

Business Plan 2023– 2026

Adopted:	Minute Reference	Signed by Chair
5 th September 2022	22/09/12	Duncan Hatfield
15 th May 2023	23/05/19	Duncan Hatfield
May 2024		

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1. Mission Statement

To represent the local community's interests

To support local organisations and activities

To help provide amenities, such as allotments, recreation grounds, open spaces and burial ground, etc.

To provide information to empower people to make positive choices.

To help look after all aspects of the parish of Old Marston.

2. Strategic Objectives

To provide effective and accountable local government for the parish, achieving best value for the community

To assist in creating a socially inclusive and economically viable community, embracing all residents irrespective of age, culture, income, race or religion, and which seeks to develop their wellbeing, knowledge, understanding and mutual co-operation.

To provide a strong voice for residents, local groups, organisations and local businesses ensuring that development of the built and natural environment is driven by the needs and ambitions of the community.

To be a cleaner, greener, more attractive parish that is a safe and healthy place to live, learn and work.

To continue the development of the role of the parish council under the concept of the local council awards scheme and to maintain awards and standards the council have achieved.

To liaise with and support local community organisations.

3. Principles

In all its actions, Old Marston Parish Council will consider, and where appropriate act in accordance with, the principles set out in the relevant legislation and best practice for:

Equal Opportunities

Best Value

Disability Discrimination Act

Age Discrimination Act

Equalities Act

Data Protection Act

Local Council Award Scheme.

With 18% of the population of Old Marston being under 18 years old, 23% being over 65 and 1 in 5 live alone. (2011 Census)

The Council has three initiatives:

- **Environment:** To be mindful of the environment, locally as well as nationally, in council activities. To strive to be sustainable and zero carbon emission as far as economically and practically possible.
- **Community Engagement:** To have a two-way engagement with the community. Using a variety of methods and striving for positive outcomes.
- **Health and Wellbeing:** To encourage a healthy, balanced lifestyle. Supporting and working to combat loneliness and encourage inclusion of the elderly, young and all sectors of the community. To empower people to be able to make positive choices.

4. Achievements from 2020-21

- Install six solar powered streetlights in various locations around the parish.

Cost – to the parish council £10,962.00.

- Undertake the annual litter picking event within the parish linking into the Oxford Civic Society's litter picking week.

Cost – No cost as equipment purchased in previous years budgets.

- Installed new play equipment in the Boults Lane Recreation ground.

Cost – to the parish council £44,677.87.

- Demolish the old pavilion in Boults lane, including safe removal of asbestos.

Cost – to parish council £42,202.80

- Supported twelve local groups who provide support and services to the community.

Cost – to Parish Council £3,600.00

4.1 Achievements from 2021-22

- House the electric meter in its own standalone housing.

Cost – £1,920

- Resurface the Boults Lane car park, where the old pavilion stood.

Cost – £13,500

- Undertake the annual litter picking event within the parish linking into the Oxford Civic Society's litter pick week.

Cost – No cost as equipment purchased in previous years budgets.

- Replaced the orbital play equipment in Mortimer Hall Recreation Ground.

Cost – to the parish council £14,330

- Install an outdoor table tennis table in Mortimer Hall Recreation Ground.

Cost – to the parish council £2,329

- Reinstall seat in Boults Lane Recreation Ground play area. Already have seat which was removed before new pavilion installed.

Cost – to the parish council £480

- Purchase and install seat in paddock at rear of Elsfield Road cemetery.

Cost – to the parish council £1,719

- Supported twelve local groups and charities who provide support and services to the community.

Cost – to parish council £3,629

- Achieved foundation standard in the Local Council Award Scheme demonstrating that Old Marston Parish Council meets the minimum requirements for operating a lawfully and according to standard practice.

Cost – to parish council £50

5. Four-Year Plan 2023-2026

5.1 Key Council Objectives (in no particular order)

1. To improve partnership working with Oxford City Council and Oxfordshire County Council.
2. Where appropriate, seek the development of services from Oxford City Council and Oxfordshire County Council which would lead to an improvement in services and amenities for the community.
3. To work with the community in monitoring traffic calming measures and speed restrictions throughout the parish.
4. To work with the community in monitor the management of the CPZ throughout the parish.
5. To undertake two litter picking events within the parish (Spring and Autumn).
6. To encourage councillors to attend relevant training courses/events where possible.
7. The clerk of the parish council to contribute a regular article to the Marston Times magazine highlighting the work of the parish council.
8. Continue to update and develop the parish website.

Cost - (Free the webmaster regularly maintains it)

9. Continue to produce a newsletter at least quarterly, delivered to every household and available electronically from the website.

Cost - £2,000 approximately £500 per quarter.

10. To hold various themed seminars to inform and empower the community in topical issues.
11. To produce informative literature on environmental, health & wellbeing issues to inform the community of services and facilities available to them.
12. Local Council Award Scheme - Foundation Award valid for 4 years – until December

2025.

Continue to build on the Foundation Status and obtain Quality and ultimately Quality Gold.

In 2022 Old Marston Parish Council obtained the Foundation Award.

