

Minutes of the Old Marston Parish Council meeting held on Monday 2nd February 2026 at Mortimer Hall from 19:00.

CONFIRMED

Present: Parish Council:

Duncan Hatfield – Chairman	Martin Smith	Kevin Jones
Charlotte Vinnicombe (Vice-Chair)	Louise Upton	Jackie Osman
Pat Hall	Mary James	Charlie Haynes
Mark Lygo		

In attendance: Tim Cann

Members of Public: 6

26/02/01 Intention to record the proceedings of the meeting:

None.

26/02/02 Apologies for Absence:

- Parish Councillor: Alistair Morris – unwell
- Mick Bates – Family Engagement

26/02/03 Chair's Welcome:

The chair welcomed everyone to the meeting and reminded all that protocol was for things to go through the chair.

26/02//04 Website and social media:

Duncan went through the social media platforms currently held by the parish council.

26/02/05 Public, County & City Councillors & Thames Valley Police participation (if any requests received):

- Thames Valley Police: Sergeant Samuel French** and a colleague attended the meeting. He informed the meeting that the team consists of 5 Police Officers and 5 PCSO's. Current issues are damage in the allotments and parking outside the mosque. It is the local authority's responsibility to act on speeding vehicles.
- County Councillor Report: Mark Lygo** stated that he has arranged a meeting with council officers to look at reinstating verges once the work has been completed on the Oxford Road.
- City Councillors Report: Oxford City Councillor Mary Clarkson:**
Kate Robinson stated she had several complaints about erosion of the grass verges by lorries and buses. She raised concerns at a recent city council meeting; at the moment she is being passed between the city, county councils and Thames Valley Police. She also raised the subject of gritting of cycle lanes which is being investigated.

Mary Clarkson informed the meeting that the John Radcliffe Hospital site is always gritted, and it would be interesting to find out by whom. She also reported on the issues with Marston Paddock and how the verge areas are going to be planted to discourage parking.
- Members of Public:** No members of the public wished to speak.

26/02/06 Approval Of The Minutes Of The Meeting Held On The 5th January 2026

It was RESOLVED these are a true record

26/02/07 Operational Checks:

- Weekly operational checks on the defibrillator have been carried out. Councillor Smith confirmed checked and ok.
- Weekly operational checks on the play equipment have been carried out. Councillor Smith confirmed checked and ok.

26/02/08 Planning:

Applications considered between meetings:

None

Decisions:

- 25/02257/FUL – 7 Cotswold Crescent – APPROVED.
- 25/02926/FUL – 1 Little Acreage – APPROVED.

Awaiting Decisions:

- 20/02457/DEL – Willow Barn, Oxford Road
- 25/00634/FUL – 24 Haynes Road
- 25/01054/FUL – 1 Mill Lane
- 25/01436/FUL – 32 Oxford Road
- 25/02371/FUL – 56 Cherwell Drive
- 25/02706/VAR – 22 Raymund Road
- 25/02591/FUL – 80 Arlington Drive
- 25/02487/FUL – Ibstocks, 1 Pond Lane
- 25/02876/FIL – 39 Salford Road
- 25/03345/FUL – 61 Cherwell Drive

Applications To Be Decided:

- **None**

Update on Hill View Farm:

- No further updates

Consultations

None

26/02/09 Transport:

Speed Awareness signs: After some discussion it was RESOLVED that the clerk would seek further information on different types of signs, maintenance costs, etc. Cllr Lygo confirmed that he will also chase up highways.

Oxford Road Ground Cover Update: No further updates

26/02/10 Finance

Correct on 21st January 2026

Unity Trust Current Account	£52,288.97
Newbury Building Society	£44,095.65 - 2.90%
Skipton Building Society	£64,149.99 - 2.05%

Petty Cash	£1.89
TOTAL	£160,536.50
CiL Money (included in above figures)	£67,094.61
The following accounts to be paid:	£ Incl. VAT
Clerk's Pay, Expenses, Pension, etc.(January 2026):	£
Total Pest Control (Quarterly Charge):	£415.36
Mortimer Hall (Annual Hall Hire):	£286.00
RBL (Poppy Appeal):	£200.00
SLCC (Clerk's Annual membership):	£355.00
Vodafone (Clerk's Mobile – DD):	£16.30
TOTAL:	£3,842.61
Petty Cash Expenditure:	£0.00
Income:	
Mortimer Hall (Annual Rent)	£00.05
Newbury Building Society (Annual Interest)	£1,356.75
Skipton Building Society (Annual Interest)	£1,675.75
Reserves:	
Total Balances:	£160,536.50
General Reserve:	£31,216.00
Fixed Asset Reserve:	£10,000.00
Emergency Reserve:	£10,000.00
Unallocated Reserve:	£109,320.50

- a. It was resolved to accept payments:
- b. Grant Request: Arch asked for £2,000 for further reading work in Marston. It was RESOLVED to award the maximum as per grant policy of £500.00

26/02/11 Clerk's Report.

