

Minutes of Old Marston Parish Council Meeting 2nd March 2010

Present:-

Charlie Haynes, Chairman (CH)
Wally Cox (WC)
Gill Cox (GC)
Peter Cox (PC)
Michael Cadd (MC)
Roy Jones (RJ)
Duncan Hatfield (DH)
Barrie Lewis (BL)
Angie Tiwari (AT)
Nils Bartleet (NB)

Kate Stratford, Clerk (KS)
Cllr Altaf-Khan
Cllr Mary Clarkson

| 1 | Requests from Members of the Public to Speak | ACTION |
|---|---|---------------|
| | <p>Any member of the public wishing to speak must fill in a form and pass to the Clerk. Neighbourhood Inspector Ned Quershi was in attendance to take questions from Parish Councillors and to explain the team's role in Marston, he gave details of neighbourhood priorities that had been collected from a survey of over 1,500 residents. Current priorities are litter, parking/speeding and anti-social behavior. The issue of parking was raised. Inspector Quershi stated enforcement does not work, because although the car receiving the ticket may not park there again, another car will. However, Insp Quershi encouraged the reporting of dangerous parking, and stated the Policing Pledge guaranteed a response within 24 hours. He also noted the County Council are currently consulting residents on changes to parking restrictions at current 'hot spots'. The issue of youths congregating in Old Marston Village was raised, and inspector Quershi took note of locations – top of Back Lane, Ponds Lane, Mill Lane and Butts Lane. RJ noted youths are noisy and aggressive towards passers-by, particularly on weekend evenings. MRC noted there had been issues in the past of drug dealing on Ponds Lane, but this had not been a problem recently. Inspector Quershi encouraged people to contact him (details on back page of Marston Times) and noted an office would be opening soon on Westlands Drive. CH requested police presence at a couple of meetings every year, and Inspector Quershi agreed to this request. The Chairman thanked Inspector Quershi for attending.</p> | |
| 2 | <p>Apologies for Absence Cllr Hazell, Dr Swift. Hugh Deam was not in attendance. The Chairman requested that Councillors declare any personal or prejudicial interests at any point on the agenda.</p> | |
| 3 | <p>Minutes of Last Meeting The minutes of the last meeting were accepted as a true and correct record with one correction – on point 11, RJ noted that no bollard has been painted white, but a white stripe has been painted onto the base, at one location.</p> | |
| 4 | <p>Matters Arising from Minutes Omitting Those For Which an Agenda Heading Follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Proposed clock – a meeting was held on site earlier in the day, Mark Longford and Wally Cox were in attendance representing Mortimer Hall. The location of the clock was agreed, and noted the location is compatible with the proposed false ceiling. Mortimer Hall will arrange to move the alarm, and will arrange for the electrician. Details of the electrics were discussed and agreed. It was agreed the wording for the plaque will be designed by the Busfield family, and KS will source a supplier. The plaque will go underneath the clock. WC noted the holes in the wall need to be sealed as the walls are going to be cavity insulated. Smiths will provide a diagram and details. KS to confirm the RAL number of the green. ML will source scaffolding, and pass details onto Smiths. The cost of this will have to | |

be met. KS reported Planning had requested details of the clock be sent to them, so these have been forwarded, the Council will let us know if Planning Consent is required. It is hoped the clock can be installed as early as the Easter Holidays. Hawkins Clocks have arranged to meet the Clerk on site next week, for price comparison purposes.

ACTION

5 Correspondence (Letters/Emails)

See Appendix A

- OCC has invited PC participate in Character Assessment Toolkit (partnership between OCC and OPT). MRC has provided more details, see attached.
- Meeting between City and Parish councils – details for agenda sent.
- Ned Quereshi to attend next meeting.

ORCC invitation to celebrate their 90th Birthday.

Bicester Town Council – invitation to Charity Golf Day on 16th April.

NSPCC inviting support.

Carter Jonas – confirming receipt of cheque for OPT for work on ditch.

Society of Local Council Clerks – invitation to Regional Conference on 16th March.

Oxford Brookes – wanting to submit an article for Marston Times.

KS will meet the person who will provide the planning training. This training for councillors will take place after the elections.

Parks have advised the office at Wolvercote cemetery is closing and have given an alternative contact.

Cllr Darke has provided information on funding fair.

NAVCA – Free event “Democracy Day” on 3rd March.

Oxford Green Belt Network – annual subscription due – the Parish Council wish to re-subscribe – KS to raise cheque.

KS

Standards Committee Meeting agenda – 5th March 2010.

St John’s Ambulance has written to request a donation (£100). Ks to respond that we support the local cadets.

