

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Old Marston Parish Council
held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 1 July 2003
at the Mortimer Hall**

Members Present

- Mr. C.W. Haynes Chairman
- Mrs. Cox
- Messrs Cann and Holmes
- The Clerk Mr. L.M. Garner in attendance
- City Councillor Mrs. M. Clarkson

Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. C. Stone Vice-chairman, Mrs. Nurse, Mrs. Tiwari and Mr. Bartleet *& Mr. Bentley*

Minutes

The Minutes of the Meetings held on 3 and 23 June 2003 were confirmed and signed.

North East Area Committees

The Council was not represented, there being no matters of local concern on the agendas.

Correspondence

A letter of resignation was received from Mr. N. Cowell. A Casual Vacancy was declared. The County Council submitted a resumé of the proposals submitted to the Boundary Committee stating that the proposed county Division for this area would comprise the Marston Ward and the southern part on Headington Hill and Northway Wards. A letter was received, from the County Council, confirming that Mr. McAndrews continued to be the County Councillor for this area and noted that the last Parish contact from him was on 7 March 2000.

Planning

Applications

The following were considered:

Dealt with between meetings

- 69 Arlington Drive – New first floor bathroom and rear conservatory – no comment
- 141 Oxford Road – new 1 B/R house – resubmission with minor changes having little effect on the presentation. It was decided to continue strong opposition, the planning officer being requested to bring the original objections forward.

Current applications

- 36 Beechey Avenue – large single and two story extensions – the size of the extensions proposed is far too large in relation to the size of the houses in the road – refusal recommended
- 26 Mortimer Drive – front porch – no objection but the large rear extension could cause considerable concern to the neighbours. Refusal recommended.
- 44 Mortimer Drive – 2 1B/R flats. This is another application intensifying the development of an open plan 1950's estate which the Parish Council has continued to resist being an over development of the site. The ratio of one car park space per flat is inadequate and could result in more off-street parking. Mrs. Clarkson was requested to arrange for the application to be called in.

Decisions

The following were approved:

- 15 Salford road- new shop shutters
- 49 Marsh Lane – extension
- at 71 Oxford Road – new front elevation
- 2 Nicholas Avenue – extension and conversion into flats
- Park Farm – new house
- 3a Oxford Road – new house

The application to extend 7 Boults Lane was refused.

Other Matters

Mrs. Clarkson agreed to bring forward the review of Delegated Powers.

At a recent planning meeting of the North East Area Committee Mr. Bartleet representing the Parish, wishing to comment on a serious planning issue affecting the Parish had his contribution truncated by the Chair on the basis that "Non-voting members of the committee who wish to comment on an application should do so during the public speaking session". Since the public speaking session is limited to five minutes and is normally taken first, and fully used, it is not appropriate that the Parish Council, that has statutory consultation rights and receives copies of the plans for the purpose, should be denied a reasonable time to speak. Since there are so few applications affecting any parish five minutes allocated to the non-voting member of the Committee for each application affecting a parish is not unreasonable and would not make a significant addition to the length of any meeting. The Clerk was asked to request that the arrangements be changed.

No progress was reported on the Council's request, to the City Councillors, that the payment of £40,000 S.106 money from the White Hart development paid to the County by the City without apparent authority should be reclaimed and spent as usual in the vicinity of the development. The favoured options are traffic calming and 20 mph limit and if funds permit a pedestrian footpath in Elsfield Road. The Clerk would write to reinforce the pursuit of the claim. The £3,250 towards recreation had been offered to the Council. It could be used towards the safety surface and dog railings at Boults Lane.

A reply was received from the Education Dept. stating that the Harlow School building would continue to be used for educational purposes. Any spare capacity could be let at the discretion of Mr. Andrew Crease, the Head Teacher of the Pupil Referral Unit, after the end of September. It was suggested that should local residents wish to use any spare facility such as the tennis court they should consider forming a club to make a formal approach to the school.

Data Protection Act

The Clerk reported that he had spoken to the Registrar's office and ascertained that the storage of Members names and addresses on computer for record and mailings only would not require registration.

Accounts

The following accounts were passed for payment:

		£
N.R. Bartleet	Travel expenses for attending Area Committee meetings October – May 2003	13.26
Glasdon UK Ltd.	New top and liner to rubbish bin r/o Mortimer Hall	112.12
J. Cooper	Burial Ground maintenance Sept – April 2003	805.23
P. Steedman	Painting swings etc. at Boults Lane	675.00

Recreation Ground

The Clerk was having difficulty in establishing the entry requirements for the disabled for the Mill Lane Site. Efforts would continue.

Quotations were received for the erection of the railings at the site. It was decided to accept the lowest tender of Haynes and Son in the sum of £540

Only one tender was received, from D. Ward, in the sum of £1,325, for the manufacture and erection of the barrier at the entrance to the Boults Lane Site. It was decided to accept the tender subject to erection being completed before harvest starts. Consent was received from the City Council for the erection of the barrier. The Chairman and Clerk were, in view of the urgency of erecting and securing this barrier, authorised to organise a supply of two locks and 150 keys.

The Clerk was asked to obtain a price to extend the netball area on the Mortimer Hall Site to 12.5 meters square.

CG

Highways

Following discussions at the last meeting with the Highways Technical Support Manager concerning improvements to the road and footpaths in Oxford Road (north) Mr. Burchett sent a plan showing the lengths of "Charnwood" kerbs to be laid along the verges from the Allotments to Elsfield Road, dropped kerbs where required and resurfaced footpaths. These proposals were welcomed but the suggestion that a gravel surface to the footpaths was not acceptable. It was understood that the road surface was to be coated, probably tar and chippings. It was decided to ask that the resurfacing should take place after the kerbing.

Mr. Burchett to be asked to deal with private gravel drives to stop gravel being deposited on the footpath.

The Minutes of the Meeting on 23 June 2003 being accepted the Clerk was asked to pass the recommendations to the County Council noting that there was no footpath on the north side of Horseman Close.

It was decided to try to set up a meeting with Highway Planners to discuss what traffic calming measures were available and possible.

The Clerk was asked to write to Mr. Collins to accelerate work on the mural.

Burial Ground

The Chairman and Clerk were authorised to agree work and price with Mr. Ward to achieve a reasonable surface to the spare land in Elsfield Road

Date of Next Meeting

2 September 2003

Check for accounts paid and quotes

11 September 2003

M. Burchett