

Minutes of Old Marston Parish Council Meeting 4th January 2011

Present:-

Charlie Haynes, Chairman (CH)
 Duncan Hatfield, Vice-Chairman (DH)
 Nils Bartleet (NB)
 Michael Cadd (MC)
 Roy Jones (RJ)
 Wally Cox (WC)
 Gill Cox (GC)
 Barrie Lewis (BL)
 Patricia Hall (PH)
 Peter Sarac (PS)
 Angie Tiwari (AT)

Kate Stratford, Clerk (KS)
 Councillor Beverly Hazell (BH)
 Councillor Roy Darke (RD)
 Councillor Mary Clarkson (MRC)

1	Requests from Members of the Public to Speak None. Rhianne Pope from Oxford Mail in attendance.	ACTION
2	Apologies for Absence Mr Peter Cox.	
3	Minutes of Last Meeting Section 11 (Highways) – minutes suggest that the PC wishes the Clerk to contact the County Council requesting that the bus stop by the memorial garden is renamed “White Hart” but this was not ratified by the PC. CH proposed this stop is renamed “Three Horseshoes”, seconded by BL. All agreed. Clerk to contact the County Council with the suggestion. With this correction, the minutes of the last meeting were accepted as a true and correct record with no other additions or corrections.	KS
4	Matters Arising from Minutes Omitting Those For Which an Agenda Heading Follows: None.	
5	Correspondence (Letters/Emails) See Appendix A <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Date arranged for 21st December for the unveiling of clock. The clock was unveiled at Mortimer Hall. Parish Councillors Haynes, Cox, Sarac, Tiwari and Hall were in attendance, as was Mr Garner, Mr and Mrs Crane and two members of the Busfield family. The Oxford Mail were in attendance and ran the story. A charming letter of thanks to everyone involved was received from the Busfield family. WC noted that the words that LeRoy Garner spoke were effective and personal and generally very good. All agreed. Clerk to write and thank Mortimer Hall. GC queried the insurance of the clock. CH suggested that the Mortimer Hall Management Committee speak to their insurers. WC/GC agreed and will report back. <p>Oxfordshire County Council – minutes of Parish Transport Representatives Meeting. OAYP – survey (responded). OALC – forwarding information on Oxfordshire County Council’s budget. SLCC – Newsletter. Oxford Civic Society – posters for noticeboard.</p>	KS WC/GC

LCR online.

ACTION

Invitation to Oxfordshire Branch Conference on 16th February.

Community Safety – snow warning.

John Hicks and Associates offering to carry out playground inspections.

Cllr David Robertson – OxOnline.

6 Planning

- 5 Cromwell Close – sent no objection as long as neighbours consulted.
- 2 Cotswold Crescent – sent no objections as long as neighbours consulted.
- Letter objecting to withdrawal of funding from Planning Aid sent to Eric Pickles MP. Note response.
- Friar going to appeal on 29th March 2011.

Applications considered between meetings:-

None.

Applications to be decided:-

2 Mortimer Drive – 2 storey side and rear extension. Note email from resident – to object on same grounds as previous application.

26-28 Oxford Road – two storey side extension and single storey rear extension – no objection as long as neighbours consulted.

30 Old Marston Road – proposed subdivision of existing entrance hall and erection of front porch – not considered as outside parish.

Decisions

85 Oxford Road – refused.

RD gave an update on the Friar application. He noted the second application was rejected by NEAC against officer recommendation to approve. Councillors Darke, Clarkson and one other from NEAC were taking the appeal. Tesco has insisted on a public inquiry although the City Council have said to the inspectorate that a community hearing would be more appropriate. The appeal centres on 4 issues – loss of a pub; traffic implications including safety and parking, loss of amenity to surrounding properties and loss of trees on public highway. The appeal will be open to the public and anyone who wishes to may attend and speak. PCllrs Bartleet and Jones commented on the implications of traffic if the application is granted and that the site is inappropriately located.

7 Boults Lane Development Project

Meeting with Parish rescheduled for 18th January 2011 at Mortimer Hall. Main room booked. Advertised in Marston Times. CH noted it would be good if all Parish Councillors could attend the meeting. The public meeting will be an introduction by CH, he will then go through the stages, will give quotes. Marston Saints will be in attendance. Steering committee due to meet on 12th January and will produce bullet points for a presentation to be held on 18th January.

All PCllrs

8 Recreation Grounds

- PC requested seeing quotes for proposed new climbing wall – provided prior to the meeting. No comments. Proposed by CH, all agreed.

Moles at Boults Lane – Total Pest Control have been contacted.

9 Finance**ACTION
KS**

- Typographical errors in minutes – to be corrected and signed.
- Oxsrud provided accounts within 48 hours of December meeting, so the cheque (noted in red in December's minutes) was signed.
- Bank balance as at 29th December 2010 – current account £20,429.50; deposit account £173,422.85.

The following accounts to be paid:

		£ incl VAT
Mrs K Stratford	Refreshments for clock unveiling	7.76
Mrs Collins	Refund of deposit cheque.	50.00
Mr C.W. Haynes	For computer security software	39.32
Kate Stratford	Reimbursement for phone December 2010	26.59
HMRC	Tax and National Insurance for December 2010	39.20
Oxfordshire County Council	Pension for Clerk December 2010	93.33
Kate Stratford	Salary for December 2010	555.29
Kate Stratford	Heating and electric weeks 37 - 41 (Thur 2 nd Dec – Weds 29 th Dec) @ £3 per week	12.00

The following income has been received:

		£ incl VAT
HMRC	Final query on VAT rebate	1,303.50

St John's Ambulance, Over 50s Club, FoOMPA, Society of Bell Ringers and PCC have all written thanking the PC for the grant cheque.

