

Minutes of Old Marston Parish Council Meeting 6th February 2007

Present:-

Charlie Haynes, Chairman (CH)
 John Batey, Vice-Chairman (JB)
 Duncan Hatfield (DH)
 Wally Cox (WC)
 Gill Cox (GC)
 Michael Cadd (MC)
 Dr Graham Swift (GS)
 John McGinn (JMcG)

Peter Cox (PC)
 LeRoy Garner, Clerk (LG)
 Mrs K Stratford, Minutes Secretary (KS)

1	<p>Apologies for Absence</p> <p>Mr Hugh Deam, Mrs A Tiwari, Mr N Bartleet (and apologies in advance for next meeting), Cllr M Clarkson and Cllr C Van-Zyl.</p> <p>The Chairman requested that Councillors declare any personal interests at any point on the agenda.</p>	ACTION
2	<p>Minutes of Last Meeting - Amendments</p> <p>None.</p> <p>The Chairman is authorised to sign off minutes.</p>	
3	<p>Matters Arising from Minutes</p> <p>None</p>	
4	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>Meeting with Blackbird Leys, Littlemore and Risinghurst & Sandhills PCs</p> <p>Meeting will take place on 8th February. Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Mr Cox will attend. LG has listed comments which they may wish to take to the meeting.</p> <p>Proposed Website</p> <p>DH is to move forwards, let PC know costs. It is believed the web site will raise the profile of the PC and provide a useful link to other websites. It is proposed to display agendas, minutes, profiles and contact details, a local history, information on the burials grounds, local schools, Street</p>	CH / JB / WC

5	<p>Wardens, Football Club, allotments, bulletin etc (perhaps providing links for those above which do not have their own websites.) The site would be open to contribution from members and ongoing issues pertinent to Marston.</p> <p>DH will maintain the pages.</p> <p>CH asked for information on initial start up costs. DH noted that there were only limited suppliers. Costs were in two parts – registration with UK ERMA (once every two years) for £110 + VAT (approx £130) and to host the site £95 + VAT (approx £112) per year. This is a good price. We get full control. There are no commercial interests. Can provide ...gov.uk email addresses, keeping councilors own email addresses private.</p> <p>All in favour. CH proposed we give DH £250 as the initial start-up fee so he can progress. JB seconded. All agree – APPROVED. DH to progress and let the Clerk know when he needs the money. DH thinks initial set up can happen within about 2 weeks. Queried final name of website. AGREED Old Marston Parish Council (spaces, no dashes). Noted no logo. LG to speak to Alan Jones and enquire about anything historical. Noted there are old minutes dating back to the 1830s, excerpts from the Burial Book, which is fascinating.</p>	ACTION
	<p>Can we link into the City Council Planning site? DH to find out. As would be useful.</p>	DH
	<p>Discussed letter from Leader of the County Council about proposed bid to move towards Unitary Authority. Noted the letter does not ask for comment so agreed to note and wait for further information.</p>	DH
	<p>Consultation on future of Primary School provision in Oxfordshire. Invited to comment on http://domino2.oxfordshire.gov.uk/consult/consultlive.nsf/</p>	
	<p>Offer from the City Council to do our digital copying – no progress as they have said our bulletin is too big a job and the time delay is no good for other work.</p>	
	<p>Parish Transport Representatives Meeting will be held 19th March 2007 at County Council. Agenda to follow. Let Clerk know if you would like to attend.</p>	All
<p>5 Planning Applications</p> <p><u>Applications determined between meetings</u></p> <p>20 Horseman Close This proposal, by taking a garage and a room from the existing house into the plan, creates a new house. It is an extension to an existing extension that will result in over development. Existing extensions at the entrance to the Closes are reasonably balanced but this proposal will ruin the approach to Clays Close. By the inclusion on the plan of parking in the garden it is anticipated that there will be more indiscriminate parking to the disadvantage of neighbours, for example near a neighbour's living room window. The profile of the roof is alien to the estate</p>		

