

Minutes of the Old Marston Parish Council Meeting 4th September 2017 at 7:30pm.

Present:

Parish Council

John Batey (JB) – Chairman

Michael Cadd (MC)

Michael O’Keefe(MO)

Peter Cox (PC)

Anjana Tiwari (AT)

Peter Williams(PW)

Duncan Hatfield (DH) – Vice-Chairman

Barrie Lewis (BL)

Nils Bartleet (NB)

Tony Greenfield (TG)

Pat Hall (PH)

Tim Cann (Clerk)

City Council

Clr Mick Haines (MH)

City Councillor Mary Clarkson(M)

Members of the Public: 12

17/09/01 No Councillors declared any prejudicial interests and no one intended to record the proceedings of the meeting.

17/09/02 Apologies for Absence:

Charlie Haynes – Clash of meetings

County Councillor Mark Lygo – Clash of meetings.

ACTION

17/09/03 Public, County & City Councillors & Thames Valley Police participation (if any requests received)

a. Public Participation: None.

b. County & City Councillors’ Reports:

City Councillor Mick Haines: Informed the meeting that he had spoken to David Tole from the County Council who had confirmed that no progress had been made with regard to parking restrictions as no funding was available. The replacement tree in memory of Parish Councillor Roy Jones will be planted in the same place as the vandalised one between October 2017 and January 2018. Paul James of the River Learning Trust has asked for a meeting and Mick will keep the Council posted.

NB thanked MH for all his efforts with David Tole but felt people needed to seriously look at whether the County Council are able to do anything. The Parish Council meetings on Monday seem to clash with other meetings so, apart from Mick, the other two Councillors are unable to attend.

TG advised that the vandalised Roy Jones tree had started shooting again.

MH reported that the tree officer recommended a new tree as the old one would not grow to maturity.

19:35 M arrived.

JB informed M that a complaint had been made about the lack of attendance of two of the City Councillors from a Parish Councillor and the Clerk will make her aware after the meeting.

c. Thames Valley Police: No report had been received from Thames Valley Police.

17/09/04 Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd July 2017. It was RESOLVED these are a true record.

Signed by the Chairman.

17/09/05 Matters Arising (omitting those for which an agenda heading follows):

JB asked about the Police Newsletter. The Clerk advised that it had been received and had been posted to the Council website.

JB asked if anything had happened regarding the noticeboards. The Clerk reported that he was still waiting to hear with regards to the Salford Road location but Communities of the Oxford City Council had advised they saw no problem with a noticeboard on the Elsfield Road bus shelter but would confirm this.

17/09/06 Planning Applications to be decided:

17/02057/FUL – 96A Oxford Road – Demolition of existing conservatory. Erection of a single storey rear extension. Removal of chimney – NO OBJECTION

17/01929/FUL – 118 Oxford Road – Erection of single storey rear extension – NO OBJECTION

17/02201/FUL – 21 Haynes Road – Demolition of existing single storey rear extension, erection of a two storey side and a single storey rear extension, alterations to front porch and window alterations to rear – NO OBJECTION

17/02154/FUL – 16 Cavendish Drive – Erection of rear single storey rear extension; new slate roof to existing conservatory; erection of porch and bay window to front elevation; left conversion to include 1 no. dormer to rear and insertion of 2No. roof lights to front – NO OBJECTION.

Applications considered between meetings:

The Planning Committee met on Tuesday 25th July 2017 and reviewed the following:

17/01456/FUL – Land adjacent 44 Mortimer Drive – Erection of 1 x 1 bed dwelling house (Use Class C3). Provision of private amenity space, new vehicle access from The Link with car parking for 1No. vehicle and bin and cycle store. – NO OBJECTION

17/01783/FUL – 96 Oxford Road – Erection of a single storey rear extension – NO OBJECTION.

17/01620/FUL – 4 Rimmer Close – Demolition of existing garage, retention of rear boundary wall and removal of existing gates. Formation of new timber sliding gate and provision of 2No. parking spaces to rear of garden. – NO OBJECTION.

17/01737/FUL – Church Farm, Church Lane – Removal of 2No. internal partitions. (Retrospective) – NO OBJECTIONS.

Decisions:

17/00896/FUL – 10 Elsfield Road – APPROVED

17/00393/FUL – Marston Vicarage – APPROVED

17/01180/FUL – 7 Little Acreage - APPROVED

Awaiting Decisions: NONE

17/09/07 Oxford Local Plan 2036

JB explained that at the last Parish Forum meeting it was pointed out to the City Council that the window of consultation for the plan made it very difficult for the Parish Councils to comment as they did not meet in August. It was therefore agreed that the consultation period would be relaxed to accept Council comments after the closure date.

