

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Old Marston Parish Council  
held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March 1997  
at the Mortimer Hall**

**Members Present**

Mr A T Jones (Chairman)

Mr C W Haynes (Vice-chairman)

Mesdames Cox, Deam, Nurse, Stone & Tiwari

Messrs Drinkwater & Phipps

The Clerk Mr L M Garner was in attendance

Members of the public were also present

**Apologies**

An apology for absence was received from Mr Bartleet

**Presentation**

The Chairman welcomed Mr Adrian Stevensen, Managing Director, Independent Care Ltd. Which wished to be considered as a potential purchaser of the Mill Lane site for the purpose of building a Medical Care Centre. He was accompanied by the company's advisors, Mr Gareth Jones, surveyor, Mr Tony Matthews, architect and Mr Nick Lyzba, planning consultant.

Mr Stevensen described the two storey complex of about 25,000 sq. feet with the aid of the architect. It would be built by local contractors, would take about eight months to build and would create about 45 jobs when complete. It would be a forty-five bed unit catering for post-operative and recuperative care and six consulting rooms for visiting patients. He described the building as of domestic scale.

The architect showed a possible site lay-out with ample landscaping and car parking. The planning consultant referred to successful sites in Ipswich and Haywards Heath and described the Mill Lane site as ideal for the purpose. In response to questions he said that traffic movements would be about the same as he would expect from the number of dwellings the site could accommodate. Doctor Williams enquired about the actual use of the building and was told that it would be outside the National Health Service, that is entirely private, with a maximum stay of about three weeks and a 70% anticipated bed occupancy.

The Chairman thanked the representatives for the presentation and said that the Parish Council would consider the proposal seriously, probably at the 8<sup>th</sup> April 1997 meeting.

The representatives left the meeting and the Council meeting commenced.

**Casual Vacancy**

Mr Bryant Carrington of 8, Cumberledge Close and Mrs Jill Cowell of 21, Mill Lane were proposed and seconded, having indicated that they were willing to stand. Voting was 4-3 respectively and Mr Carrington was declared co-opted.

**Correspondence**

A letter of resignation was received from Mrs J. Sanders. A casual vacancy was declared to be filled by co-option, in the absence of a poll, at the next meeting of the Council. The Clerk was asked to write an appreciative letter to Mrs Sanders.

The Clerk circulated the Oxfordshire County Council newsletter and an extract from the Valuation Officer's letter.

The following were noted;

Old Marston Residents' Association- Committee Minutes

ATJ

Old Marston Residents' Association- Letter to Planning Authority re Croft Road recreation development

Oxford City Council- Members' Information Sheet listing road repairs

Sustrans- Circular re National Cycle network

Oxfordshire Rural Community Council- £200 being the prize won in the 1994 Best Kept Village Competition

### **Planning**

#### **Oxford City Local Plan**

The Clerk had obtained a copy of the City Council's revised comments to the Inspector's Report. Contrary to the City Planning Officer's recommendations no objection was now raised to the Inspector's recommendation that the land, shown on the original Plan marked as Safeguarded Land to the east and north east of the Parish, either side of Marsh Lane, along the A40 to Mill Lane including the small area of Parish land at the end of Mill Lane, should be amended to Green Belt.

#### **Applications**

The following applications were received;

13, Cavendish Drive- Extension- No comment

Park Farm, Edgeway Road (Outside the Parish)- Retention of temporary living accommodation. The provision of living accommodation was considered essential to ensure the maintenance of the farm.

#### **Other matters**

A reply was received from the City Planning Officer indicating that planning consultation with neighbours and neighbourhoods was related to the size or importance of the application from the immediate neighbours in respect of minor alterations to public meetings for major matters.

#### **Mill Lane Site**

The Clerk reported that he had since the last week in January 1997, received seven applications to rent allotments. It was decided that further allotments should not be let at Mill Lane. The Clerk was asked to inform the applicants accordingly and to give them the option of becoming tenants of the Parish Council on the Oxford Road site or on the Council's land adjoining the Burial Ground in Elsfield Road. The use of the Oxford Road site would be subject to the agreement of the Allotment Association and the City Council and the arrangements could not be concluded in time for this seasons planting.

The senior City Engineer responsible for Traffic Calming schemes had said that he had no funds to prepare the Parish Scheme. The Clerk had therefore written to the Head of Engineering to press for the work to be put in hand.

After the March meeting the Clerk realised that the hedging and clearance work necessary to make the replacement allotment site useable would have to be put in hand immediately so that the work was completed before hedge growth and bird nesting. With the agreement of the Chairman he had therefore circulated two quotations for the work to members recommending acceptance of that from D.Ward in the sum of £450 plus £60 for the Burial Ground hedge. One objection was received and he had instructed the contractor.

It was suggested that the promised Public Meeting should be held on the 6<sup>th</sup> May 1997 (in place of 8<sup>th</sup> April) in the Mortimer Hall, if possible. As the distribution of hand bills had also been promised the Clerk submitted a draft for early comment so that an amended copy could be submitted for approval at the April meeting.

### Accounts

The following accounts were passed for payment;

Oxfordshire Rural Community Council-Best Kept Village Competition entry fee	£10.00
Oxford City Council-Recreation Ground maintenance	£385.50
Audit Commission- Audit fee	£210.56
Thames Water- Allotment water	£78.18
R & M Pest Control- Moles	£25.00
L M Garner- Salary & Expenses	£1094.70

### Bank Mandate

At the request of the Council's bank a new mandate was signed authorising any two of the Chairman, Vice-chairman or "father" of the Council to sign cheques countersigned by the Clerk. The Clerk would continue to authorise the transactions between deposit and current accounts but there would be no authority for any payments to be made from any such deposit accounts.

### Highways

The Clerk was asked to draw the following items to the attention of the appropriate authority.

The Oxford City Football Clubs floodlighting still dazzling drivers.

Parkway roadsigns missing.

Reflective studs on flyover not replaced, further required.

Comtel, grass-seeding required.

Blocked road drain outside <sup>hardware</sup> hardware shop in Salford Road.

Kerbs require attention in Fane Road.

Bus shelter, Elsfield Road requires colouring to a darker shade, also it fits badly on the base.

Footpath No.5, Elsfield Road agreed fencing not yet erected.

Sub-way mural, renewed efforts needed to find artist.

Sub-way lighting, renewed vandalism.

The Clerk reported that the City Council might have some cycle stands not committed. It was decided to ask that these be erected in Salford Road and Cherwell Drive.

### Any Other Business

The Clerk reported that the City Council could arrange for the supply of compost bins to householders at discounted prices.

### Future Meetings

The following were decided;

Council meeting 8<sup>th</sup> April 1997

Public and Annual Parish meeting 6<sup>th</sup> May 1997 (including Mill Lane site meeting)

Council meeting 13<sup>th</sup> May 1997

All at 7.30p.m. at the Mortimer Hall.

**A CASUAL VACANCY WAS DECLARED**

There will be no meeting on 1<sup>st</sup> April 1997

*Alvin Jones* 8 April 1997