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**Minutes of a Meeting of the Old Marston Parish Council
held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 6 March 2004
at the Mortimer Hall**

Members Present

Mr. C.W. Haynes Chairman
Mrs. M.C. Stone Vice-chairman
Mesdames Cox and Nurse
Messrs Batey, Cann, Cox, Holmes
The Clerk Mr. L.M. Garner in attendance
City Councillor Mr. R. Darke

Apologies

Apologies for absence was received from Mrs. Tiwari, Messrs Bartleet, McGinn and Swift and Councillor Mrs. Clarkson

Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 3 February 2004 were confirmed and signed.

Attendance

P.C. Jackson attended to discuss matters of mutual concern. His area is Old and New Marston and Northway but the second officer for the area has been withdrawn. The new direct line number for non-urgent items is 08458 501501 urgent matters 999. He had been dealing with rowdy and loutish behaviour of youths on Carter's estate and had succeeded in obtaining a great improvement using the Anti-social Behaviour Orders. Since the Citywide campaign against burglars there had not been many instances recently. The drugs scene shows little change. 50550

Matters Arising

The proposal to "support" an application for a footpath across the allotments was amended to "investigate". Plans showing the proposed route are to be displayed on the notice boards. The precept was further discussed, as some believed that the increase of 5% over last year was not agreed. The following motion was proposed by Mr. Cann, seconded by Mr. Holmes and approved:

"At the February 2004 meeting Mr. Cann stated that he was not aware that a 5% increase had been agreed, other councillors present at the February 2004 meeting agreed. The City Council had been informed of the increased precept that could not be amended. The resolution to be included in the Marston Times report".

North East Area Committee

There were no matters to report.

Correspondence

The OALC bi-monthly circular was received with comments requested on:
Changes to the cycle of local government elections; no objections provided that the Parish elections coincided with those for the City Council.
Suggested unification of burial law – no comment, but the question relating to the future use of burial grounds was deferred to the next meeting.
The possibility of the closure of green roads to motorised vehicles. It was decided to support the proposed closure.

Planning

Applications

The following was considered:

2 Nicholas Avenue – second storey roof space conversion into a flat – the strongest possible objections. The resulting damage to the ambience of this late 1940's estate by the original conversion created what is regarded as a carbuncle among nice family houses and is plain to see from the photos attached. The drive to the new car space will ruin the corner amenity grass area. Additionally, if it is granted there will be only five spaces for cars from five units of accommodation with no room for visitors; there will

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therefore be increased on-street parking in narrow roads. It is understood that there has been some consultation with the neighbours but it is believed that there has been none with the occupiers of the Lewell Avenue houses that will be terribly overlooked from the window in the facing gable. Please refuse the application.

Decisions

The following were reported:

- 7 Boults Lane – large extension – approved
- 44 Mortimer Drive-two 2 B/R flats – approved
- 86 Oxford Road – extension - approved

Other Matters

The refusal of consent to the application in respect of 1 and 3 Nicholas Avenue had gone to appeal. Since the response to the original application will accompany the papers to the appeal no further action is necessary.

It was reported that the dormer window at 49 Oxford Road had been erected without planning consent and that the planning officer had ordered its replacement with a smaller version.

Accounts

The following accounts were passed for payment:

		£
Singer and James Ltd.	Mill Lane railings	2,048.38
L.M. Garner	Salary and petty cash expenses	1,568.74
Mortimer Hall Management Committee	Use of Hall January to March	18.00

Recreation Ground

The railings for Mill Lane had been delivered and would be erected soon.

A quotation was received for maintenance work to the Council's land. It was decided to seek further quotations from the City Council and Mr. B. Haynes although that would delay most items until next season. The short length of hedge adjoining the pump house to be cut. Mr. Cann would confirm the pattern of road markings required at Boults Lane. On receipt costs would be obtained.

A quotation had been requested for recreation ground maintenance for the forthcoming year.

Mr. Holmes said that he was now Chairman of Marston Saints F.C..

The Club had trained the required number of coaches and it was expected that the Club would become a Football Association Charter Club that would be of great value should an application be made for capital funding. It was decided to set up a joint working party to consider further the possibility of a new pavilion. The Council's representatives to be Mrs. Cox, Mrs. Nurse, Mr. Batey and Mr. Cann.

Proposals for pitch improvements were accepted subject to no damage being done to the land drains.

A summer programme of coaching sessions for juniors was planned at a cost of £5 per session, £4 for Old Marston residents.

It was agreed to supply a further 30 keys, to the Boults Lane Gate, to the Allotment Association.

Mrs. Cox said that for events at OXSRAD on 8/9 May and 5 June the field opposite would be used for parking.

Highways

The Chairman and Clerk would attend a HAMATS meeting next day and were requested to suggest that the roundabout at Marsh Lane should be altered, as the Marston Road roundabout had been, in view of the improved traffic flow achieved at Marston Road.

The Oxford City Council indicated that the kerbing of Oxford Road was unlikely to be done this financial year. Mr. Darke would press for it to be done soon.

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Attention was drawn to the unfulfilled undertaking by the City Council to replace the fence along the Horseman Close boundary. The Clerk to write.

Burial Ground

A Deed of Grant was executed the fees having been paid.

Any Other Business

Mr. Haynes was appointed to the Mortimer Hall Management Committee for the period of one year.

Date of Next Meeting

6 April 2004

Ms Christine Stone
6 April 2004