- Update on Bleed Kits – The Clerk confirmed that he is still waiting for written permission from OXSRAD and the Mortimer Hall. Cllr Upton to chase OXSRAD and Cllr Vinnicombe Mortimer Hall.
- Mortimer Hall Clock Update – After some discussion it was RESOLVED the clerk get the cost of a new electric clock.
- Noticeboard – Orchard Triangle – On going.
- Noticeboard – Salford Road – On going.

26/02/12 Mill Lane Recreation Ground Update:

The chair advised the meeting that he had shared the survey results with Oxford Preservation Trust and a meeting is being arranged with the chair, clerk and an OPT representative.

26/02/13 General Maintenance:

- **Orchard Triangle Maintenance:** The clerk informed the council that a tender had been received to clear access to enter the Orchard Triangle (over-hanging branches/brambles) to enable wheel-chair access.
To cut back all brambles and elderberry to inside boundaries.
To clear the footpath of brambles and elderberry to make the footpath wheel-chair friendly.

To flail off the whole area of all grass and the rough patches and go over with the mower. To cut down to ground level the "dead" tree in the centre of the triangle and leave for wildlife habit. £2,850.00 no VAT.

It was RESOLVED to accept this tender.

- **No Mow May:** It was asked if the parish council ask for No Mow May to be cancelled as the grass verges look very untidy and some contain poisonous weeds. City councillor Clarkson informed the council that only the Oxford Road and Cherwell Drive are on the city council's schedule not to be cut.
- **Hedge-line at Mill Lane Recreation Area:** The hedge-line needs to be cut back down to the post and rail fence, and the recreation area needs to be more maintained on a regular basis. This will be discussed with OPT at the meeting.
- **Oxford Preservation Trust Fields:** Their fields/hedge-line/trees and fencing need maintaining. Although nothing to do with the parish council it was agreed that Cllr Upton will bring this up with OPT.
- **The Reading Room Garden.** This needs regular maintenance. Again, although nothing to do with the parish council the chair agreed to take this up with St Nicholas Church Properties.
- **Cemetery extension field.** This is now part of the contract so will be maintained regularly.
- **Back-Lane.** This is reasonably maintained although could be cut back a bit more. It was RESOLVED the clerk get quotes.
- **Mill Lane Allotments Hedge.** The hedge-line needs cutting and regular maintenance going forward. Mr Ward knows the operative who cuts the hedges along Mill Lane. He will speak to him.
- **Mole Control in Boults Lane:** The contractor had stated they have experiences issues with traps being tampered with or damaged. The have quoted £600.00 plus VAT to gas. It was RESOLVED to accept the quote.
- **Cllr Vinnicombe said that a parent had asked if the showers in the pavilion could be refurbished.** Clerk to speak to Marston Saints FC.

26/02/15 Plus, anything of an urgent nature which has come to the clerk's attention since the agenda was set.

- The clerk informed the council he had received a quote to cut back the whole length of the Mortimer Hall hedge, (labour and hire of machinery) £1,500.00 no VAT It was RESOLVED to accept this quote.
- Planters along Cherwell Drive: The clerk advised that the city council are adding more cycle racks in front of the shops. To do this at least two, if not four, large planters need to be removed. Parish council might like to consider if the planters could be used somewhere in the parish. It was RESOLVED that they could, and locations considered.

26/02/16 Information sharing (including correspondence)

- OALC Newsletter
- Rural Services Network Digest etc,
- Oxford Half Marathon Sunday 11th October 2026
- OXCLEAN – 7th March 2026 10am at the Mortimer Hall.
- Draft Oxford Local Plan 2045 is out for consultation.

26/02/17 Date of next meeting:

Monday 2nd March 2026 19:00 in Mortimer Hall.

MEETING CLOSED: 20:27

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....

Please note: Minutes become CONFIRMED following resolution at the following full council meeting.