

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Old Marston Parish Council
held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 2nd February 1999
at the Mortimer Hall**

Members Present

Mr A T Jones (Chairman)
Mr C W Haynes (Vice-chairman)
Mesdames Cowell, Deam, Nurse, Stone & Tiwari
Messrs Batey, Bartleet & Phipps
The Clerk Mr L M Garner was in attendance
The City Councillors were not present

Apologies

An apology for absence was received from Mrs Cox.

Minutes

The Minutes of the meeting held on the 5th January were amended and signed

Correspondence

The following were noted;

Oxfordshire Rural Community Council- Invitation to enter Best Kept Village Competition-
Accepted

Mr A. Smith M.P.- Stating that there had been no change in the planning of gypsy sites. The
newspaper wrongly presenting that existing legislation was new

St. Nicholas Baby & Toddler Group- Letter of thanks

NALC- Dismissal of Chief Executive because of irregularities

Commercial approach for the supply of Millennium Commemorative mugs- Referred to the
Millennium Committee

OALC- Bi-monthly circular

Other items tabled.

Planning

Applications

The following were considered;

Royal Mail- Erection of boxes to accept mail awaiting delivery at the junctions of Oxford
Road/ Rippington Drive and Horseman Close/ Clays Close. Also at
Cumberledge Close- No comment

68, Oxford Road- Extension- No comment

Decisions

The following were reported;

2, Barns Hay- Extensions- Approved

132, Arlington Drive- Pitched roofs to extensions- Approved

23, Rippington Drive- Extension- Approved

Cedar Cottage- Extension etc.- Approved

Adjoining Southcroft, Elsfield Road- Erection of house- Approved

The Inspector's report was received into the refusal of Planning consent for the
development of land at Colthorns Farm. The Inspector referred to the adverse effect on the
Conservation Area and the precedent created relating to other vacant adjoining land.

The advertising sign at 87, Cherwell Drive had been removed

Other Matters

Consideration was given to a site for recycling refuse. No suitable site within the
Conservation Area could be found. The Clerk would enquire whether the separate collection of
recyclable items could be extended to the Parish.

A.T.J

Accounts

The following accounts were passed for payment;	
Public Works loans Board- Loan repayment	£320.52
L M Garner- Reimbursement of costs of plans for Burial Ground extension	£19.35
R.Phipps- Reimbursement of preservative for new seat	£10.00
Oxfordshire Rural Community Council- Best Kept Village Competition entry	£12.00

The Clerk was asked to produce a monthly statement of income and expenditure.

Audit Report

The Clerk reported that he had met the Auditor who had requested that Annual Accounts should, in future, be prepared on an excluding VAT basis. No adverse comment was otherwise made to the accounts for the year 1997/8.

The Auditor had however requested a reaffirmation of the continuing practise of 50% of the Clerk's remuneration being regarded as a payment to him for the use of his house from which to conduct the Parish affairs, for the storage of records and as a place at which members of the public obtain reference and advice relating to the parish records. The previous minute was dated 2nd April 1991. This was agreed.

Subway

The Clerk had obtained details of TOR coatings and would arrange for an advertisement for an artist to be placed in the March edition of Artweek.

Recreation Ground

A quotation for the supply of the new rubbish bin for £188 was received but not accepted. The Clerk would seek a cheaper quotation.

Details of a contact with experience of a Lottery Fund application had been given to the Chairman of Marston Saints F.C.

Highways

Mr Bartleet reported that the proposed de-trunking of the A40 northern by-pass was proceeding slowly because of delays in redesigning the Marsh Lane junction and the strengthening of the bridge.

Attention was drawn to renewed pressure for a Park and Ride to serve the John Radcliffe Hospital. Mr Bartleet said that a Transport Strategy Officer had been appointed by the Hospital Trust. The Clerk's offer to arrange a meeting with him was accepted. Mrs Nurse and Mr Bartleet would accompany him to discuss the effect on the Parish of the current proposals. Mrs Nurse drew attention to the lack of co-ordination of the morning bus service from Cherwell Drive to the John Radcliffe site. The Clerk would write to the two companies concerned with a copy to the County Transport Officer.

The Clerk reported that trees, mainly dead elms, were intertwined with the Burial Ground fence or standing on the line of the public footpath to the west of the Burial Ground. He was instructed to have them removed.

Burial Ground

The Clerk drew attention to the possibility of making Deeds of Grant in perpetuity which apply to the existing Burial Ground, becoming limited to say seventy-five years in the extension. It was decided that this should not be done.

A Mr G. Peacock wished to erect a memorial to his Aunt, buried in the Child's section, who died in 1939 aged 8 months. The last burial took place in 1951 and no plans of this site were passed to the Clerk on his appointment. He could not therefore mark the grave with certainty. It was decided to permit the memorial to be erected in the most probable place.

A.T.J

Millennium Committee

Mrs Cowell reported that she had attended a meeting of the Committee which had decided that the celebrations should be held between the 17th and 25th June 2000. No events had been decided. It was being considered whether a larger area than the Parish should be included. Members were asked to bring ideas for events to the next meeting.

Parish Meeting

In view of the forthcoming elections it was decided that the Annual Parish Meeting should be held on the 20th April 1999, followed by the Council Meeting.

Other Matters

The Chairman agreed to attend the meeting of Parish Representatives with City Council on 17th February 1999.

Attention was drawn to the proposed levy of £90 per year food store, to fund the balance of costs of establishing a Food Standards Agency, which would bear unfairly on local shops. It was decided that no action should be taken

There will be no meeting of the Parish Council on 6th April 1999.

Alun T. Jones