conduct

The Clerk's report was considered and questions answered. In order to achieve uniformity within the County to reduce advertisement costs it was necessary to agree to the following resolution:

- (a) In accordance with section 51(1) of the Local Government Act 2000, the Council adopts the Model Code of Conduct set out in the Schedule to the Parish Councils (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2001 without amendment as the Council's Local Code of Conduct with effect from 15 April 2002.
- (b) Every member of the Council shall sign a Declaration of Acceptance of Office incorporating the statutory undertaking to observe the approved Local Code of Conduct and return it to the Clerk by 14 June 2002 at the latest.
- (c) The Clerk shall inform the District Council's Monitoring Officer as follows:
 - (i) that the Council has adopted the Model Code of Conduct as the Council's Local Code with effect from 15 April 2002 within five working days of the meeting approving the resolution set out in paragraph (a) above; and
 - (ii) that each member of the Council has signed and returned to the Clerk the undertaking to observe the Local Code of Conduct by 20 June 2002 at the latest.

Appointment of Architect

Three submissions for the provision of architectural services were received from S. Atkinson V.C. Brown and Chapman Associates. The Atkinson proposal was as based on the construction of a shell plus an additional unspecified sum for completion: because of this vagueness it was not considered further. The remaining two were very comparable. Chapman assessing final costs at 8% of the total contract cost of an indicative £180,000 (£14,400) against a fixed fee of £14,500 from Brown that was favoured. Additionally Brown lived in Horton-cum-Studley and had designed its village hall and been involved in

C.Haynes

obtaining grants and fund raising which experience would be valuable. It was decided that he should be preferred although Brown's charge of £5,150 for the work to the grant of planning consent was £110 more than Chapman's to the same stage.

The Clerk was asked to arrange a meeting with the Marston Saints F.C. on 22 April 2002 to be attended by the Chairman, Vice-chairman, Mr. Taylor and the Clerk with an equal number from the Club to discuss funding of the work to planning consent,

Correspondence

A letter was received concerning the effects of changed wards on elections of City Councillors. In future elections would be held in even numbered years with the result that the Parish Council election due in 2003 would be deferred to 2004, the present members serving until then.

A letter requesting information on the effect of the establishment of area committees on the conduct of local affairs was received. Mrs. Stone would produce material for the Clerk to reply.

Planning

Applications

The following were considered:

12 Salford Road – replacement conservatory – no comment

Park Farm Edgeway Road – Retention of dwelling – no comment

Decisions

The following were reported:

58 Raymund Road – extension – granted

R/o 32 Mill Lane – new house – granted

12 Mortimer Drive – conversion into flats - refused

Other Matters

The Planning Enforcement Officer acknowledged that she was dealing with the unauthorised floodlight and advertisements at the Victoria Arms.

The Clerk was asked to write to the County Council to request that three parking spaces outside the Post Office and shop should be subject to a restriction limiting parking to twenty minutes.

The Clerk had attended a site meeting regarding the provision of a bus stop to serve OXSRAD and had achieved the objective to have a stop at that point.

Accounts

The following accounts were passed for payment

		£
J.C. Engineering	Repairs to Burial Ground Gates	580.00
Newsquest	Notice re architect's appointment	37.01
Court Place Farm Allotment Association	Dealing with fallen tree	50.00

A letter was received from the Audit Commission stating that with immediate effect Messrs. Burnett Swayne would undertake the audit of the Council's accounts. Charter Court, Third Avenue, Southampton. SO15 0AP.

Recreation Ground

Mr. Coats said that he had, almost certainly, secured the transfer to this Council the land it requested adjoining Marsh Lane. He was thanked for his perseverance in this matter.

The Clerk reported that he had spoken, at length, with the Secretary of the Oxford Preservation Trust about the Council's refusal to accept liability for the new fence erected by the OPT, following its refusal of the iron railings, as it would not last long. Within two weeks the fence had been damaged. The Clerk would write yet again.

No reply had been received from the Scouts. As the Scout Association Trust Corporation was the signatory to the original deed the Clerk would write to it.

Chapman

Highways

The Planning Officer had said that the City Council could or would not seek to control the White Hart developer's vehicles. Mr. Coats would endeavour to obtain the developer's co-operation.

A group wished to place a memorial seat on the grass outside the Salford Road shops. The clerk confirmed that the grass area was part of the highway.

Plastic markers had been damaged on the Link Road Corner. The planting of daffodils on the side of the ^{by the track} Marston Ferry Link Road was requested. Overhanging foliage at Walnut Tree House would be reported. The lamp in the garage court at the rear of Mortimer Drive was causing a nuisance. Loose setts on the Arlington Drive and Oxford Road required attention.

Burial Ground

The Clerk would put in train arrangements for building the wall, levelling the soil and setting the grass seed. The price of the grass seed is £78.95 per 25kg bag, it is estimated that 5 bags will be required.

Memorial suppliers to be requested to confirm that the erection of memorials complied with H&SE requirements.

Eulogy

Mr. Coats had said, with considerable regret, that due to the Old Marston and Risinghurst Ward being split into two new wards he would be transferring, subject to election, to another ward. The Chairman thanked him for his monumental support in representing this Parish's interests within the City. Much had been achieved. The members and the Clerk joined in the expressed gratitude and all present wished him well in his career in local politics.

Date of Next Meeting

7 May 2002 following the Parish Meeting.

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