

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Old Marston Parish Council
held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 4 January 2005
at the Mortimer Hall**

Members Present

Mr. C.W. Haynes Chairman
Mesdames Cox and Tiwari
Messrs Batey, Cann, Cox, McGinn, Holmes and Swift
Mr. D.S, Manson. Auditor
The Clerk Mr. L.M. Garner in attendance
City Councillor Mrs. C. E. van Zyl

Eulogy

A tribute of silence was accorded to those affected by the T'sunami

Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. Stone, Mr. Bartleet and City Councillor Mrs. M. Clarkson.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 7 December 2004 were confirmed and signed.

Correspondence

A letter was received from the Rt. Hon. Andrew Smith MP agreeing to attend the March Meeting, subject to the exigencies of Parliament. It was decided that, should the attendance be confirmed, the meeting would commence at 7 p.m.. Mrs. Clarkson was thanked for achieving the service

Between meetings the Chairman supported the City Council's recommendation that there should be a "Saturation Zone" incorporating the City central area that would, under the new licensing laws, render further applications for Liquor Retail Licenses in that area null and void

Matters Arising

It had been realised that a Sunday 13 bus service operated over the Christmas Bank Holidays would deprive Mill Lane of any service. Mrs. Clarkson had discussed the matter with the Bus Company that agreed to operate a limited service on those days. The Clerk had placed posters in the Mill Lane bus shelter and the notice board.

Community Wardens

Mr. Batey reported on the completion of a questionnaire following a meeting of Parish and City Council representatives to discuss the proposed Street Wardens scheme. Anti-social behaviour in the Parish could be addressed by such a scheme which combined with community development could enhance the quality of life in the areas serviced. Marston was not on the list but the plea had been made for it to be included. Enforcement powers and on the spot fines should be considered if experience showed that they were necessary. Wardens should cover the period before schools commenced until about 6p.m. Police Community Safety Officers should cover the City centre area where problems could be larger in scale or more serious in nature. The City Council would take the opinions expressed in arriving at its policy.

Correspondence

The bi-monthly OALC Circular was noted, particularly the announcement that parish councils could have a gov.uk domain web site

North East Area Committee

No matters to report

Planning

Applications

36 Elms Drive - large rear extension - no comment
49 Oxford Road - refusal of consent for rear dormer - gone to appeal

Handwritten signature

Decision

Cross Farm 2 Oxford Road – alterations to gable end – approved

12 Southcroft – fence – approved

5 Nicholas Avenue – conversion into flats – refused on appeal. The Inspector, in response to this Council's comments said "... sound insulation,... conditions could control these if permission were granted."

In view of the Planning Officer's comments, that it was not possible, the Clerk would write to the Inspector for clarification.

Other Matters

A further instance of applications not conforming to the City's requirements had come to attention. The Clerk was asked to write again.

Accounts

The following accounts were passed for payment:

		£
Thames Water	Burial Ground	5.31
Various	S.137 Grants	1,386.00

Precept

The Clerk presented his estimates for the expenditure to 31 March 2005 against the year's income and expected that there would be a surplus of c. £10,000 to add to balances that could contribute to the cost of a new pavilion, should the decision be taken in due course. It was decided that the Precept should remain at the same level as last year at £33,600.

Recreation Ground

It was agreed that Marston Saints Football Club should convene a meeting of the joint committee to review the position following the Club attaining its Football Association Charter. That would unlock Lottery funding via the Football Association.

The Clerk drew attention to the fact that outline planning permission for the pavilion would expire on 18 June 2005 if not renewed. The Clerk would request an extension

The Land Registry had acknowledged the Council's claim for ownership of the strip of land in its occupation but not previously entered in its Title. The Scout's solicitor had been informed and it is expected that the lease can be completed

Highways

A letter was received from the County Council confirming that the Toucan Crossing and metalling of the footpath, in Marsh Lane, between Horseman Close and Elsfield Road would be provided this year

The Clerk had arranged a site meeting with the City Assistant Highway Manager and the Technical Support Manager to consider the appalling condition of the Oxford Road footpaths, kerbs and overhanging vegetation. It now appears that the kerbing and footpath improvements agreed two years ago, and awarded Priority 1 in both years, only meant that they had been added to the priority list to compete with other schemes of which only those of real urgency, e.g. where safety was compromised, would take priority.

