

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Old Marston Parish Council
held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 2 November 1999
at the Mortimer Hall**

Members Present

Mr. C.W. Haynes (Chairman)
Mrs. E. Nurse (Vice Chair)
Mesdames Bradley, Deam, Stone and Tiwari
Messrs Agent, Bartleet, Batey and Taylor
The Clerk Mr. L.M. Garner in attendance
City Councillor Mr. Tiwari attended

Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Mrs. Cox.

Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 3 October 1999 were, subject to minor amendments, confirmed and signed.

Correspondence

The following were noted;
Oxford City Council-Members Information Sheets
Oxfordshire Rural Community Council-Membership scheme
Oxfordshire Playingfields Association-Invitation to support
Old Marston Residents' Association-Minutes 4 October 1999 (Circulated)
Oxford City Council-Agenda for Conservation Area Forum. Mrs. Stone to attend
Oxfordshire County Council-Consultation paper on the proposal to change the present age for the change of school from 9 to 11 years. It was decided to support the proposal.

Planning

Applications

The following were considered
13 & 15 Beechey Avenue-Mirrored extensions-No comment

Decisions

The following were reported:
6 Boults Lane-conversion into two dwellings-approved
18&20 Gordon Close-extensions-approved

Other Matters

A letter was received from the Oxfordshire County Council drawing attention to the Government's statement that 75,000 new dwellings would be required in the south-east in the period to 2016. Although Brown Field sites would be preferred Green Belts could be in danger. This was noted with concern.

Accounts

The following accounts were passed for payment

		£
Oxford City Council	Burial Ground Rates	36.00
L.M. Garner	Repair material for safety surface	11.99
Oxfordshire County Council	Footpath map	10.00
Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils	Budgets and Precepts Seminar	18.60

R&M Pest Control	Moles	25.00
Oxford City Council	Recreation Ground Maintenance	1259.74
Oxford City Council	Clearing Drains	64.04
St. Nicholas Mother and Toddler Group	S.137 Grant	50.00

Notification of the completion of the audit of the 1998/9 accounts was received. A letter of apology was received from NatWest for errors in the account. The Clerk was authorised to transfer the Council's accounts to the Headington Branch of NatWest as his connections with Abingdon were now infrequent. The joint report from Ms. Bradley and Mrs. Tiwari on their attendance at the seminar on Budgets and Precepts was received. The Chairman would discuss any matters arising with the Clerk.

Clerk's Salary

The Council considered the Clerk's report in Committee and on its conclusion the Council Meeting resumed when it decided that the Clerk's salary should be increased to £4850 per annum with effect from 1 April 1999. Members expressed their appreciation to the Clerk for his excellent work and loyalty. The Clerk responded suitably.

Recreation Ground

The Clerk expressed his concern that the Wayleave document received contained "irrevocably". His suggestion that advice should be sought from the OALC was accepted.

The clerk had met a representative of BT who agreed to hasten a response from BT relating to the second pole erected.

Further correspondence was received concerning the proposed improvements to the Mill Lane recreation site. It was decided that as OMRA were deeply involved it should be asked to take the lead role. The Council agreed to make available up to £1000 to assist with clearance and equipment. The OPT agreed to pay the costs of a skip.

A proposal to mark out parking spaces on the Boults Lane Site was received from the Scouts. It was decided to have a site meeting with them and Marston Saints to discuss the matter.

The Clerk had had the drains rodded and ordered the mole catcher.

Mortimer Hall

The Solicitor was to be reminded that the new lease was urgently required.

Transport Survey

Efforts were made to make a corporate response to the questions but it proved impossible. The completed forms would be sent on. Attention was drawn to the fact that increases in the commuter problem could be ameliorated if development in the City Centre was controlled. In the pipeline are the new 98 bedroom hotel in New Roads will do no more than increase the numbers commuting from outside the Green Belt. It is usual for the Road, a large shopping centre on the site of the Westgate Car Park and a multiplex cinema in Oxpens. These are in addition to the recently opened Four Pillars Hotel in Abingdon Road with 115 bedrooms and conference facilities for 250 delegates. The combined result could easily create well over 1500 commuter, shopper and visitor movements each way each day. Concern has already been expressed about likely problems with staff availability from residents of Oxford and the probability is that many of the new management and specialist staff, like chefs, for new developments to be brought from outside the area which also reduces

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housing available for local people. The Clerk was asked to write to the County Chief Planning Officer to express this concern

Highways

Further fly posting had taken place. The Clerk was asked to write to the City Council to remind it of its obligations. The Clerk would write to the licensee at the Victoria Arms concerning the boards on the highway.

The City Council said that there was little prospect of a 20 mph. speed limit being introduced in the Parish.

Confirmation was received that the signs and stiles were in place where the footpath crossed the road near the Cherwell Bridge.

Mr. Bartleet said he would, yet again, endeavour to get the Oxford City F.C. lights altered to reduce dazzle to drivers. The Clerk would write in support.

Mr Bartleet also said the Transport Subsidies received could now be taken up over a longer period and would not be lost if unexpended at the year-end as at present.

Standing Orders were suspended to permit the meeting to continue.


Burial Ground

The Clerk would report further on the Conditions and Charges paper he had drafted. A meeting had taken place with the Tree Officer concerning planting required as a condition of planning consent for the extension. On the east end a double row hedge would be required or a coppice plantation to the site boundary for which a grant might be available. He requires the retention of three hawthorn trees and the better of the two ash trees on the present south boundary where he would require further planting. These proposals were accepted and the Clerk asked to reach agreement with the Tree Officer on that basis.

Allotments

Arising from the Parish Tour in the previous minutes Mr. Agent reminded Council that he was the Manager of the Mill Lane Allotments and any comments concerning the site operation should be addressed to him in the first instance.

It was decided to accept Mr. Ward's quotation in the sum of £180 for hedge cutting. The work to be done before the end of February.

7/12/88 

**Minutes of a Special Meeting of the Old Marston Parish Council
held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 16 ^{NOVEMBER} ~~December~~ 1999
in the Mortimer Hall**

Members Present

Mr. C.W. Haynes (Chairman)
Mesdames Bradley and Tiwari
Messrs Agent, Batey and Taylor
The Clerk Mr. L.M. Garner in attendance
City Councillor attended

Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Mesdames Nurse, Cox and Deam.

Casual Vacancy

The Meeting was called to note that Mrs. G.A. King resigned from Council membership on 3 November 1999 and a casual vacancy automatically had to be declared by Council that started the replacement process. The first stage of which is the advertisement of the vacancy that the Clerk would undertake.

No other business was discussed.

7/12/99