

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Old Marston Parish Council  
held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 1997  
at the Mortimer Hall**

**Members Present**

Mr A T Jones (Chairman)  
Mr C W Haynes (Vice-chairman)  
Mesdames Deam, Nurse, Stone & Tiwari  
Messrs Bartleet, Drinkwater & Phipps  
The Clerk Mr L M Garner was in attendance  
Four members of the public were also present

**Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs Cox and Mrs Sanders

**Police**

P.C.s Atkins and Sanders attended and introduced S.C. Alan Dolton who would be serving in the locality. There were no serious matters to report although syringes had been found on the recreation ground. Vandalism in the sub-way had continued and they commented on the success of murals painted in a sub-way at North Hinksey. The Clerk would endeavour to obtain details of the artist. The Police left the meeting.

**Mill Lane Site**

In view of the allegations of dishonesty and misrepresentation, which had been made, it was resolved that this subject should be discussed in Committee. The appropriate resolution was passed and the public left the meeting. The Clerk gave a full report of the events leading up to the grant of Conditional Planning Consent on the 3<sup>rd</sup> February 1997. During the planning meeting a member alleged that the allotments had been deliberately run down to make the planning application possible. The Committee confirmed that this was not so. It was also said, in correspondence, that the Clerk had deliberately put people off when applying for plots. Again this was not so and the Committee passed a resolution of confidence in the Clerk.

A letter of interest in the purchase of the site was received from a private company who wished to ".....to provide a respected addition to healthcare in the Parish." The Clerk was asked to obtain further details.

The Clerk was instructed to investigate the conditions imposed by the Planning Authority and to report back to the Council in due course. This was approved.

At approximately 8.45p.m. the Council meeting resumed. The above resolutions were confirmed by Council. Mr Bartleet abstaining.

The Clerk reported on the methods adopted in carrying out the recent poll in the Parish. This showed 80% in favour of the sale and development, 15% against and 5% expressing no opinion. Ninety three properties had been surveyed. Within the Mill Lane area thirteen properties had been surveyed, 77% voting in favour. The Clerk said he would retain the details for inspection, if needed. The Council accepted the result.

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### Matters arising

Mr Bartleet reported that the ramps, caused by subsidence at the fly-over bridge were expected to be repaired shortly. He also said that Highway repairs were scheduled to be carried out in the Parish.

### Correspondence

The following were noted;

- Winged Fellowship Trust- Request for donation
- Oxfordshire County Council- Conservation Area Awards
- Environment Agency- Thames and Ock survey
- Oxfordshire County Council- Revised bus timetables
- Oxford City Council- Members' Information sheets
- Oxfordshire County Council- Availability of Oxcis Information on ROM disc
- Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils- Bi-monthly circular

A letter of resignation was received from Mr H.Devonport. This was accepted with regret and the Clerk was asked to contact him to discuss the future and to express the Council's appreciation for his service.

A casual vacancy was therefore declared which would be filled by co-option at a later meeting in the absence of a poll.

### Planning

#### Applications

The following applications were considered;

- 23, Fairfax Avenue- Extension - Approved
- Croft Road recreation ground- Multi-sports area- No comment.  
(This property is outside the Parish)

#### Decisions

The following were reported;

- 18, Lewell Avenue- Conversion to two flats- Approved
- Mortimer Hall- Wall up door- Approved

### Green Belt

A reply was received from the Department of the Environment to the request for information as to the methods available to object to the City Councils' proposal to ignore the Planning Inspector's recommendation that the land adjoining Marsh Lane should be designated Green Belt. The procedure is for the City council to publish its intention whereupon any objectors have six weeks in which to make a formal objection. The subject and any objections would then be considered by the Secretary of State who would then make a final decision. Objections to the City Council's proposals had already been received.

### Accounts

The following accounts were passed for payment;

Public Works Loan Board- Loan repayment-	£320.52
R & M Pest control- Moles	£25.00
John Phillips Planning Consultancy- Fees	£664.13

### Allotments

As development of the Mill Lane site was unlikely before the autumn it was decided to permit

the present occupiers to work their plots until September without creating a further letting.

#### **Recreation ground**

The Clerk was asked to have the roundabout and car park surface repaired.

A letter was received from Marston saints F.C. raising a number of issues. It had been noted that the new lighting posts had been erected on the line of the fence. As a result it was not possible to replace the broken fencing rails. It was decided that the Club should be required to insert new fencing posts either side of each lamp post and to replace the rails on the original line.

The Club requested consent to extend the licensing hours. It was decided that consent would not be granted.

It was accepted that the standard of the building was not good enough to build a new shower block adjoining. As there was no money available in the 1997/8 budget to assist the Club, also in the light of funds possibly becoming available from the Allotment land sale the Club would be asked to put this project on hold. With regard to car parking, this could be greatly improved if club cars parked on the parking area rather than on the Allotment access road. Syringes on the site had been reported to the Police.

A formal quotation in the sum of £48.50 for the replacement tree was noted.

The City Works quoted £1588.21 for the Recreation Ground maintenance works for 1997/8. It was decided that this should be accepted.

#### **Highways**

It was noted that the City Football Club lights in Marsh Lane no longer interfered with traffic using the fly-over bridge but they were now directed towards traffic approaching from Elsfeld Road. The Clerk was asked to draw this to the attention of the appropriate authorities. It was also decided to ask for cat's eyes at the fly-over.

#### **Burial Ground**

A Deed of grant in favour of Mrs Golden was signed, the appropriate fees having been paid.

#### **Annual Parish Meeting**

It was decided that this should be held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> April at 7.30p.m. in the Mortimer Hall. The April Parish Council meeting would follow.

### **NOTICE**

**A casual vacancy is declared**

*to be held 9/7*

*Alun T. Jones*