The aim is to achieve Quality Gold which shows councils provide leadership for their communities, bring people together, has excellent business planning processes, ensuring value for money as well as constantly seeking new innovations and opportunities to improve. However, the next step is to achieve Quality standard.

13. To hold an annual 'THANK YOU AWARD' to acknowledge the important role of local parishioners who, over time, have acted in the best interests of the parish by their good deeds, energy and enthusiasm.

Whether they have given voluntary service or represent a parish organisation or church or religious representative, charity worker, teacher, carer, council worker, postal worker, shop worker, or any other group of people who it is deemed worthy of celebrating their achievement.

This could either be an honorary award, with no monetary value other than a certificate presented at a reception or a certificate and a prize of a meal for two at a local establishment.

Cost - £150 - £200 (approximately)

14. Agree a partnership with OXSRAD to promote a social prescribing service where the parish council provides the promotional material and OXSRAD provides the services. This would be part of the parish councils Health & Wellbeing Initiative. An initial dialog will be needed between the parish council and OXSRAD to agree a partnership.

Cost - £

15. To review the Roy Garner Pavilion's energy efficiency report with a view of implementing at least some of the suggestions.

16. To install at least two noticeboards, one in Salford Road and one in the bus shelter in Elsfeld Road.

17. Hold a 'BEE WILD MARSTON' project to get residents sowing wildflower seeds in the verges to improve the appearance and assist pollinators.

Cost - £800.00 approximately.

5.1 Planning Issues

General Objectives-

To seek to ensure:

18. The environment of the parish is maintained and enhanced.

19. Seek to protect against inappropriate development within the parish. Provide appropriate comments and constructive criticism on planning issues affecting the local community.

20. Environmental protection is balanced with economic and community prosperity.

Openspaces are maintained in a way that will support the bio-diversity policies.

Specific Actions

- To consider planning applications in the Parish and to comment accordingly.
- To report planning or environmental infringements to Oxford City Council and/or Oxfordshire County Council

5.2 Emergency Planning

To compile and maintain a Parish Emergency Plan, including an Emergency Flood Plan, which is sent to Oxfordshire County Council's Emergency Planning Officer.

OLD MARSTON PARISH COUNCIL Four Year Plan

EXPENDITURE	Work	Code	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
Allotments		10	£0.00	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
Cemetery	Expenses	21	£300.00	£300.00	£300.00	£300.00
Recreation Ground	Replacement		£5,000.00	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	£5,000.00
	Maintenance	31	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	£2,000.00
	RoSPA	32	£225.00	£225.00	£250.00	£300.00
Roy Garner Pavilion		43	£2,000.00	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	£2,000.00
BL Project		63	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	£2,000.00
Grants		71	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	£5,000.00
other grants		72	£3,000.00	£3,000.00	£3,000.00	£3,000.00
Admin		91	£25,300.00	£26,000.00	£26,000.00	£26,000.00
	Misc				£0.00	
	Stationery	81	£500.00	£500.00	£500.00	£500.00
	soft/hardware	89	£500.00	£2,000.00	£500.00	£500.00
	Webmaster	84	£500.00	£500.00	£500.00	£500.00
	Legal Advise		£100.00	£100.00	£100.00	£100.00
	Training	83	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	£1,500.00
	Property Valuation		£4,000.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
	Initiatives		£1,000.00	£3,000.00	£3,000.00	£3,000.00
	Elections		£1,500.00			£2,800.00
Insurance		87	£3,300.00	£3,300.00	£3,500.00	£3,500.00
Contracts	Pest Control	36	£2,500.00	£2,500.00	£2,500.00	£2,500.00
	Recreation	34	£3,000.00	£3,300.00	£3,300.00	£3,300.00
	Cemetery	24	£1,500.00	£1,500.00	£1,700.00	£1,700.00
	Tree Maintenance	35	£3,000.00	£3,000.00	£3,000.00	£3,000.00
	Vert-draining	33		£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
Audit Fees		82	£1,100.00	£1,100.00	£1,100.00	£1,100.00
Memberships		88	£1,250.00	£1,500.00	£1,500.00	£1,500.00
Maintenance Works			£4,000.00	£4,000.00	£4,000.00	£4,000.00
New Projects			£5,000.00	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	£5,000.00
Chairman's Expenses		85	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	£1,000.00	£1,000.00
TOTAL			£80,575.00	£83,425.00	£82,750.00	£84,550.00
INCOME						
Precept			£60,969.00	£60,969.00	£60,969.00	£60,969.00
Discretionary			£10,000.00	£10,000.00	£10,000.00	£10,000.00
Others						
Rents			£511.00	£511.00	£511.00	£511.00
Burial Fees			£5,540.00	£5,000.00	£5,000.00	£5,000.00
Memorial Stones			£500.00	£400.00	£400.00	£400.00
Wayleaves			£44.00	£44.00	£44.00	£44.00
VAT Return			£6,000.00	£8,000.00	£6,000.00	£6,000.00
CiL Money			£0.00	£2,000.00	£2,000.00	£2,000.00
Interest Received			£800.00	£600.00	£600.00	£600.00
TOTAL			£84,364.00	£87,524.00	£85,524.00	£85,524.00
			2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26