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**Minutes of a Meeting of the Old Marston Parish Council  
held at 7.30pm on Tuesday 6 September 2005  
at the Mortimer Hall**

**Members Present**

Mr. C.W. Haynes Chairman  
Mrs. M.C. Stone Vice-chairman  
Mrs Tiwari  
Messrs, Batey, Cann, Holmes and McGinn  
The Clerk Mr. L.M. Garner in attendance  
City Councillor Mrs. M. Clarkson

**Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Mesdames Cox and Nurse, Mr. Bartleet and City Councillor Mrs. C. vanZyl.

**Minutes**

The Minutes of the Meetings on 5 and 14 July 2005 were confirmed and signed

**Correspondence**

A letter from the County Council relating to Scrutiny Committees was noted  
The N.E. Area Committee sought the Council's views on the proposal to prepare a guide to the area, including Old Marston. It was decided to support the idea subject to cost implications.  
OXSRAD invited members to an open day to show the new Spa Bath and other improvements on 18 September 2005  
The Countryside Agency confirmed that there was no common land nor open countryside in the Parish giving freedom to roam

**NE Area Committee**

No matters of significance to report. The Chairman to arrange representation at the next meeting

**Planning**

**Applications**

9 Barns Hay – No comment except to draw attention to the incorrect titles to the elevations  
23 Mortimer Drive – rear extension – no comment  
1 Rippington Drive – demolition and replacement by a three storey block of five flats using roof space. The roof heights shown on the elevations are wrong. The development is not compatible with the area since it is out of scale with the estate development and intrusive. It causes the loss of yet another family home of which there is a shortage locally, and again exacerbating the long-term loss of primary school pupils that are needed to prevent classes incorporating children of different age bands. Strong objection.  
4 Mill Lane (the third recent application for the site). This application deals with the overcrowding of the previous applications but causes more concerns than it cures. The proposed access is in a totally unacceptable location being too close to the "S" bend and would cause loss of parking to the eight houses opposite having no other space to use. The plan showing the location of trees on site carefully omits the one in the middle of the proposed entrance. The site is in the most sensitive part of the Conservation Area. The proposed design of the houses is mundane to say the least and the heights too far above the opposite properties that again would be overlooked to an unacceptable extent being about 3.5 meters higher. The design statement is written through "pink spectacles" and glows with euphemisms. "beneficial enclosure of the street frontage" Beneficial in whose eyes? Certainly not the nearby residents. "The new dwellings very much in keeping with surrounding dwellings". "... opportunity to develop a sympathetic and interesting frontage..." Who are they kidding! Refusal is strongly recommended  
75 Oxford Road – demolition of existing bungalow and erection of two semidetached houses. The design says two bungalows but with two storeys. In a previous application the Conservation Officer recommended refusal because of interference with the established sympathetic approach to the Conservation Area. That comment still stands.

*Muel*

The proposed building will ruin the approach to the area and is certainly over development of the site. The parking arrangements for the left hand house viewed from the road are impractical being one space behind the other. Refusal recommended.

The Vicarage, Elsfeld Road - replacement Garage - no comment

26 Mortimer Drive - extension. It is essential that the neighbours are aware of this extension that is too large for the site. Refusal recommended

Dealt with Between Meetings

13/15 Oxford Road - amendments to redevelopment. Attention again drawn to the lack of off street parking

R/o 34 Mill Lane - change of use from large garage to bungalow - no comment

R/o 109 Oxford Road - improvements to access leading to the adoption of the access - no comment

Decisions

17 Beechey Avenue - conservatory - approved

21 Lewell Avenue - dormer windows - no comment

Red Lion - various timber structures, play area etc.- strong objections, fear of noise from outdoor music in close proximity to dwellings. Permission was granted.

It was decided to seek clarification of the decision

Accounts

The following Accounts were passed for payment:

		£
Oxford City Council	Burial Ground Rates	27.43
Total Turf Solutions	Boults Lane Ground Survey	734.38
RoSPA	Safety Survey, Recreation Grounds	220.90
Greenbarnes Ltd.	Burial Ground Notice Board	399.59
L.M. Garner	Salary and expenses	1,660.28
Paid between meetings:		
D.L. Ward	Contracted work	1,115.00
Redlime Ltd.	Contracted work	16,079.88

*AS*

Recreation Ground

It was decided to ask Mr. I. Ward to complete outstanding work within two months and to return the seats to Mr. Haynes for fixing by Members.

The report from Total Turf Solutions was received confirming that the drainage system was not working and that the ditch on the north side was choked. The Clerk was asked to arrange for it to be cleansed. The failing drains would be discussed with the Football Foundation to confirm the grant position.

It was decided to ask Thames Water to check that the main storm drain from the allotments to the Harlow Building is not impeded

Highways

As no progress had been made towards footpath improvements in Oxford Road it was decided to commission a report from RoSPA as to the suitability and safety of the paths for wheelchair users

Blocked highway gullies at Red Lion and Boults Lane reported

Burial Ground

A Deed of Grant was signed, the fees having been paid

The varieties and placement of three memorial trees on the eastern boundary of the new site was agreed

Date of Next Meeting

4 October 2005

*M. Christine Stone  
4 October 2005*