PW informed the meeting that exceptional circumstances needed to show a need to use greenbelt land and these should not be looked at in isolation. Land North of the ring road towards Elsfield is being looked at for a vast number of houses. Any additional housing will have an impact on traffic.

Yes, there is a need for social housing. The average cost of a Barton Park dwelling is

£600,000 which is unaffordable.

Any increase in housing will increase traffic especially in the Mill Lane area. They could open up access from the ring road but this would increase danger of accidents.

JB pointed out that this would be less than a mile from the new Barton Park junction.

PW stated that then there was the construction and eventual running of the Swan School to consider, all will have a massive impact on traffic in the area. There did not seem any joined up thinking.

NB fully agreed with PW saying that the ring road was originally intended as a by-pass to avoid built up areas. With the proposed housing the City Council are looking at would increase pollution, plus the Elsfield area was prone to flooding so any development would not only have serious effects on the traffic flow but also the pollution and increase flooding in this area.

JB stated there was no bus route serving Mill Lane so unless reintroduced any development would be unsustainable.

JB read out Mr Avery's letter.

M advised that this was a political process. The City Council need to be seen to be looking at all sites, probably most will be rejected by a public enquiry so the City Council can then go to the County Council showing they have considered all possibilities and just not possible.

It was RESOLVED that JB and the Clerk drafted a response objecting to the two sites in the Parish.

17/09/08 South Oxfordshire District Council proposed building on Greenbelt.:

PW stated that as touched on in the previous item large areas North of the ring road were being looked at for development. Although not in the Parish, any development would have an impact on the Parish in all the ways previously mentioned; increased traffic, pollution, flood risks etc.

NB agreed with PW saying we need accommodation in Oxford but well planned, thought through developments.

17/09/09 Highways

The Clerk advised the Council that if it wasn't for County Councillor Mark Lygo forwarding emails from Virgin Sport we would not have any information at all. However, their first email of the 13th July stated "Unfortunately at this stage we are unable to change the route so our aim is one of improved communications with regard to this year's event."!

JB went through the road closures which apply to the Parish. It was RESOLVED to express dismay at lack of communications regarding final route.

17/09/10 Recreation Grounds & Cemetery

- a. TG confirmed that the weekly safety checks had been done and that no problems had been found. He advised that he had fenced the Roy Jones willow which had started shooting after being vandalised. Also the remains of a tree had fallen onto some play equipment. The Clerk had asked and BGG had agreed to push it into the fence but as this had not happened TG had cleared the problem.

JB thanked TG for all he does around the Mortimer Hall Recreation Ground.

Signed by the Chairman.

JB asked about the need to replace the ride on mower after the Cemetery machinery store had been broken into and emptied.

PC reported that he was very upset about the break in and that the Clerk had contacted BGG who had agreed to maintain the paddock until the Council had decided whether to replace any of the machinery. He felt that, should any machinery of any value be replaced, he would be constantly worried that the building would be broken into again. It was RESOLVED to defer replacing any machinery until the New Year.

JB thanked Dennis Ward for putting the tree log in the entrance of the Cemetery side gate at no cost to the Council.

17/09/11 Boults Lane Development:

- a. MB reported on the Pavilion Committee meeting of the 24th July and the 24th August.
- The Fire Alarm has been installed but needs wiring to the mains electric,
 - The disabled toilet light is on permanently instead of motion sensor,
 - The Clerk dealt with the roof leak as a matter of urgency so got Dave Hook to do repairs.
 - The emersion heater needed attention,
 - A bat box and a bird box had been purchased,
 - Various fire doors needed attention,
 - The unvented water system needs a certificate.
 - Tenders were looked at for the footpath, to be made out of concrete,
 - Tenders were looked at for the fencing,
 - Signs were needed for the front and side for which the Clerk is getting quotes.

17/09/12 Finance

- a. Bank balance as at 29/08/2017 –
 Current Account £57,627.69 (including £6,057.73 CIL money) Petty Cash £102.38
 Business Reserve Account £3,745.66 Newbury Building Society Account £71,961.14

| The following accounts to be paid: | £ Incl. VAT |
|---|--------------------|
| Clerk's Pay Including Expenses, Pension, etc. – August 2017 | |
| Aspire Oxford (Bradlands Bus Service) | 400.00 |
| Total Pest Control (MH Quarterly Charge) | 177.60 |
| BGG (Grass cutting & litter picking Aug 2016) | 522.60 |
| Mr R.C. Wilson (Project Manager for Pavilion Project) | 250.00 |
| McDonald Engineer (Pressure Gauge for new Pavilion) | 54.00 |
| BGG (Grass cutting & litter picking for July 2017) | 427.20 |
| Playsafety Ltd (RoSPA annual inspection) | 117.60 |

Signed by the Chairman.