Burial Ground

A further invitation to tender for maintenance work had been sent

Other Items

It was decided to "sound out", via the Marston Times, whether there was sufficient enthusiasm for the Parish to become twinned with a town or village badly affected by the T'sunami. The Chairman agreed to collate expressions of interest. It would be an informal arrangement since the Parish Council could not fund it.

The Chairman was reappointed as the Council's representative on the Mortimer Hall Management Committee

Date of next Meetings

1 February 2005, Annual Parish Meeting 3 May 2005

Chapman

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**Minutes of a Meeting of the Old Marston Parish Council
held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 31 January 2005
at the Mortimer Hall**

Members Present

Mr. C.W. Haynes Chairman
Mesdames Cox and Nurse
Messrs Bartleet, Cox, and Swift
The Clerk Mr. L.M. Garner in attendance
City Councillor Mrs. M. Clarkson

Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. M.C. Stone Vice-chairman, Mrs. Tiwari, Messrs Batey, Cann, Holmes, McGinn and City Councillor Mrs. C. vanZyl.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 4 January 2005 were confirmed and signed.

Matters Arising

The Meeting was, due to the main hall being used, held in the Back Room. This was considered more suitable and it was decided to use that room in future. The Chairman would make the arrangements
Confirmation was received from the Manager of The Harlow Centre confirming that there were no non-educational activities being conducted at the Centre
The Chairman undertook to ask, at the next HAMATS Meeting, for the reinstatement of a direct bus service between Mill Lane and the JR11 also to raise again the request for a 20mph speed limit in Oxford Road north of Cherwell Drive

North East Area Committee

There were no matters to report

Contracts

The response to the documents circulated was disappointing. A further report would be presented to the next meeting

Correspondence

The South East England Regional Assembly announced consultations on the SE Region Development Plan. A copy was received
A letter was received from the DPM Office stating that the Clerk was the nominated officer for the purposes of the Freedom of Information Act.

Planning

Applications

The following were considered, and no comment made:

- 22 Ashlong Road – rear dormer
- 25 Horseman Close – single storey rear extension
- 20 Cavendish Drive – conservatory

It was decided to oppose the proposed erection of additional antennae at the Marston Ferry Road Mast

Decisions

None reported:

Other Matters

The Council has continued to press for Building Regulations to be enforced by the City Council when houses are converted into flats. The City Council has not accepted that it is its responsibility. The Clerk had obtained further information that seemed to confirm that it was the City Council's responsibility. He had written accordingly to the Planning Office, a reply was awaited.

M.C. Stone
11/3/05

Accounts

The following account was passed for payment
R&M Pest Control - Moles - £105.00

The Clerk would press for the promised City Council Grant of £10,379.00 to be paid.

Joint Meeting with Marston Saints F.C.

It was agreed that the preliminary steps towards the new pavilion should be taken:

- The Council would retain ownership of the building and reserve occasional use
- Produce a draft licence giving effect to the above, detailing respective responsibilities
- Renew the planning outline consent
- Investigate the effectiveness of the land drainage
- The Club would get the FA's requirements for a building to be eligible for grant
- Remain, as now, serving the locality and children
- Consider fund raising towards the capital cost against an initial period of use being granted
- Interest in acquiring additional land adj. Marsh Lane had been abandoned

Recreation Ground

The Clerk had arranged with Mr. Ward to have the remains of a tree overhanging School Lane to be removed. It was dead and a branch had dropped off.

The proposed all weather pitch at St. Nicholas School is now expected to be scaled down because grant funding was being cut back.

It was decided to submit to the County Council the formal papers claiming public rights of way across the allotments

Highways

Members were pleased to note the improvement to the Oxford Road footpaths secured by the Chairman and Clerk at a meeting with highway staff the Clerk would write in gratitude

The Oxford Road sign at Cherwell Drive was in need of repair

The new lighting standard in Ponds Lane had not been lit.

Date of Next Meeting

1 March 2005. Note time 7p.m.

M. Christine Stone
1/3/05