

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

CONFIRMED

Present: Parish Council:

Duncan Hatfield – Chairman	Martin Smith	Kevin Jones
Charlotte Vinnicombe (Vice-Chair)	Micky Bates	Jackie Osman
Pat Hall	Charlie Haynes	

In attendance: Tim Cann

Members of Public: 6

Oxford City Councillor: Kate Robinson

26/03/01 Intention to record the proceedings of the meeting:

None.

26/02/02 Apologies for Absence:

- Parish Councillor: Alistair Morris – unwell
- Parish Councillor: Mary James – unwell
- Parish Councillor: Mark Lygo – family matter
- Parish Councillor Louise Upton – prior engagement
- City Councillor Mary Clarkson – prior engagement

26/03/03 Chair's Welcome:

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

26/03//04 Website and social media:

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

26/03/05 Public, County & City Councillors & Thames Valley Police participation (if any requests received):

a. Thames Valley Police: No report received.

b. County Councillor Report: No report received.

c. City Councillors Report: Oxford City Councillor Mary Clarkson:

Kate Robinson said she had received some requests for double yellow lines along the Marsh Lane end of Elsfield Road and how dangerous the junction is.

Mary Clarkson sent a report by email which the Clerk read out.

1. Almonds Farm development. This is due to start in late March.
2. I have asked the County Council whether an additional bus stop could be provided closer to the Swan School, and I am waiting for a reply.

3. Willow Barn, Oxford Road 20/02457/VAR: as this has been on the Parish Council agenda for many months, I have asked the case officer to come back to me and let me know what its status is. I have checked on the planning portal, and it still appears to be open.

d. **Members of Public:** A member of the public spoke about research he was aware of done on effectiveness on the different types of speed signs. The standard numeric devices were less effective than ones showing a speed with a message.

26/03/06 Approval Of The Minutes Of The Meeting Held On The 2nd February 2026:

It was RESOLVED these are a true record

26/03//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.

26/03/08 Planning:

Applications considered between meetings:

None

Decisions:

- 25/02876/FUL – 39 Salford Road – APPROVED
- 25/03345/FUL – 61 Cherwell Drive – 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

Applications To Be Decided:

- **None**

Update on Hill View Farm:

- No further updates

Consultations

The clerk informed the council that he had received the following today:

- **Community Hubs:** Oxfordshire County Council and Community First Oxfordshire are working to understand more about the community hubs there are across the county. This will help us strengthen the visibility and voice of community hubs.
- **Community Asset Transfer (CAT) and Community Leasing**
Asset transfers are powerful ways to ensure that council buildings are used to their best potential, transferring the ownership of land or buildings from the County Council to a community organisation at less than market value for public benefit. Oxfordshire County Council is collecting feedback on two new policies which outline how CAT will work in Oxfordshire.
- **Rural Healthcare research:** As part of Oxfordshire Marmot focusing on health inequalities and their underlying causes, we are looking into people's experiences of health in rural Oxfordshire, alongside Healthwatch.
- **Government Consultation on the National Planning Policy Framework** The government is seeking views on a revised National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and other changes to the planning system. As a charity with experience in placemaking and planning, we will be submitting some recommendations before the consultation closes on 10 March.

It was RESOLVED that the clerk will forward the email to all councillors.

26/03/09 Transport:

- **Speed Awareness signs:** It was RESOLVED that further information was needed, such as breakdown of annual maintenance cost. It was RESOLVED to hold a separate meeting to look at in more depth and review previous traffic survey.
- **Oxford Road ground cover update:** Cllr Vinnicombe stated that County Council Highways have confirmed that it is on their list for investigation.
- **Elsfield Road Parking:** It was RESOLVED that the clerk will contact county council highways for advice.
- **Standard of Pothole Repairs:** After some discussion it was RESOLVED that the clerk will contact county council highways making them aware of the parish council's concerns. It was also RESOLVED that the clerk will contact planning, asking them to reconsider allowing construction traffic along the Oxford Road running through the village.

26/03/10 Finance:

Correct on 23rd February 2026

Unity Trust Current Account	£46,430.71
Newbury Building Society	£44,095.65 - 2.90%
Skipton Building Society	£64,149.99 - 2.05%
Petty Cash	£2.94
TOTAL	£154,679.29
CiL Money (included in above figures)	£67,094.61

The following accounts to be paid:	£ Incl. VAT
Clerk's Pay, Expenses, Pension, etc.(February 2026):	£
ARCH (Grant):	£500.00
NALC (Clerk to attend conference and AGM):	£102.00
Vodafone (Clerk's Mobile – DD):	£16.30
TOTAL:	£3,188.25
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
Marston Saints FC (Annual Rent):	£1.00
Reserves:	
Total Balances:	£154,679.29
General Reserve:	£31,216.00
Fixed Asset Reserve:	£10,000.00
Emergency Reserve:	£10,000.00
Unallocated Reserve:	£103,463.29

a. It was resolved to accept payments:

26/03/11 Budget v Income/Expenditure up to 31st January 2026:

The clerk went through the budget v expenditure and income answering any questions.

26/03/12 Grant Request from St Nicholas Church for 2026 Fun Day:

Cllr Hatfield declared an interest

26/02/13 Clerk's Report.

- Update on Bleed Kits – The clerk confirmed that he has now received confirmation from the Mortimer Hall so things can now proceed.
- Mortimer Hall Clock Update – Cllr Smith informed the meeting that the watertight seals on the clock had broken so any work on a new or repaired clock will need repairing.
- Noticeboard – Orchard Triangle – On going.
- Noticeboard – Salford Road – On going.

26/03/15 Mill Lane Recreation Ground Update:

The chair advised the meeting that he and the clerk had met with OPT who responded positively about the initial ideas of having play equipment in the field. The Ridge & Furrow must remain at the back of the field and OPT would prefer natural equipment rather than garish colours etc, but happy to see further ideas. The chair stated that he had some residents express an interest in being involved with the project.

The clerk mentioned about the field next door owned by Oxford City Council. Enquiries are being made but apparently it is rented and farmed by Mr Ward.

26/03/16 Boults Lane Pest Control:

The clerk informed the council that the contractor had visited the site, and the moles had migrated nearer the pavilion and play area. Because of this gassing was no longer an option due to health and safety issues. The plan was now to use traps so there would be no additional cost.

26/03/17 Report from Members:

Mortimer Hall: Cllr Hatfield reported that there is ongoing maintenance; the roof still has issues. It had been agreed to have the bollards installed. There are a couple of vacancies for trustees. The AGM is on 20^h April in the Hall at 7pm.

26/03/18 Plus, anything of an urgent nature which has come to the clerk's attention since the agenda was set.

- Burial Plot Request: The clerk informed the council he had received a request for a double depth burial plot. The family used to live in the parish but moved away some time ago. It was RESOLVED that the double fee would apply.
- Planters along Cherwell Drive: The clerk advised the council that there are seven planters available. After some discussion it was RESOLVED:
 - 4 planters in the Orchard Triangle,
 - 3 planters will be in the parking area in Boults Lane, behind the black bollards, until permanent locations can be found.

26/03/19 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.

26/02/17 Date of next meeting:

Monday 13th April 2026 19:00 in Mortimer Hall.

MEETING CLOSED: 20:30

Signed.....Chairman

Date.....

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