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

Members Present

Mr. C.W. Haynes (Chairman)
Mrs. C. Stone (Vice-chairman)
Mesdames Bradley, Cox, Nurse, Stone and Tiwari
Messrs Agent, Batey, Drinkwater and Taylor
The Clerk Mr. L.M. Garner in attendance

Apologies

An apology for absence was received from City Councillor J. Coats.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 June 2000 were confirmed and signed.

Matters Arising

Members were requested that matters raised under this heading should not include those for which there was an agenda item.

Correspondence

The following were noted:

National Association of Local Councils – Bi-monthly circular with notice of the AGM on 10 July 2000. It was suggested that the Council should be represented but no volunteer came forward

The annual review of Clerk's salaries was deferred.

Other items were tabled.

Planning

Applications

The following were considered: -

41 Oxford Road – Conservatory – No comment.

27 Elms Drive – Extension – plans not received, Chairman to act.

Decisions

The following were reported –

5 Ashlong Road – Extension – Approved

Bricklayers Arms – Play area – Approved

2 Boults Lane – Extension – Approved

11 Beechey Avenue – Extension - Approved

A Planning Application had been submitted for the construction of a private hospital, residential and recreational buildings on the Manor Ground Site. As any development and particularly one of this type and scale on this site would be bound to have a considerable impact on the limited roads serving the area, particularly those in this Parish, it was decided to recommend to the Planning Committee that the application should be refused to gain time in which to quantify the probably unacceptable impact on traffic in this Parish and the Headington Area Transport Strategy.

Other Matters

Mr Aylmer had confirmed that the omission of some properties that should have been notified by the Planning Authority in respect of a planning application for a nearby property was an error in the office.

The Chairman agreed to attend the City Conservation Area Committee as Mrs. Stone was not available that day. This was an important opportunity to raise the matter of the Traveller's Site in Marsh Lane as it is in the Conservation Area.

W.G.

The Clerk was asked to write to The Rt. Hon. A Smith on the subject.

Traveller's Site

Mr. Coats, when apologising for not attending the Meeting, said that the City Council had not made a choice of sites, at the last Civic and Properties Committee meeting, but had dropped the Risinghurst proposal, possibly because of a petition against it being presented. It would be considered again by the City Council at a meeting on 7 September 2000.

The Chairman and Mr. Batey had prepared a proforma petition that was approved. It would be placed in local business premises for residents to sign.

The Clerk was obtaining maps to identify the Elsfield Way site and would circulate the December letter again to Members of the City Council who had not, as new members, received it recently. Opposition would be sustained.

Accounts

The following accounts were passed for payment

		£
Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils	Subscription and copy of Review	432.00
Oxford City Council	Recreation Ground Maintenance	362.39
J. Cooper	Burial Ground Maintenance	262.04
Wicksted Leisure Ltd.	Replacement Swings	(87.35)
Old Marston over 50's Club	Grant S.137	100.00

The Clerk was asked to request a signed copy of the Old Marston Mill Lane Allotments Association's accounts.

A letter of appreciation was received from the Old Marston Residents' Association for the grant

Co-Option

The Council went into committee to consider representations by potential nominees. The Council Meeting then resumed.

Valid nominations were made for Mr. T. Cann and Mr. L. Macfarlane. Mr. Cann received the majority vote required and was co-opted. He signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and joined the Meeting.

Recreation Ground

The missing swings had been replaced

It was decided to have a litterbin placed in the vicinity of the new seat in Boults Lane

The meeting called on site to discuss parking arrangements failed because no one turned up.

The Clerk was asked to write to the Scouts and Marston Saints to ask that they co-ordinate their activities so as to minimise parking problems and to suggest that they encourage car sharing and cycling to events.

Highways

The County Council were considering what improvements could be made to traffic flows and facilities for pedestrians and cyclists on the road between Summertown and Headington. The Vice-chairman and Mr Batey has walked the local area with the County Assistant Principal Engineer, Mr. D. Cluff and others. It seemed possible that traffic lights could replace the mini-roundabouts and provide pedestrian crossing facilities on each road. A pedestrian crossing at the other end of Marsh Lane could also be provided.

An essential part of any scheme must be a traffic access to the JR II from the de-trunked A40.

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It was decided to further the Council's aim for a 20 mph limit, supported by some traffic calming such as chicanes, from Elsfield Road to Marston Ferry Road. The Clerk would write to confirm these proposals with a copy to Mr. R. Williams the Transport Officer.

The Clerk was asked to send details of overhanging vegetation and work required to street signs the Highway Authority.

Burial Ground

The Clerk said that he had attempted a specification to a specialist firm for iron railings to the extension but was unable to include removing those existing since a tree would require uprooting so that the railings that had been enveloped by the tree could be burnt out. It was decided that Mr Ward would be best able to do this. The Clerk was authorised to give him the instruction.

The Clerk's Report was accepted and he was authorised to proceed with the work. Consideration was given to the provision of a space for ashes since there were some who wished for cremation but would not want ashes interred in the Church ground. It was decided that the south end of the path could be dispensed with and the area, unconsecrated, used for the purpose but subject to the same qualifications as for burials. A low wall would be built on which plaques could be placed. Further details would be agreed later.

It appeared that the footpath would still require diversion for the reduced area. In the long term the full extension might be required. It was decided to proceed with the original diversion scheme.

Parish Magazine

Consideration was given to the possibility that a magazine of some sort should be delivered to every house in the Parish quarterly or monthly and that this could best be achieved in co-operation with the Church magazine. Mrs. Nurse and Mr. Batey undertook to discuss the possibility with Mrs. Sanders.

M. Christine Stone

5 Sept 2000