KS

GS has written to resign, this is ‘on hold’ until the elections.

An email from the city council was not discussed, by was circulated. It warns that if the general elections are held on May 6th, the date of the Parish Council poll will move. This will only happen if elections are contested. If the elections are uncontested (i.e. there are 12 nominations or less) the date will remain as 6th May.

6 Planning

- Advised Planning Enforcement regarding 16 Jessops Close and Boults Lodge. The city council is investigating both. No evidence with regard to 16 Jessops Close, so this case is now closed. Boults Lodge is being investigated.

Applications considered between meetings:-

None.

Applications to be decided:-

Proposed expansion to St Nicholas School. The County have only provided details electronically. The Council supports the application, but believes the expansion will mean more children need to cross the Oxford Road at the location where the lollipop man recently resigned stating it was “too dangerous”, and therefore, the need for an additional, safer crossing is now essential. This is confirmed by the transport statement, which suggests 40% of new pupils will come to school via public transport, so this 40% will need to cross the road at least once each day to get to the bus stop.

Decisions

1 Nicholas Avenue – approved.

8 Boults Lane – application for solar panels withdrawn.

Certificate of Lawfulness for proposed development at 13 and 15 Fane Road.

Mallards, 4 Mill Lane has gone to appeal to the Secretary of State.

Planning have advised St Nicholas Primary School Application is “RNO” (Raised no objection). Clerk has written to planning to ask why we were not sent the paperwork for scrutiny. City Planning have said County run the applications for schools.

Planning have provided a statement on Conservation Areas – Parish Councillors to note.

GC queried the parking constraints at 14 Mortimer Drive. KS to speak to Planning

Enforcement.

MRC advised that the appeal regarding the Sikh temple on Cherwell Drive had been dismissed, so the council are going to evict.

All
KS

7 Boults Lane Development Project

No meeting yet held – awaiting the Carter Jonas valuation.

8 Recreation Grounds

- Tree survey
- AT has been invited to the next FoOMPA meeting, to be held 3rd February at 8:00pm
- RoSPA have written to advise our inspection for 2010 is already booked – confirmed this includes both locations.

FoOMPA have held a meeting. PCILrs noted their minutes and approved in principal.

Councillors are going to devise a rota amongst themselves at next meeting. CH to discuss catering with KS and GC will organise a display of parish council books and records. KS to advise Rachel Honey. FoOMPA to write to the PC with what they wanted added to the park, and where they propose items will be sited. However, the parish council are in agreement in principal. Proposed by DH, seconded by GC and all in agreement.

Parks have confirmed the recently felled trees will be replaced by end of March.

KS

9 Finance

- Dog bin – WC to approach NEAC to ask if they will fund.
- Valuing the council’s assets – Carter Jonas carrying out the work.
- Bank balance as at 24/2/2010 – current account £10,623.60; deposit account £140,866.19

WC

The following accounts to be paid:

ACTION

| | | £ incl VAT |
|----------------------------|--|---------------|
| Helping Hands | Litter Pickers | 244.27 |
| MP Security Installations | Call out for alarm | 111.63 |
| Thames Water | Burial Ground Nov – Feb | 9.28 |
| Kate Stratford | Reimbursement for phone Jan 2010 | 34.44 |
| Kate Stratford | Reimbursement for phone Feb 2010 | 26.83 |
| HMRC | Tax and National Insurance February 2010 | 34.02 |
| Oxfordshire County Council | Pension for Clerk February 2010 | 86.19 |
| Kate Stratford | Salary for February 2010 | 548.81 |
| SM Woodley | Repair fencing at Boults Lane | 75.00 |
| CW Haynes | Materials for above repair | 17.50 |
| Mortimer Hall | Rent of Hall | 120.00 |
| D Hatfield | Printer Cartridges | 26.94 |

The following income has been received:

| | | £ incl VAT |
|--------------|--------------------------|---------------|
| Mr Elms | Reserving his ashes plot | 100.00 |
| BT Openreach | Wayleave | 8.82 |

OCC have invited the PC to consult on proposed 2010/11 Budget.

HMRC have sent reminder to complete form P35

BDO has sent a pre-audit pack.

