

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Old Marston Parish Council
held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 6th January 1998
at the Mortimer Hall**

Members Present

Mr A T Jones (Chairman)
Mr C W Haynes (Vice-chairman)
Mesdames Cowell, Cox, Deam, Nurse, Stone & Tiwari who arrived later
Messrs Carrington, Drinkwater & Phipps

The Clerk Mr L M Garner was in attendance

Minutes

The Clerk was requested to amend the Minutes of the 2nd December 1997 relating to the arrangements for flailing the vacant land.

Mr Carrington said that he was unhappy about the arrangements and handed a letter of resignation to the Chairman who expressed his regret and thanked Mr Carrington for his past service. Mr Carrington left the meeting.

A casual vacancy was declared. The Clerk would make the necessary arrangements.

Correspondence

The following items were noted;

Oxford Green Belt Network- Inaugural meeting in April

Oxfordshire County Council- Introduction of 30mph speed limits in Villages

Oxfordshire County Council- Reductions in Highway maintenance

Oxfordshire County Council- Information on speed cameras

Oxford City Council- Revised car park charges

Oxford City Council- Members' Information sheets

Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils- Bi-monthly circular & notice of meeting

The Vicar- Invitation to attend a meeting to plan Millennium celebrations. Mr Haynes agreed to attend

Oxford Preservation Trust- Difficulties in obtaining removal of rubbish from site off Marston Ferry Road.

Marston Times

The Clerk indicated areas where copy submitted had been amended, resulting in inaccurate information, without comment prior to publication. He was asked to write appropriately to the Editor.

Land Registration

No further quotations had been received for the legal work requires and it was decided that Mr Wheeler's quotation of £200 plus VAT and registration fees should be accepted.

Planning

Applications

The following application was considered;

4, Boults Close- Conservatory- No comment

Decisions

The following were reported;

9, Fane Road- Extension- Approved

*and the handing of resignation to the Clerk
he said he was unhappy about the arrangements + resigned
of the planning committee*

The Red Lion- Signs and Lights- Approved
Bradlands- New Warden's office- Approved

Mill Lane site

The Clerk explained the circumstances under which a letter had been written and delivered to the Planning office on the 28th November and not brought to the 2nd December meeting for which he apologised. *and discussed with the Clerk*

It was noted that at a City Planning meeting on the 10th December the conditional planning consent granted in January 1997 had been recinded. Any appeal would have to be submitted within six months.

Formal notice of the decision had been received just before the meeting but there had been no opportunity to consider the details before the meeting. The Clerk would make enquiries as to the Council's rights to compensation and would report in due course.

A letter from Mr Cowell was left on the table.

Accounts

The following accounts were passed for payment:

R & M Pest Control- Moles	£25.00
Thames Water- Allotments	£11.98
G.Newsham- Wooden seats to carousel	£376.00
I. M Garner- Reimbursement for new account book	£13.45

Notice of Audit commencing on 28th February 1998 was received.

Estimates

A projection of the position of the accounts at 31st March 1998 and a schedule of usual revenue expenditure of £10,640 for 1998/9 were received and accepted.

The following bids for other items in 1998/9 were approved.

Village Hall Management Committee-Approximately £2,500	
for replacement windows expected to repay £1,000 (VAT excluded)	£1,500
New seat-Mortimer Hall recreation ground	£400
Painting swings	£200
Painting Sub-way	£1,000
Burial Ground extension (Advance provision)	£2,500
Mortimer Hall Play Group- Grant	£200

It was therefore decided that a precept of £16,500 should be made.

Repairs to the footpath from Boulds Lane to Jessops Close would be costed and, if necessary, be met from contingencies.

The following were considered and not approved;

Safety surface to swings, resurfacing footpath No.5, improvements to shower and toilets at Boulds Lane and extension of speed limit in Elsfeld Road. An application for a grant towards a safety surface to the adventure playground at St.Nicholas School was deferred pending submission of accounts.

A review of burial charges was deferred to the next meeting.

Highways

A quotation for a mural in the sum of £4,500 approx. was received but not accepted. The Clerk was asked to write to the City Engineer to draw attention to damage to the garage access r/o Jessops Close.

It was noted that Footpath No.5 from Elsfield Road to the Allotments had been fenced on the west side. The fence was slightly incorrectly sited. The Clerk was asked to write to the City Engineer to draw attention to this and to the stile required at the corner of the Burial Ground.

The City Council asked for the Parish Council's views on the location of cycle racks at Cherwell Drive. It was decided to recommend that they be placed on the verge opposite the newsagents and grocery shops.

Mr Yeoward said that he was still pressing for baffles to be fitted to the City F.C. lights

Mortimer Hall

The Village Hall Management Committee requested that the existing lease be surrendered in exchange for a new lease for thirty years. This would assist the Committee in obtaining grants and support from outside bodies. The principle was agreed and would be subject to negotiations and consent of a Parish Meeting.

John T. Jones

2nd February 1998

OLD MARSTON PARISH COUNCIL

ESTIMATES FOR 1998/9	£	£
Current year income to date		16520
expenditure "	12880	
Commitments to 31 March 1998		
Loan repayment	320	
Recreation ground Mtce.	660	
Salary & expenses	1000	
Hedging etc. contracts	1880	
Seat repair (rec.)	375	
Audit fee	250	
Allotment water	30	
Misc.	<u>50</u>	<u>17445</u>
Estimated deficiency at 31 March 1998		925 <i>ca</i>
VAT recoverable after year end	600	
Balance of Village Hall Loan	<u>100</u>	<u>700</u>
Deficiency on year's working		<u>£ 225</u>
Revenue requirements 1998/9		
Recreation ground maintenance	1600	
Moles	100	
Pavillion alarm	60	
Loan repayment	640	
Burial ground rates	80	
" " maintenance	500	
Allotment water	100	
" maintenance	500	
Salary and expenses	4500	
Insurance	360	
Donations	450	
Contingences	1000	
OALC subscription	350	
Land registration	<u>400</u>	
	<u>£ 10640</u>	

Requests for grants have been received from the Mortimer Hall Playgroup £200 due to falling birth rate and the school taking children at a younger age depleting numbers and income and from St. Nicholas School for help towards the costs of a safety surface to the adventure play area.

Other items recalled

- Improvements to toilets and showers Boults Lane
- New seat at Mortimer Hall Rec. 2400
- Painting Swings (not done last year 2200
- Costs of extending Burial Ground
- Subway Mural
- Safety surfaces to swings
- Extension of speed limit Elsfieled Road