

## Minutes of Old Marston Parish Council Meeting 7<sup>th</sup> April 2009

### Present:-

Charlie Haynes, Chairman (CH)  
Wally Cox, Vic Chairman (WC)  
Roy Jones (RJ)  
Peter Cox (PC)  
Hugh Deam (HD)  
Angie Tiwari (AT)  
Michael Cadd (MC)  
Duncan Hatfield (DH)  
Mrs K Stratford, Clerk (KS)  
Councillor Beverley Hazell  
Councillor Mary Clarkson  
Councillor Altaf-Khan

### Requests from Members of the Public to Speak

#### 1. Apologies for Absence

Mrs Gill Cox

The Clerk reminded parish councillors that apologies have to be made to the Clerk in advance on the meeting; any reason given for absence will be recorded.

The Chairman requested that Councillors declare any personal or prejudicial interests at any point on the agenda.

#### 2. Minutes of Last Meeting

RJ queried whether he has been missed off the sub-committee for play areas in error. The Chairman confirmed this was indeed an error and he was a welcome member. The minutes say a cheque was paid to DH, but it was given to DH to pay Get Online Limited.

BH was not recorded as being at the last meeting, but was in attendance (a little late).

It was agreed the Chairman could sign these as a true and correct record once the amendments had been made.

#### 3. Matters Arising from Minutes Omitting Those For Which an Agenda Heading Follows:

- Cllr Hudspeth to confirm the area for debate for 20mph
- Letter received from OCC explaining the apparently high precept.
- Jessop's Close – no letter yet written, although the Clerk has spoken to Planning Enforcement at the council.
- Bank account – still ongoing.
- Public viewing of plans at Boults Lane – CH/KS attended
- Amend FoOMPA constitution – to be done at FoOMPA AGM
- Total Turf – CH to report later
- Awaiting quote from Denis Ward re removal of the heap of soil – ongoing
- Investigating alternatives to RoSPA – ongoing
- Chairman, Vice Chairman and Clerk to meet City Council re double charging in future - ongoing – to meet in June.

#### 4. Correspondence (Letters/Emails)

Resignation of John McGinn leaves a vacancy. A vacancy has arisen through disqualification of a parish councillor for non attendance, which will be declared and a notice will be put on the noticeboard. Unless an election is called, the Council will co-opt someone at the next meeting. A person has already put themselves forward.

BDO has written. CH: LG will do and then Mr Hoffler will verify and send off to BDO.

## 5. Planning

### Applications considered between meetings:-

- The Three Horseshoes – demolition of existing extension and conversion to 3 x 2 dwelling houses and demolition of outbuilding to provide car parking space. No objection Michael Cadd declared an interest.
- 14 Mortimer Drive – erection of first floor side extension. Requested this be called in. BH advised officers were recommending refusal.
- 25 Oxford Road – demolition of existing single storey extension and erection of an amended single storey objection. No objection
- Boults Lane – demolition of existing pavilion and erection of a new pavilion. No Objection.
- 34 Mill Lane – complying with planning request – no objection.
- OXSRAD City – Oxford City Football Development – objected on grounds of traffic increase, no disabled spaces marked, also the plans are shown as tarmac, but there may be an impact on draining and flooding. MC confirmed it will automatically be called in as it is such a large application.

### Applications to be decided:-

- 27 Rippington Drive – Erection of a single storey rear extension. MC commented the plans are very sketchy and demonstrate a lack of detail. To object on lack of detail.
- 33A Oxford Road – erection of 1 x 2 bedroom dwelling on site of former barn and window. No comment.
- Land Adjacent to Cemetery and Southcroft Elsfeld Road – erection of 2 bed 2 storey detached dwelling. To object on grounds of access onto road as it is by the chicane. Inappropriate building within green belt. Requested city councillors call in.

### Decisions

1 Nicholas Ave – withdrawn

Tesco/The Friar – going to Area Committee on 21<sup>st</sup> April 2009.

Get subscription on line and print off - **KS**

Planning Policy – invitation to consult on core strategy. DH agreed to visit and the Chairman also **DH/CH**

## 6. Boults Lane Development Project

Had meeting with parishioners, who were largely in favour. Waiting to hear whether planning submission is refused or approved.

Noted no meeting minutes have been circulated for some time. The Chairman reported no meetings have been held.

The Clerk wrote to Marston Saints and asked them to clear up some flytipping noticed on the site, which they have done.

## **7. Recreation Grounds**

DH reported that WREN are giving us a grant for £50,000k. All credit to those on the committee for all their hard work. Put into Marston Times **KS**

The Chairman recorded he was concerned that FoOMPA was getting too involved with grass cutting. Cancelling the contract would have wider implications, so the group needs to ensure it does not promise what it can not deliver.

£5k from NEAC received. FoOMPA to write and thank the area committee. Will transfer to FoOMPA once their account is set up. Thanks to all those who contributed. **KS**

Total Turf have visited the site and have quoted for the work having surveyed the ground. A long report was received, but ultimately they can not drain the ground because there is no outlet for the water to go. They do have some ideas which may help, but these are quite costly. KS has a copy to give to FoOMPA. **KS**

RoSPA have written with their quote. The meeting accepted the quote. KS to inform RoSPA. **KS**

Letter received from Kamala an estimate for ongoing work required at Boults Lane for £1734.76 + VAT. Confirmed council had already agreed. The Chairman will speak to Marston Saints and tell them to authorise the work and bill the Parish Council. **CH**

RJ has been approached by a parishioner querying seating at Mortimer Hall. He advised they write to the Clerk – nothing received as yet.