10 Burial Ground

- Mrs Elms has been interred in A12B and A12C. Mr Elms has reserved space for himself in that plot too.
- Keys to be cut for shed. **KS**
- KS to produce a sign - done.
- Mr and Mrs Langton have confirmed they have lived in the village for 14 years, and in the event of Mrs Langton passing away first, would keep her ashes until Mr Langton had died. May they get permission to reserve a plot? PC proposed. BL seconded, all agreed. KS to advise. **KS**

Reeves have advised us that Mrs Dibsdel has contacted them with a view to organising a memorial for Mr Dibsdel. The Clerk has written asking her to use Highworth. She has written requesting an exception be made – PC in agreement – proposed by DH, seconded by MC, all agreed. KS to advise. **KS**

The family of Brenda Clarke have written to request that they be allowed to use Reeves, as they have a quote from Reeves and Highworth, and the Highworth quote is double. PC in agreement, proposed by DH, seconded by MC, all in agreement. KS to advise. **KS**

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| | <p>Mrs Brown has phoned to report subsidence at Prof Brown's grave. There is further subsidence, but it is only slight. The grave digger has advised there is no point doing this work while the ground is so wet. The Clerk has written to Mrs Brown to advise her of this and Mrs Brown has emailed to express her disappointment and request the work is done immediately. She has suggested that if the Parish Council does not organise the work within a short time frame, she will carry out the work herself. The meeting discussed, and agreed with the grave digger. Mrs Brown may not be permitted to carry out the work herself, as she is not covered by the Parish Council's insurance. KS to advise Mrs Brown. The Parish Council is now ready to purchase a sit-on-mower (money previously provided to the Parish Council. CH has investigated and found one which may be suitable. MC recommended a diesel mower is purchased. CH, MC, PC to investigate together and purchase appropriately.</p> | <p>ACTION</p> <p>KS</p> <p>CH/PC/ MC</p> |
| <p>11</p> | <p>Highways</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed works – Back Lane, etc. Written confirmation received for the grants for kissing gates in and around Hill View Farm. TOE has rejected the application for Back Lane, but the County has advised they will carry out some of the works to improve Back Lane themselves. It will not be as high a specification as the TOE grant was, but should be an improvement on current surface in the worst locations. • Consultation 4 of Local Transport Plan – NB reported regarding Frieswide Square and Queen Street and noted the next meeting will be in May. • Consultation about changes to parking restrictions have been sent to residents and the Parish Council – see attached. The PC only has a couple of days to respond. The PC supports the proposal, but notes that this will just move the problem deeper into the estate. • Denis Ward has dealt with the damaged tree and mended the fence. He has given assurances that the hedges will be done by the end of March. • KS provided Post a pothole cards to Councillors who requested. BL noted potholes very bad, KS to provide Barrie with more post-a-pothole cards. • KS has written to Jon Shaw asking him to meet the Chairman. He has given some comments on parking and asked for dates of our meetings. <p>We have requested to OCC Planning that we have the same displays as are proposed at Barton and Northway for the proposed works at Barton. OCC have agreed to send us the information for us to display. The Parish Council does not consider this acceptable, and the Clerk is instructed to email all councillors raising this objections.</p> | <p>NB</p> <p>ALL</p> <p>KS</p> |
| <p>12</p> | <p>North East Area Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request for a dog bin – WC to report. <p>No one attended the last meeting.</p> | <p>WC</p> |
| <p>13</p> | <p>Parish Council Bulletin</p> <p>DH has circulated a draft. CH to sign off final version, and this can then be printed and distributed.</p> | <p>DH</p> |
| <p>14</p> | <p>Allotments</p> <p>Water still not done due to recent weather. Will be done shortly.</p> <p>The PC has been invited to participate in a survey – a copy has been passed to Mr Manson.</p> | |
| <p>15</p> | <p>Website</p> <p>Still getting lots of visits – over 2,500 every month. Some software issues which DH has resolved. Many thanks to Duncan for his work.</p> | |

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| 16 | Any Other Business | ACTION |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Document storage at council – They will take minutes and other archived records, but they have limitations on space. All registers and important correspondence. There is no charge, but they do not want to act as ‘records management’ and we could only use during their opening hours, currently Weds to Sat inclusive. Unanimously agreed. KS to provide list of what will be archived. | KS |
| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Damaged fencing at Boults Lane – CH has organised repair work. • Litter in Fair Field and adjoining Brook – BH has ordered the work. • KS has contacted City Council re Boults Lodge – being investigated. | |
| | <p>Council to agree a change of date for the meeting in May 2010. This is covered by Standing Orders. KS to confirm that Mortimer Hall is free on this date.</p> | KS |
| | <p>DH invited Parish Councillors to attend Oxclean on this coming Saturday, and noted the Victoria Arms would be sending some people along to help.</p> | |
| | <p>RJ asked whether meetings are ever held between the bus companies and residents of the village. The answer is no, but there is a meeting which NB attends where issues can be raised. RJ to speak to NB about his concerns.</p> | RJ |
| 17 | Date of Next Meeting | |
| | Tuesday 6 th April 2010 at Mortimer Hall at 7:30pm. | |