

**Minutes of Old Marston Parish Annual Meeting  
Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2015, 7.00pm at Mortimer Hall**

**Present:**

**Charlie Haynes (Chairman) (CH)**  
**Angie Tiwari (AT)**  
**Patricia Hall (PH)**  
**Michael Cadd (MC)**  
**John Batey (JB)**  
**Michael O'Keefe (MO)**

**Duncan Hatfield (Vice-Chairman) (DH)**  
**Peter Cox (PC)**  
**peter Willaims (PW))**  
**Barrie Lewis (BL)**  
**Tony Greenfield (TG)**  
**Tim Cann (Clerk)**

**Members of the public 0**

**15/01 Apologies for absence**

Parish Councillor Nils Bartleet

**15/02 Minutes of the last meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2014**

The minutes of the meeting were approved once Tony Greenfield had been added to those present.

**15/03 Matters Arising (omitting those for which an agenda heading follows)**

None

**15/04 Chairman's Report**

Welcome to John Batey and Tony Greenfield, newly elected Parish Councillors, and thanks to Peter Sarac for all the work he had done while on the Council.

**Planning** Although not in the Parish but would have an affect there was good news in that Tesco's will no longer go ahead on the old Friar site. Also affecting the Parish is the go ahead for the new Barton development. Thanks to those Councillors on the Planning Committee.

**Boult's Lane Development** A new fundraiser was hired, Carolyn Place from Anthony Stiff Associates, and things do seem to be moving forward although probably not as fast as many would like. There had been meetings with Marston Saints.

**Recreation Ground:**

- Another picnic table was installed in the Mortimer Hall recreation ground and is very well used.
- The annual safety inspection carried out on play equipment and issues dealt with.
- A tree in memory of Roy Jones was planted, thanks to City Councillor Mick Haines. A ceremony will be organised, once the plaque has been agreed and made, to which all the relevant people will be invited.
- A spate of graffiti on play equipment in the Mortimer Hall recreation ground took place. However, as it was non offensive the Council decided not to remove.
- The Council is looking to improve the drainage in the Mortimer Hall recreation ground with a meeting with a contractor to get an idea what is needed and costings.
- The new contractor, BGG, is working well on all the recreation grounds.
- New play equipment is needed in Boult's Lane recreation ground and a committee will be needed to deal with this exciting opportunity.

**Burial Ground**

- Charges have been reviewed and kept in line with Oxford City Council.

- Old headstones etc. are to be removed this year, notices advising over 6 months with no responses.
- A new maintenance contractor has been brought in and, although early days, seems to be keeping things to the standard set by Mrs Cox.
- Thanks to Mrs Cox for all the work she has put in to bringing the Burial Ground up to its current state. Everyone would like to wish her well.

### **Highways**

- Parking issues still are ongoing. The Open Meeting with David Tole from the Oxfordshire County Council was very well attended so hopefully something will happen to help all in the Parish.
- A new pump was installed in the underpass to stop the flooding.

### **Finance**

- New financial regulations and standing orders were agreed; this was to cover changes in laws and new regulations.
- A Parish Councillor audits the accounts every three months.
- We have an internal auditor, thanks to Richard James for all his work.
- An external auditor, BDO, check again to ensure public money is handled correctly and procedures followed.

### **Allotments**

- The allotments in Mill Lane are still well used so thanks to OMMLAA.

### **Training**

Several Councillors have attended courses. These are important as it gives more experience and knowledge to the Parish Council as a whole.

### **Website**

Thanks to Duncan Hatfield for keeping the website up to date and our presence on FaceBook, Twitter, Streetlife etc.

### **Thanks**

Thanks to our City and County Councillors for all the work and support they give the Council, to the Parish Councillors for their time and input and to the Clerk who has now completed two years in the job.

### **15/05 Finance Report**

- Precept of £52,565 plus £10,000 received from Oxford City Council
- Continue to support local organisations at Christmas with grant of £300 (maximum)
- As well as the quarterly budget v expenditure reports we now have reports for income which will give the Council a fuller picture of the finance.
- Diane Malley continues to do our payroll services
- New financial regulations are now in place
- Finances & Account balances are currently as follows:
 

Expenditure £46,333.61	Income £74,213.24
Business Reserve £18,733.88	Current Account £56,662.00
Newbury Building Society £201,315.07	

### **15/06 Correspondence** No items.

The Parish Council Meeting follows at 7.30pm