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|--|-------------------|
| Ambassadoor (Repair to Pavilion Shutter) | 402.00 |
| Oxford City Council (Cemetery Waste Contract) | 96.00 |
| OALC (Being a Good Employer booklet) | 4.20 |
| Wildcare (Bird & Bat Boxes) | 123.91 |
| BT (Clerk's Office Phone) | 92.65 |
| Mr D. Hook (Pavilion Roof Repair) | 200.00 |
| Mr D. Hook (Repair to Cemetery Lock) | 35.00 |
| Came & Co (Annual Insurance Renewal) | 3,795.25 |
| TOTAL | £9,239.70 |
| Petty Cash Expenditure:- | |
| Screwfix (50m Open Tape) | 7.99 |
| Homebase (Steel Wool for Pavilion) | 7.99 |
| Blanchford (Contact Adhesive for Pavilion) | 3.96 |
| Keyfit (Key Cut) | 5.00 |
| TOTAL | £24.94 |
| INCOME:- | |
| Oxford Preservation Trust (Mill Lane Tree work) | 1,124.00 |
| Came & Co (Refund on new pavilion insurance cover) | 574.61 |
| SSE (Wayleave) | 8.00 |
| HMRC (VAT Return first quarter) | 25,292.06 |
| Openreach (Wayleave payment) | 26.46 |
| TOTAL | £27,025.13 |

It was RESOLVED unanimously to accept payment of accounts.

b. PH reported on the Finance Committee meeting of the 24th August:

- It was RESOLVED to accept the Pavilion Committee's recommendation in the tender for the footpath of £1,450
- It was RESOLVED to accept the Pavilion Committee's recommendation in the tender for the fencing of £1,385.

Signed by the Chairman.

c. It was noted that the insurance claim on the Cemetery machinery had been agreed at £4,984 less £250 excess.

d. The Clerk went through the budget v expenditure for July.

17/09/13 Insurance Renewal: It was RESOLVED to renew the insurance cover for £3,795.25.

17/09/14 Swan School Update: JB read through the latest update report from the River Learning Trust which basically said that nothing further has happened. M advised that the River Learning Trust was looking to organise a meeting and she would keep the Parish Council informed. The planning application which was scheduled for September is now looking more like January 2018.

17/09/15 Training:

a. **Charities & Councils:** The Clerk informed the meeting that the OALC are running a half day course on Councils who have representatives on Charities. It was RESOLVED that the Clerk attended at the Council's expense and report back.

17/09/16 Website, Facebook & Twitter

DH advised that he was trying to keep up to date with posting on the various social media portals.

17/09/17 Information Sharing (including correspondence)

Rural Services Network Digest etc,

- OALC Newsletter August 2017,
- Email from James Lawrie cc'ing the Parish Council regarding state of public footpath between the Victoria Arms and the A40,
- Email from Tony Greenfield regarding burglary in Rippington Drive,
- Email from James Lawrie regarding Oxford Half Marathon,
- Email from Oxfordshire County Council confirming receipt of our notification concerning the state of Back Lane,
- Oxford Mail article regarding parking within the Parish.

TG asked if the burglary alerts can be posted on the Council's website,

PH reported that the lane leading to the parks, running alongside the school is very overgrown,

TG, M & MH had a walkabout around the Parish with Geoff Corps who is the Highways & Major Projects Manager at the Oxford City Council which TG found very informative, PH said that residents of Cherwell Drive had met with someone from the City Council with regards to the state of Cherwell Drive road,

Mr Avery felt that the Parish Council need to be more proactive with the City and County Council with regards to the state of roads in the Parish. The County Council have a duty of care to keep the roads up to a standard. The County Council needs to be embarrassed into taking action. He also mentioned the state of the verges grass cutting recently done. NB felt as District Councillors are responsible to act on our behalf, the Parish Council has done as much as it can. Local Authorities such as the County and City Council are not doing the job for which they are responsible.

17/09/18 Items of an urgent nature which have come to the Clerk's attention since the Agenda was set: None.

MEETING CLOSED: 21:40

Signed by the Chairman.