

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Old Marston Parish Council
held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 6 March 2001
at the Mortimer Hall**

Members Present

Mr. C.W. Haynes Chairman
Mrs. C. Stone Vice-chairman
Mesdames Bradley, Nurse, and Tiwari
Messrs Agent, Batey, Cann, and Taylor
The Clerk Mr. L.M. Garner in attendance
City Councillor Mr. J. Coats.
The Chairman and those present welcomed Mr. Agent back to the Council meeting.

Apologies

An apology for absence was received from Mrs. Cox and Mr. Drinkwater.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 6 February 2001 were confirmed and signed.

Correspondence

A letter of resignation was received from Mr. Drinkwater who was leaving the area. A Casual Vacancy was declared. The Chairman paid tribute to him for his work for the Council and for his work in the community, particularly to the Mortimer Hall, over many years.

The following were noted:

Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils- Circulars
Notice of change of licensee at The Bricklayers Arms
OMRA-Minutes
Other items were tabled

Local Government Commission for England

Draft proposals for changes to City ward boundaries were received. The Commission had chosen the option that this Council selected as the best arrangement. The Clerk was asked to write to the Commission to support its proposal for this area.

Consultation Documents

It was decided to offer no comment to the proposed Model Code of Conduct for Members and to the Standards Committee re. appointments and procedures.

City Council Meeting

The Vice-chairman reported on the meeting with City Councillors and other parishes. The contacts were useful but promises of action not forthcoming. A 20 mph speed limit was not thought practical for the area to the north of Marston Ferry Road. This was not accepted but made no difference. The metalled path requested between Horseman Close and Elsfield Road was raised yet again but City Members had no recollection of this request being raised before, amazing though this was. Loose setts continue to be a problem County wide and the need for a long term plan for dealing with it again emphasised. The problem of long term parking at the Cherwell Drive Shops and the possible Home Zone for Elms Drive were raised together with continued opposition to the Marsh Lane Park and Ride.

Planning

Applications

The following was considered:

110 Oxford Road – part demolition and major extension – whilst it might be difficult to secure it was decided to ask that the building line in Mortimer Drive should be extended to Oxford Road. There was also concern about parking and the size of the

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altered building.

Decision

The following was reported:

46 Elms Drive - extension - approved

Other Matters

Mrs. Burgess' continued support for the A40 Link and opposition to the Marsh Lane Park and Ride was welcomed

The Clerk reported that the Review of the City Council Local Plan due to take effect this year would not be completed in time. The City Council's draft provisions would, as they were adopted, be regarded in planning matters as if they had been in the finally approved document.

Accounts

The following accounts were passed for payment

	£	
Holt and Ward	Tree lopping	2,000.00
T. Cann	Reimbursement for Ordnance Survey Maps	147.00
(paid between meetings)		
Mortimer Hall Committee	Hire of Hall Jan.-Mar.	18.00
C.D. Ward	Work to stile	105.00
L.M. Garner	Salary and expenses	1,390.65
Oxford City Council	Recreation Ground Maintenance	543.59

Fidelity Bond

It was decided to accept the quotation from Cornhill Insurance in the sum of £64.00 p.a. for a bond in respect of the Clerk in the sum of £40,000

Recreation Ground

More moles had appeared, also in the Burial Ground

It was decided to accept C.D. Ward's quotation in the sum of £110.00 for erecting the Mill Lane Goal Posts and fixing three litterbins

A reply was received from the Scouts requesting a renewal of its site lease for 50 years. It was suggested that this was too long a period and it was decided to offer a maximum period of 25 years. On acceptance of this the Clerk would instruct solicitors.

No progress had been made in the challenge to the assessment, for rating, of the pavilion. The Clerk had toured the Council's properties with Mr. Hedley of the City Council who was reassessing the work done for this Council. Mowing and litter picking would be fortnightly April to September, litter picking October to March monthly. The area of the Scout hut and the pavilion would be included for the first time as would the copse area in Mill Lane. The recreation ground side of the Mortimer Hall hedge would be cut once in August. The quotation took into account the additional work of mowing, with a different machine, the fenced area being provided. The cost £2,025.62, plus VAT, per annum. This was accepted.

Before the area around the pavilion and the copse could be subject to the above contract the existing large quantity of general rubbish would need to be removed for which the charge would be £168 plus VAT. There was also a quantity of builder's rubbish that would not be included in that price. The Clerk would try an alternative answer to the problem. Attention was drawn to the condition of the chain link fence between the Horseman close Estate and the recreation ground. The Clerk would investigate and arrange repair.

The Clerk had met a representative from SMP and secured a reduced price, inclusive of the repair to the log ramp, of £17,792.04. On meeting the railings contractor for the burial ground he had asked for a quotation for the railings included in the SMP price, as this exceeded the SMP price it would be declined. On measuring the fencing required 3m additional to that in the SMP price would be required. The Clerk would obtain a revised

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quotation from SMP to include the additional length and after consultation with the Chairman accept it.

Highways

Council welcomed Mrs. Burgess' continued support to the A40 link to the hospital and opposition to the Marsh Lane Park and Ride scheme.

The Clerk was asked to take action to stop the placing of advertising material on the highway outside the White Hart.

The Mural continued to suffer damage. The City Council denied any responsibility for future maintenance. Efforts would be made to find a local resident to repair the damage.

The City Council now acknowledged that work would be required to make the verge, between Oxford Road and the service road, capable of being mown. The work will be done.

Burial Ground

Consideration was given to the size of the proposed wall related to the area designated for the scattering of ashes. It was decided that it should be 2m x 3m, 1800mm high and that the railings would be of the same height. The quotation from Singer and James was the most favourable at £6994.50 plus VAT but an amendment would be needed due to the larger wall. A price would also be obtained for polyester powder coating in place of etching and painting after erection not included in the quotation.

Mr. Taylor offered to build the wall, excluding footings and materials, free of charge as his contribution to the scheme. His offer was warmly received and a vote of thanks recorded.

The inclusion of the following in the conditions relating to the Burial Ground was approved

"5. Flowers and wreaths may be placed on graves. These will be removed when their appearance deteriorates.

Mounds and any other obstructions to mowing or other items placed in the Burial Ground without written approval will be removed and disposed of without notice."

Date of Next Meeting

3 April 2001

3 April 2001

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