

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Old Marston Parish Council
Held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 4 January 2000
at the Mortimer Hall**

Members Present

Mr. C.W. Haynes (Chairman)
Mrs. E.Nurse (Vice-chair)
Mesdames Bradley and Tiwari
Messrs Agent, Bartleet, Batey, Drinkwater and Taylor
The Clerk Mr. L.M. Garner in attendance
City Councillor Mr. Coats. Mr. Tiwari joined the Meeting later.

Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Mesdames Cox, Deam and Stone.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 7 December 1999 were confirmed and signed.

Matters Arising

The Clerk said that it was probable that representatives of the City and County Councils would attend the next meeting to discuss highway matters.

Correspondence

Items of minor importance were tabled.

Planning

Applications

The following were considered: -

- 61 Rippington Drive – side and rear extension – no comment.
- 5 Fairfax Avenue – conversion of house into 3 flats. The strongest possible objection to this proposal which was out of character with the use of adjoining properties. The car parking arrangements would present a degrading appearance to the locality, No provision had been made for visitor's parking, again to the detriment of nearby residents. Additionally it was not possible to ensure that each flat would not have more than one car.
- 6 Haynes Road – plans not received.

Other Matters

Mr Coats told Members that the planning application in respect of the extension to the Radcliffe Hospital had been processed and discussions on traffic arrangements would commence, but as part of the Headington Transport Strategy. The Clerk would attempt to secure direct representation on this important matter.

Accounts

The following accounts were passed for payment: -

		£
Mortimer Hall Playgroup	S.137 Grant	200.00
St. Nicholas PCC	S.137 Grant for Marston Times	200.00
MP Security	Repair to Boults Lane Pavilion alarm	74.03
L.M. Garner	Reimbursement for stationery	37.48

Estimates and Precept

The Clerk's report was considered and the figures quoted accepted. The following additions were made: -

- A grant to St. Nicholas School towards the cost of the safety surface to the Nursery Play equipment £500.

For other grants £1000

For the provision of seats at bus stops £1000

For each of the Oxford Road and Mill Lane recreation areas £5000 for new equipment. It was accepted that these sums would purchase little equipment and that further funds would probably be needed in future years.

The Chairman was authorised to sign a Precept to give effect to these decisions.

Recreation Ground

The Clerk said that he would investigate the possibility of repairing the Oxford Road site swings.

In view of the slow progress made by the solicitor the Clerk was authorised to prepare and sign an application to the Charity Commissioners to ask them to prepare a Scheme which, when passed, would give its permission for the new lease to be granted.

Quotations were received from Michael Wood Tree Services and Mr. D. Ward for the work specified. The Chairman and Clerk were authorised to accept the most suitable quotation.

Highways

In response to Mrs. Tiwari's request that seats should be provided at bus stops Mr. Tiwari's suggestion that sponsorship should be sought from The Rover Group was accepted.

Mr. Bartleet said that the Government's Standard Spending Assessment of need for highway repairs was expected to rise, above inflation, for the next three years. This should result in more repairs being possible in the future.

A meeting to settle the problem of dazzle from Oxford City F.C's. floodlights was still awaited.

A reply was received from the City Council stating that the right of way to the City at the end of Edgeway and Ferry Roads was classified as a footpath and maintained as such. No work was currently planned. In view of the pressure to make cycling attractive it was essential that this path should be upgraded and the Clerk was asked to write to the City and County Councils to reinforce this point

A reply was received from the County Lighting Engineer confirming that the Conservation Area lights would be corrected to mercury lamps where necessary.

Burial Ground

The Clerk was authorised to implement the revised conditions.

In view of the impending extension it was considered inappropriate to change the current maintenance arrangements for this year, subject to reasonable standards being achieved.

The Chairman and Clerk were asked to discuss this with Mr. Cooper.

Any Other Business

It was decided to accept Mr. D. Ward's offer to rent the small paddock for £156 per year for horses. The Clerk said that offers would normally be invited but in view of the continuing risk of invasion by travellers to have the tenant living so close by would give valuable security and recommended acceptance. This was agreed subject to a written agreement.

The Clerk was asked to write to the Post Office about there being little or no mail delivered in the village area on Christmas Eve and the problems caused by collections of mail not taking place.

It was decided that the Annual Parish Meeting should be held in the Mortimer Hall at 7.30 p.m. on Tuesday 4 April 2000, to be followed by the Council Meeting.

Small paddock Mill Lane

1/2/00

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Elsfield Road Burial Ground

The operation of this Burial Ground is subject to the following conditions

1. Burials are at the discretion of the Council, available only in respect of those born in the Parish, those who were normally resident in the Parish at the time of death and to those who moved out of the Parish within five years prior to their death due to medical or care needs.

2. Burials are subject to the payment of fees determined by the Council from time to time, currently:

Interment, including plot purchase	£250
Advance plot purchase	£125
Subsequent interment	£125

The above fees are doubled in respect of those normally resident outside the Parish at the time of death.

The above fees are reduced by one half in respect of the burial of a person under the age of 18 years at the time of death.

3. The interment of ashes is only permitted in a grave in which an interment has already taken place.

The fee for the interment of ashes is £50

4. Memorials may be erected subject to the Council's prior written approval, normally arranged by the mason. Any erected without prior approval may be removed without notice. Mounds and other obstructions to mowing are not permitted except as follows. Memorials are restricted to headstones, with or without an integral vase, not exceeding 0.75 meters in height. Memorial fees are:

For a headstone with the first inscription	£35
For each subsequent inscription	£15

Subject to approval, as above, a grave may be marked by a tablet with inscription, not exceeding 300mm square, incorporating a vase or not or a vase may be placed on a grave level with the surrounding soil. There is no charge in either case.

Those tending graves are requested to take their rubbish away from the site.

Enquiries relating to the Burial Ground should be addressed to:
The Clerk to the Old Marston Parish Council, 31, Oxford Road.
Old Marston, Oxford. OX3 0PQ. Telephone Oxford 241888

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Budget 2000-2001

	£
Routine expenditure 2000-2001 expected	14000
Contingences	1500
Burial Ground Extension Landscaping	2000
Notice Board	550
Grant to St. Nicholas School towards new play safety surface	500
Other grants	1000
Oxford Road Recreation Ground-New play equipment	5000
Mill Lane Recreation Ground-New play equipment	5000
Boults Lane Recreation Ground-Broken drain and covers	300
Provision of seats at bus stops	<u>1000</u>
	30850
Less expected underspend at 31 March 2000 - say	<u>1850</u>
Precept Required 2000-2001	<u>£29,000</u>

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ESTIMATES 2000-2001

	£	£
Income to 31 December 1999		25760
Expenditure to 31 December 1999		<u>15014</u>
Unspent at 31 December 1999		10746
Expenditure to March 2000		
Admin. maintenance etc.	2100	
Recreation Ground maintenance	800	
Grants	500	
Painting swings-not yet ordered	200	
Allotment Gates	600	
Provision-Burial Ground	2000	
Hedge Cutting-Allotments	180	
Hedge Cutting-Recreation Grounds (Provision £750)	1800	
Erection of Memorial Seat & New Bin	160	
New swing seat	200	
Land Registration costs	<u>300</u>	<u>8840</u>
Balance of year's finances		1906

Routine expenditure 2000-2001 expected	14000	
Contingences	1500	
Further items for consideration : -		
Burial Ground Extension Landscaping	2000	
Notice Board	550	
Grants		
Mill Lane Recreation Ground		
Boults Lane Recreation Ground-Broken drain and covers	300	
Precept Required 2000-2001		