	<p>and must not be accepted There is a particularly strong objection to this application.</p> <p><u>Other Applications</u> Between South Croft and the Burial Ground, Elsfield Road. New house, substitute for earlier application – no comment R/o 33 Oxford Road – conversion into single storey dwelling – no comment</p> <p><u>Decisions</u> 2 Elsfield Road – conversion of garage into domestic accommodation – approved 2 Mortimer Drive – new shed – approved 86 Oxford Road – large rear extension. Appeal against refusal noted</p> <p>Barn Walls at 2 Ponds Lane – Enquiring in 1906 no 1830. Refused under delegated powers.</p> <p>Site of letter box. Original site selected but discovered electrical cables underneath so agreed a different site (at the public footpath end on footpath outside shop building) Should be installed shortly. Owner has given permission.</p> <p>Iris Goodgame – wrote to thank PC regarding discussions on traffic islands.</p> <p>6 Boults Lane Development Project</p> <p>Pavilion – Architect arranged a meeting with Planner with the Clerk in attendance. The Planner accepted ground plan of the building and it's location on the north boundary. He would not accept the height of the roof – too big. The enclosed space is too large for the needs of a football club and not acceptable on the green belt or in a conservation area. The architect is to scale down the upstairs and submit another plan. The architect has been asked to ensure he submits plans to the PC before the football club.</p> <p>This information will be passed onto the Football Club at a meeting tomorrow night (all members of Steering Group invited to attend). GS noted this will be a blow to the village. LG noted the Planners had asked to see the football club's finances. GC requested the Clerk remind the planners this is a building owned by the Parish Council (as stated on the planning application).</p> <p>Drainage Grant – JB has received the grant (drawn up drafted finances - circulated). Tender included with grant application (White Horse Contractors) and included their sum plus 5% contingency fee. Estimated expenditure on the project, including first 2 phases and final payment to Total Turf Solutions for overseeing the project will be £44,192 based on contractors' tender. Amount of grant received from Football</p>	<p>ACTION</p>
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	<p>Foundation was £26,582. (A figure of £2,382 was put into application for hiring of pitches during project by Marston Saints FC.) Amounts specified towards project in grant were £18,000 from Parish Council and £1,000 from Marston Saints FC.</p> <p>General terms and conditions runs to 19 pages.</p> <p>Clerk and Chairman to write off and accept grant and provide bank account details. We get 90% of the grant, and the last 10% when they have verified via their consultant that the job has been completed properly.</p> <p>Hoping to start late February/early March 2007.</p> <p>The Clerk has written to the Allotments Association requesting that the contractors are given access via the allotments area.</p> <p>GS proposed the PC makes up the shortfall. WC seconded. All agreed – APPROVED.</p>	<p>ACTION</p> <p>CH/LG</p>
<p>7</p>	<p>Recreation Grounds</p> <p>Stiles/Gates – to be chosen by Councillors (one at boundary of existing field and one at public highway in Marsh Lane at Horseman Close). AGREED the recommended design.</p> <p>36 Oxford Road (Nicky Hull) – expressed interests in amusements.</p> <p>Rachel Crouch (Head St Nicholas Primary School) – requested meeting with the Clerk to discuss her ideas regarding parking in Raymund Road.</p> <p>Trees – work has started, but not yet completed.</p>	<p>LG</p>
<p>8</p>	<p>Burial Ground</p> <p>Mrs Loveridge has purchased plots for vaults and used one of them. Noted can not bury under water table.</p> <p>The lock to the burial ground gate has been locked open, locked shut and then disappeared. Now replaced.</p> <p>New wheelbarrow was requested (cost of £50) – APPROVED.</p> <p>Burial Plots – received a letter from Mrs Lee requesting a plot. CH declared an interest and did not participate in discussion. JB commented we could not really make exceptions to the policy as barely room for current residents. LG noted she doesn't qualify. GS AGREED to turn down the request.</p> <p>PC noted he had received an offer of help from Elms Drive (through the Council Bulletin).</p>	

	<p>Noted there are 2 graves where mounds have appeared. LG to speak to the owners of the graves. CH to write to the grave digger to ensure the mounds and any future mounds are removed.</p>	<p>ACTION LG CH</p>
9	<p>Highways</p> <p>3 Boults Close – written to request that they convert the grass verge to tarmac (at their own expense). To advise them they need to make the request of Highways, who own the land.</p> <p>Back Lane – letter received from County Council to say they’re going to widen. Planning to re-install the ditch. LG noted opportunity to contact owners of Red Lion and put pressure to suggest they dig the ditch – will prevent water running downhill.</p> <p>Pounds Lane Sign Outside 15 Mill Lane – missing for 2 years. LG to report again.</p> <p>Tree Fallen onto cycle path by school (held up by fence). Tree dead. Appears dangerous. To be reported.</p> <p>Overhanging Vegetation - Leylandii over-hanging the footpath in Park Way and Oxford Road. Highways at County expressed disappointment this has not been done and stated they will raise again.</p> <p>Bridleway – More work to be carried out.</p> <p>PC noted he had received complaints regarding the verges on Marsh Lane (Cherwell Drive end). It is the responsibility of the County Council. Mary Clarkson has said she will find out the correct officer and raise with them.</p>	<p>CH</p> <p>LG</p> <p>LG</p> <p>LG</p> <p>MC</p>
10	<p>North East Area Committee</p> <p>No attendance, no report.</p>	
11	<p>Parish Council Bulletin</p> <p>GC stated that work would begin soon for the next issue – due to be circulated early March. Need articles for issue. Going to run a feature on allotments; profiles of MC and AT. Mention the imminent website. Recreation Grounds work, suggested articles on the Planning Process and Burial Ground conditions (LG to provide GC with rules). AGREED to print at same printers. AGREED same people will deliver, as previously.</p>	<p>LG</p>

12	<p>Finance</p> <p>The following accounts were paid</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="406 298 1263 451"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th></th> <th>£</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>R & M Pest Control</td> <td>Mole treatments</td> <td>25.00</td> </tr> <tr> <td>P. Cox</td> <td>Reimbursement for new Burial Ground lock</td> <td>11.50</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The Parish Council has received 2 grant applications (Junior Citizens Trust c/o Oxfordshire Fire and Rescue and Bell Ringers for a new rope). Both to be written to and advised to apply at the correct time, although LG to find out if local schools involved with the Junior Citizens Trust.</p>			£	R & M Pest Control	Mole treatments	25.00	P. Cox	Reimbursement for new Burial Ground lock	11.50	ACTION
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13	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>CH noted the issue of OXSRAD (noted on agenda) has been dealt with.</p> <p>WC received complaint from 73 Cherwell Drive. No 69 being used as a church. No 71 has a stretch limousine for hire plus cars for sale. Churning up the verge. Knocked down a wall (Planning Issue) and causing a disturbance. To contact CANACT and Planners.</p> <p>3 – 13 Cavendish Drive – the ditch which has been dug is wide and lengthy and full of water. Although fence in situ feared dangerous. Spoken to Planning who don't know the owner. H&S Executive in Southampton not sure. CH to write to Planning.</p>	<p>LG</p> <p>GC/WC</p> <p>CH</p>									
14	<p>Date of Next Meeting</p> <p>Tuesday, 6th March – Agenda to be agreed.</p>										

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