## **8. Finance**

The Clerk has prepared a document to submit to the bank to put the new Clerk in power by the 1<sup>st</sup> April 2009.

The following accounts incl VAT to be paid:

OALC - Membership subscription - £592.58  
Total Turf - Consultancy visit and written report - £603.75  
Peter Cox - Mower and Strimmer Aug 08 – March 08' - £18.00  
SM Woodley - Labour and Materials – fencing - £60.00  
Total Pest Control - Quarterly Charge - £500.25  
OALC - Invoice for underpayment of courses - £12.00  
Oxford City Council - Annual non domestic rate bill - £63.05  
Oxford City Council - Grounds Maintenance - £2,866.26  
D.Hatfield - First Aid Kit for the Council - £13.99  
C.Haynes reimbursement - From Chairman's allowance. Clerk's farewell and Red Lion -  
£198.50  
Oxford City Council - Balance of Planning Fee - £603.00  
L.M.Garner - Salary and expenses to 31/3/2009 - £2012.18

The three accounts at the base of the table above have been paid. These rest awaiting the authorisation from the bank.

## **9. Burial Ground**

Headstone installed for Marion MacFarlane. KS in attendance.

Memorial request for Mr Eadle. Ks to write – no objection, but must be on site for erection  
**KS**

Grace Hardiman in an adjoining plot to Mr Hardiman. The Parish Council would like to approve all headstones prior to installation.

Asked for Council's help to do the grass. Awaiting response. **KS**

Chairman reported had a meeting with Carter Jonas Surveyors regarding the ditch (where ownership is queried). The Chairman proposed we would pay 50/50 with the Oxford Preservation Trust to clear out "our" section. OPT talking to Oxford City about sharing cost on "their" bit of the ditch. The meeting agreed to this. WC congratulated the Chairman on moving forward this far.

Carter Jonas has also quoted on Back Lane because it is so damp at the location. The reason being there are no ditches on either side. However, Carter Jonas have recommended that digging ditches would not alleviate the problem. Could perhaps cut the trees back a bit later in the season to make the light better.

KS wrote to Parks re their costs for burials. Awaiting response. **KS**

Recording the monument inscriptions – KS in discussions with them.

Brian and Amelia Clare – request for a monument - KS to write – no objection, but must be on site for erection. **KS**

Moles again at burial ground – KS to ring Total Pest Control **KS**

Chairman and PC to investigate a small container that may be kept adjacent to cemetery for storage of (for example) mower. **PC/CH**

Mower broken – PC to sort. **PC**

## **10. Highways**

Overhanging trees in Boults Close – sorted.

Graffiti in new bus shelter – KS wrote to ask it is removed. **KS**

KS wrote regarding the footpath in Church Lane. MC reported she has had a response and this will be dealt with.

MC: Elsfield Road – 2<sup>nd</sup> chicane – line of potholes, some deep. KS to report. **KS**

KS to distribute some cards with next agenda. **KS**

A-K – confirmed speed limit going to cabinet on 23<sup>rd</sup> April for a decision.

Bollard on Oxford Road – in hand.

RJ reported potholes in Butt's Lane big and getting worse. KS to report. **KS**

## **11. North East Area Committee**

Nothing affecting the Parish.

## **12. Parish Council Bulletin**

DH starting to put together and asked people for contribution ideas. Chairman suggested more people to help with the burial grounds, FoOMPA, Planning, Marston Saints. Thanks to Roy and welcome to Kate.

## **13. Allotments**

Nothing to report.

## **14. Website**

DH had information regarding FOI Act and DH keeping up to date with legislation. Website remains popular, with a lot of hits (averages 2 ½ thousand visits per month).

## **15. Any Other Business**

Date for AM – Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May agreed, will be followed by normal meeting.

Discussed the item WC requested for the agenda. OALC recommend that the council or clerk does not contact individual councillors formally. WC also recommended that councillor's attendances at meetings be recorded and published at annual meeting and in bulletin, together with other activities, such as NEAC or other committees over past year. All agreed. Resolution passed. WC to bring a draft procedure to the meeting for resolution and inclusion in standing orders. KS to order publications for all councillors: "Powers and Constitution of Local Councils", "Pointers to Good Practice" and "The Good Councillors Guide". **WC, KS**

KS to display vacancy notice. **KS**

WC: Mortimer Hall – in 2006 the PC agreed to support financially with regard to legal fees, an application and a grant. Mortimer Hall wants to go ahead with this work, and will need this agreed money. The plan is to do the work over the summer holidays. Mortimer Hall to write to the Clerk.

The Clerk to write to the ex-Clerk to request all the minute books as KS does not have them. **KS**

Roy's Party – Hugh will be attending, as will Michael, Angie and Altaf,

RJ: attended the London Road exhibition. RJ queried when the dates were set.

KS to contact NB informally to ask how he is and let him know he may apply for a leave of absence, if required. **KS**

DH thanks to all those who helped at the Oxclean event. Good turn out, and made a difference.

## **16. Date of Next Meeting**

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2009 at Mortimer Hall at 7:30pm. Will discuss the Parish Council AGM. Apologies received from Mary and Beverly