Minutes of Old Marston Parish Council Meeting 2nd January 2007

Present:-

Charlie Haynes, Chairman (CH)
John Batey, Vice-Chairman (JB)
Duncan Hatfield (DH)
Wally Cox (WC)
Hugh Deam (HD)
Michael Cadd (MC)
Dr Graham Swift (GS)
Nils Bartleet (NB)

Peter Cox (PC)
Angie Tiwari (AT)
Mary Clarkson, Oxford City Councilor (MC)
LeRoy Garner, Clerk (LG)
Mr D Manson, Local Auditor (DM)
Mrs K Stratford, Minutes Secretary (KS)

1 **Apologies for Absence** ACTION Mrs G Cox, Mr J McGinn and Cllr C Van-Zyl. The Chairman requested that Councilors declare any personal interests at any point on the agenda. 2 **Minutes of Last Meeting - Amendments** "Present" list John McGinn (spelling). "Minutes Secretary" insert a full stop after "position" and expunge the rest of the sentence, and in the next paragraph insert a full stop after "...and Gill Cox" and delete the rest of the paragraph up to "prior". "Planning" insert full stop after "...monies" and insert "Of" at the start of the next sentence. "Field Adjoining Marsh Lane" etc insert "is" between "funding" and "being" and expunge middle sentence. "Allotments" Last sentence should read "It thanked the Council ..." The Chairman is authorised to sign off minutes once these have been CH amended. 3 **Matters Arising from Minutes** The Clerk circulated useful details of Councilors and requested any amendments be sent to him within the next few days. It was also discussed moving the Parish Council meetings to the Church Hall. The Church Hall will only be available on the last Tuesday of each month. MC noted this clashed with the planning meeting of the NEAC so **ACTION** Councilors and PC reps would not be able to attend. CH will talk to St.

Nicholas school when they come back after the break and see if they have any availability.

CH

4 Correspondence

Meeting with Blackbird Leys, Littlemore and Risinghurst & Sandhills PCs

Littlemore has now organised a meeting in January/February together with Oxford City Council. Do we want to attend? What items for the agenda? To discuss: Planning, Highways, Rec Grounds, S.106. Particularly where PCs are left out of funding. It should also to be raised that Planning Officers should attend meetings to answer questions. NB recommended the meeting takes place in February 2007.

The County Council would like to invite OMPC to attend an event to thank them for their contribution on Wednesday, 28th February 2007 at County Hall. CH & NB agreed to attend.

CH/NB

5 | Planning Applications

Applications:

- **34 Mill Lane** Conversion into two flats including statement of use of garage as bungalow for which no planning consent is on record. There is strong objection to the thought that yet another family home might be lost. Refusal recommended.
- **17 Mill Lane, Cromwell House** Two extensions for which there is sufficient space and unlikely to have any adverse effect on neighbours. No objections provided that Listed Building Consent is granted on the recommendation of the Conservation Officer.
- **51 Rippington Drive** Addition of a third parking space in the front garden, strong objection to more garden parking occasioned by the over development of the site in the past.
- **2 Mortimer Drive** Demolition of buildings/sheds unidentified on the plan. Erection of a new shed. The application should be rejected as the use of the shed is not determined. Refusal recommended.

Decisions

- **7 Fairfax Avenue** large extension approved.
- **8 Mortimer Drive** roof extension permitted development.

ACTION

Two members of Marston Saints Steering Committee were in attendance.

Drainage Grant – JB waiting to hear, expected February.

Pavilion – Steering Committee met 19/12 with architect. He is liaising with Planners re building and plans. Barry Parsons has two proposals for the location of the Pavilion on to the play area which could then also be upgrade. 1 to place it diagonally in the play area 2 to place it in the allotments corner of the play area

LG spoke to the architect today and described the proposals. The architect was very positive; helps access and gives more parking. He heartily endorses.

Footprint of requirements – Male and Female toilets, stores, disabled access means it won't fit into the existing space without reducing the car parking. Right of access to allotments limits space. This allows 34 spaces – a significant advance. This also means children won't have to cross the access road. Grounds maintenance equipment will be held within field and opens up the access for parking and also can use existing Pavilion during the new erection.

JB recommended we say to the Steering Committee that this Council is willing to support the move with implications of refurbishing playgrounds at the same time or just after, and accepts the possibility of reciting the Pavilion, option site 1 and second option site 2. M. Cadd seconded. 7 in favour.

Correspondence from Marston Saints Under 7s — Thank you for the £300 grant. Football club successful in the application of the speedway field for development.

GS recommended Community Rights of Way Improvement Fund – Passed to Marston Saints.

7 Recreation Grounds

The Clerk had failed in obtaining S106 money.

Footpaths – cut track through Back Lane bridleway – In hand.

Trees – agreement from OCC to take out extra trees not on schedule. Tree man noted these to be taken out within 6 weeks. Permission granted to fell all other trees.

LG

No current matters but have got moles (and some on the play area). The Clerk will deal with.

9 Highways

Wrote about Leylandii over-hanging the footpath in Park Way and Oxford Road. Highways at County were asked to cut them back and report it had been done. The Clerk will write back and say that this issue remains unresolved.

LG

Post Box – Royal Mail to show where it's going to go. Confirmed in writing.

Meeting by Highway Engineer re Elsfield Road islands. Lengthy discussion. County to cut back over-hanging vegetation to improve visibility.

10 North East Area Committee

JB went 19/12. Inspector Ned Querishi of Thames Valley Police was in attendance. Reported that PC John Shane had temporarily taken over policing in Marston. Neighbourhood Specialist Officers replacing Beat Officers. Reported a reduction in burglary and auto crime and criminal damage.

Deputy Head from Cherwell made an application for £1,250 for a project to help under-achieving disaffected young students in Marston and Northway, starting with a small group and then extending.

14 Salford Road – Second application has no extension to the rear but to divide the house into 3 flats. Residents objected. PC had objected. JB spoke re negative impact on schools, parking, more transient local population. Salford Road residents noted 3 flats on 3 floors – no access to rear bin stores for upper floors. NEAC later refused application.

JB said he attends a lot of committees and asked if NB could represent the Parish Council. He agreed if the Parish Council finds this acceptable. WC will take on NB's role as deputy. **Agreed.** The Clerk will write advising that NB is our representative in NE Area Committee with WC as second representative and AT as third.

LG

11 | Parish Council Bulletin

GC

Confirmed this had been sent out. Thanks to those who helped to circulate. GC will be in touch for the next issue. Thanks extended to GC.

ACTION

12 Finance

The following accounts were paid:-

		£
C. Haynes	Chairman's Allowance 2006	50.00
Wicksteed Leisure Ltd	Bearings for roundabout	45.59
Mortimer Hall M.C.	Use of Hall Oct – Dec	18.00
Lexis Nexis	Replacement of lost cheque	53.45
Thames Water	Burial Ground water	6.89
D. Hatfield	Honorarium re: minute taking Oct -	50.00
	Dec	
Darbys Solicitors	Mortimer Hall lease fees	446.50

The Parish Council considered the information presented by the Clerk and in view of impending commitments, decided to raise the precept by 2.5%.

13 Any Other Business

The Council agreed to offer £50 as a thank you payment for the work on setting up the accounts package.

14 Date of Next Meeting

Tuesday, 5th February – Agenda to be agreed.