Cost for the Red Lion was £152.00.

Richard James has completed the half-yearly audit – report to be provided.

RJames

The proposed budget was considered and ratified by the entire Parish Council.

Precept – PClrs considered and agreed to hold the precept at £51,000.00 for the year 2011/12 on the proviso that the PC receives the rebate from the City Council of £10,000.00. Proposed by CH, seconded by WC, all agreed. Clerk to advise the City Council.

KS

New chequebook received.

10	Burial Ground	ACTION
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contacted Reeves approving the proposed Brown memorial. • Highworth contacted and advised to go ahead with Handley Memorial. • Collins flowers have been removed. Deposit cheque to be returned. 	KS
	<p>Thame Funeral requested fees and conditions for potential Merriman memorial, and advised that the family had reported that the grave had subsided. Thame Funeral advised that they had spoken to Tony Hayward and that they had asked him to ‘top up’. Clerk investigated once snow melted, and did not consider the Merriman grave required any topping up.</p> <p>Clerk has contacted Tony Hayward and asked him to top up Collins grave urgently, and also the Handley and Humphries graves. This will be done this week.</p> <p>Moles at the burial ground – Total Pest Control contacted.</p>	
11	Highways	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • County still to complete parking restriction work. Clerk has written asking if Raymund Road could be expanded to include mornings as well as afternoons. The latest deadline was by the end of Christmas period, and has not been met. Clerk will chase again. • Clerk and BH both wrote to the County chasing the consultation on bus stop markings. BH was assured the work will start soon. • BT was contacted with request to clean and repair phone boxes. Request acknowledged. • New Highways team were contacted and a request made for a new light in Church Lane. The response was yes, if the PC pays for it at a cost of c. £2,100.00 per light. The PC discussed and agreed that they did not consider it an appropriate use of PC funds to pay for this. 	KS
	<p>Flyposting has been removed from the Parish.</p> <p>BL advised he has been approached by residents requesting dog bins along the cycle track at Marston Ferry Road. There is much litter and mess here. Clerk to request CW clean and write to Parks requesting a dog bin.</p> <p>GC/MRC both advised parking on Raymund Road in the mornings was continuing to be a problem.</p> <p>RJ reported on ongoing problem with parking in front of church and in front of 1 Elsfield Road. Clerk to chase.</p> <p>NB noted that the City Council did very well on snow clearing – Clerk to write with thanks.</p> <p>NB recalled that there had been a request for a change of speeds going to the A40 from March Lane. This needs to be enforced. Clerk to write.</p> <p>BL noted that the bus stops on Cherwell Drive and Oxford Road are very close together, and coupled with the stop on Oxford Road is immediately opposite is causing congestion and problems. PH noted that the stop on Cherwell Drive had recently been moved down which added to the problems. Clerk to write.</p> <p>RJ reported that at the entrance to the Bricklayers car park there is a fire hydrant which has been flooding for some time. It is now covered with soil, but water has been spotted continuing to leak. Clerk to contact Thames Water.</p>	KS KS KS KS KS KS
12	North East Area Committee	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request for a dog bin – waiting to hear from NEAC. BH has chased this to ensure that the request is not forgotten. 	

13	Parish Council Bulletin Next issue is ready, but awaiting the map.	ACTION DH
14	Allotments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Burst pipe to new tap. Awaiting bill from Andy Job once work completed. 	
15	Website Still very popular, with lots of traffic. GC to resend updates for contact details of the pre-school.	GC
16	Proposed Closure of Old Marston Library <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Information on front page of website – CH commented that residents had complimented him on this. Note was put into Marston Times. Clerk has corresponded with various interested residents, and has started a database of those wishing to get involved. RD asked to be put on the database. 	KS
	<p>It was noted that it may be necessary to hold an open meeting with the parish on this issue. Will form steering group.</p> <p>CH reported the library is currently open 19 hours per week. Customer visits down 8% on this time last year. The library costs c. £20k per year to run.</p> <p>RD reported that the person responsible is Judith Heathcote, who has indicated that she would be willing to have groups go to County Hall and meet with her for full breakdowns. Consultation will take place between March and May.</p> <p>A meeting will take place in the town hall on Thursday, 20th January at 7:30pm.</p> <p>All welcome to attend.</p>	
16	Any Other Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Risk Assessment of Clerk's office – carried out but awaiting report. Mr Jones offering map of parish – this is continuing. Nominations to other bodies – Clerk has sent copy to all relevant parties. Cranes have confirmed proposed change of date for February meeting to 2nd February 2011 is acceptable. 	DH DH
	<p>Old minutes have gone for binding. Cost will be approx £120.00.</p> <p>NB attended the Standards Committee. He reported that Central Government had written to him to advise that they plan to axe this, although the City Council have stated they plan to keep it voluntarily.</p> <p>DH reminded PClrs of the Oxclean event on 5th March, meeting at 10:00am at Mortimer Hall.</p>	
18	Date of Next Meeting WEDNESDAY, 2nd February 2011 at Mortimer Hall at 7:30pm	