

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Old Marston Parish Council
held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 4 November 2003
at the Mortimer Hall**

Members Present

Mr. C.W. Haynes Chairman
Mrs. Tiwari
Messrs Bartleet, Cann, McGinn and Swift
The Clerk Mr. L.M. Garner in attendance
City Councillors Mr. R. Darke and Mrs. M. Clarkson

Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Mesdames Stone, Cox and Nurse, Messrs Batey and Holmes

Minutes

The Minutes of the Meeting held on 7 October 2003 were confirmed and signed.

Casual Vacancy

Mr. P.H. Cox was co-opted to fill the vacancy

North East Area Committee

The Chairman, on behalf of Mrs. Stone, reported that at the N.E. Area Committee an allocation of the Capital Grant to the dog fence in Boults Lane and Back Lane improvements had been deferred.

Mr. Bartleet attended the N.E. Area Planning Meeting and commented on the Green Road Roundabout scheme. One important factor was the need to control the volume of traffic crossing over to the western section of the A40 to avoid worse congestion at the Banbury Road junction. He said the consultation meeting had been poorly attended due to short notice.

Mortimer Hall

Mr. W. Cox, Chairman of the Management Committee, addressed the Meeting about expenditure required to bring the Hall up to standard. The flat roof was leaking, the floor badly worn and a new store would need to be built to permit the present toilets to be relocated in the present store. That would permit the existing toilets to be converted for disabled persons in accordance with current requirements. A grant of £50,000 was available from Wren, the landfill tax, subject to 11% being paid to Wren by another body. He hoped that the Council would make a grant of this sum towards the new roof.

The Chairman and Mr. Cann declared an interest and left the Meeting. Mr. Bartleet was appointed Chairman pro-tem and a grant considered. It was decided that a grant of £5,500 be made to Wren to permit the work to commence. Mr. Cox left the meeting and the Chairman and Mr. Cann rejoined the meeting

Correspondence

No specific items – postal strike!

Planning

Applications

The following were considered:

- Rear gardens 1 & 3 Nicholas Avenue - erection of 2x1 B/R Flats – Only two parking spaces that complied with requirements – no comment
- 5 Nicholas Avenue – extension and conversion into 2 flats – recommended that as no change in the parking arrangements to comply with the parking requirements for two spaces, was demonstrated; and Policy HO. 17 “In the case of subdivision into flats permission will not normally be granted until it has been demonstrated that sound insulation of walls and floors can be satisfactorily provided” have not been shown the

CMHaynes

application be deferred to await further submissions on these points. The Parish Council maintains its opposition to these conversions that are against good planning and the best interests of the community.

18b Lewell Avenue – extension of ground floor flat – no objection to the extension but there is objection to the conversion into two flats if permission has not already been granted. There is no recollection of an application having been considered.

40 Cavendish Drive – conversion to provide accommodation for a disabled daughter. The proposal would create a separate dwelling if the intercommunicating door were walled up. It was decided to recommend that the extension should be permitted with the proviso that planning consent would be required if a separate dwelling was created. This intention is suspected because four parking spaces are proposed.

No comment was made to the following:

- St Nicholas' Church – extended Vestry
- 4 Windsor Crescent – dormers and conservatory

Decisions

The following were approved:

- 1 Oxford Road – new house
- 41 Oxford Road – new roof to outbuilding
- 75 Cherwell Drive – extension
- 17 Haynes Road – extension
- Marston Middle School building – retention of temporary buildings

Other Matters

A slight improvement had been secured to the bus service to Cherwell Drive at peak times. The attention of the Planning office had been drawn to 49 Oxford Road to ascertain whether planning consent was required.

The Clerk had been invited to attend a meeting of the City Council Development Control Panel.

Accounts

The following account was passed for payment

	£
Oxfordshire Rural Community Council	6.00
Booklet on web services to parishes	

Recreation Ground

No quotation or specification had been received for the Boults Lane Safety Surfaces from the contractor.

Some safety tiles had become loose on the Mortimer site, a contractor had screwed others down to the base. Unfortunately many other tiles show signs of becoming loose from the base.

The Solicitor for the Scouts had requested yet further information before drafting the lease.

Highways

Mr. Batey had raised, with the Traffic Engineer, concerns about the Toucan Crossing for Marsh Lane. Most had been answered but the problem of the lack of a footpath on the north side of Horseman Close remained.

A complaint had been received about obscured streetlights in Raymund Road. The Clerk would write to the Lighting Dept. and include a similar comment about obscured lights in Oxford Road.

A favourable response had been received from the Highway Engineer to the suggestion for widening the footpath outside 71 Oxford Road. Investigations would follow. The Clerk would copy the letter to the Old Marston Road Safety Group.

Amber

The Traffic Engineer has suggested that if funds were available to strengthen the bank under the Cherwell Bridge in Marston Ferry Road to make it passable to pedestrians the work might be done.

It now appeared that there was little that could be done to redress the apparent diversion of the White Hart S.106 highway money away from work on Oxford Road and it was decided to take no further action. Traffic calming will probably have to wait for the HAMATS programme in 2005/6

Burial Ground

The Clerk reported that six masons, who regularly erected memorials, had agreed to erect them in accordance with the National Association of Memorial Masons guidelines.

Allotments

The Annual Report and Accounts were received

Date of Next Meeting

2 December 2003

8/12/03

Chamber