

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Old Marston Parish Council
held at 8.20 pm on Tuesday 1 April 2003
at the Mortimer Hall**

Members Present

Mr. C.W. Haynes Chairman
Mrs. C. Stone Vice-chairman
Mesdames Bradley, Cox, Nurse, and Tiwari
Messrs Agent, Bartleet and Cann.
The Clerk Mr. L.M. Garner in attendance
City Councillors Mrs M. Clarkson and Mr. R. Drake also attended.

Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Messrs. Batey, Macfarlane and Taylor.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 4 March 2003 were confirmed and signed.

North East Area Committee

Mr. Bartleet attended the Planning Meeting and was pleased to report that the applications to turn 2 Nicholas Avenue into flats and to erect a second house at 141 Oxford Road had been refused.

Correspondence

It was decided not to accept the City Council's offer to send area Committee agendas via e-mail, also not to take part in the Oxfordshire County Council survey into County Transport Networks since it did not address urban areas.

No further comments have been received to the request for a new mailbox. Neither can any be expected since the request is not being granted.

No comment was offered to the County Council's proposal to re-ward the City area for County elections.

An invitation was received to attend a City Council Meeting to discuss parish boundaries. The Chairman and Clerk would attend

Planning

Applications

The following were considered:

- 3 Little Acreage – extension to front porch – no comment
- Mortimer Hall – pitched roof and extension – no comment (members of the Mortimer Hall Committee declaring an interest)
- The Link (r/o 46 Mortimer Drive) – two 2b/r flats with parking – against the open plan of the estate, an inappropriate development changing the character of the estate.

Decisions

The following extensions, with appropriate demolitions, have been approved

- 10 Dents Close
- 9 Dents Close
- 5 Boults Close
- 20 Gordon Close
- 41 Elms Drive

Other Matters

A Reply was received relating to the application of Building Regulations indicating that no further action would be taken in respect of past flat conversions. The Clerk was asked to seek confirmation that future flat conversion planning consents would automatically be referred to Building Control to ensure that an application was forthcoming for building regulation compliance.

CM Haynes

As a result of pressure being applied a 'phone call from Banner Homes had been received agreeing that the White Hart development would be marketed under White Hart and that "Place" would be dropped. No change had been made on site. No reply, in spite of two reminders, had been received to the request of 28 November 2002 for a copy of the Section 106 agreement. The Clerk would write again with copies to the Chief Executive and the Lord Mayor.

Accounts

The following accounts were passed for payment:

		£
D.L. Ward	Removing tree (paid between meetings)	170.00
Thames Water	Burial ground supply (paid between meetings)	1110.37
St. Nicholas First School	S.137, Two computer printers	145.00
HLB AV Audit plc	Audit Fee	293.75

The auditor's report commented only on the incomplete minute confirming the year's accounts.

Members were reminded that they could reclaim travel and subsistence costs incurred outside the Parish on Parish Council approved business.

Recreation Ground

The Clerk was instructed to prepare the Scout lease.

The quotation from Mr. P. Steedman for painting 4 sets of swings, 2 benches and one roundabout was accepted in the sum of £675.

The Clerk to write again to the Marston Saints F.C, and the City Council to get the area round the pavilion cleared of rubbish

A letter was received from the Oxford Preservation Trust agreeing to pay one half of the cost of the front fence of £1788 plus installation for which quotes would be obtained. A plan of the site showing the fences to be maintained and the rough area left in that condition would be requested.

Highways

The Clerk was asked to report, to the Lighting Dept., damage to the subway lights and a bollard in it, missing bollards on the Marston Ferry Road cycle track and the poor condition of the path access from The Link to the Mortimer Drive garages.

It was decided to support OXSRAD's request for a lockable gate to stop joyriders using the site.

Burial Ground

Burial fees were considered in the light of the recent increase in the City's charges. It was decided that no change be made.

From correspondence from the OALC it appeared that no guidance had yet been agreed as to a suitable memorial fixing regime. It was decided to continue the present policy of requiring the system advised by the National Association of Memorial Masons.

Due to the wife of a deceased being cremated it is probable that the ashes would be interred in the husband's grave. As two plots were purchased one might be not required. It was decided that if that be so the spare plot be re-purchased at the original purchase price of £20.

It was agreed that the purchaser of Plots C17 & 18 should be permitted to change to plots F15 & 16

Date of Next Meeting

6 May 2003

CM Byrne

6 May 2003