

## Minutes of the Old Marston Parish Council Meeting held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2019 in the Mortimer Hall at 7:00pm.

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Present:

**Parish Council:**

Duncan Hatfield (DH) – Chairman	Patricia Hall (PH)
Peter Cox (PC)	Louise Milford (LM)
Alistair Morris (AM)	Michael O’Keefe (MO)
Mick Cadd (MC)	Peter Williams (PW)
Mary James (MJ)	Mick Bates (MB)
Tim Cann (Clerk)	

**City Council:** Cllr Mick Haines (MH) Cllr Mary Clarkson (M)

**Thames Valley Police:** None

**Members of the Public: 5**

**19/09/01** No one intended to record the proceedings of the meeting.

**19/09/02** No Councillor declared any prejudicial interest.

**19/09/03 Apologies for Absence:** County Councillor Mark Lygo – Clash of meetings.

**19/09/04 Website, Facebook and other social media:** DH informed the meeting he had started redesigning the new website.

It was **RESOLVED** to adopt the Accessibility Statement.

**19/09/05 Public, County & City Councillors & Thames Valley Police participation (if any requests received)**

a. **Thames Valley Police:** None.

b. **County & City Councillor Reports:** **Mick Haines** reported that he is intending to do a traffic survey and a school patrol by Cherwell Drive. He is to meet with someone from the County Council regarding the issues with Access to Headington. He has two petitions currently open; one to get the Post Office reopened and the second to get a multi-storey car park at the John Radcliffe Hospital.

**Mary Clarkson** reported that she has been liaising with people over continual issues concerning the Swan School, there has been a spate of vandalism in and around the Marston area, such as at St Michaels School, but she is working with the police to resolve.

c. **Public:** A resident spoke about the ongoing issues with construction vehicles using the Carters estate and noise at night with the Swan School site. They also spoke about the general degeneration of the area such as loss of the Post Office and the Jack Russell Pub site being an eyesore.

**19/09/06 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2019.** It was **RESOLVED** these are a true record.

**19/09/07 Matters Arising (omitting those for which an agenda heading follows):**

Signed by the Chairman.

- Noticeboards – Oxford City Council planning have confirmed that, as they would be classified as an advertisement, planning consent is needed at a cost of £231 per location. It was **RESOLVED** to proceed with all three locations.

**19/09/08 Election of a Vice-Chairman:**

PC proposed PH, AS seconded. It was **RESOLVED** that PH becomes Vice-Chairman.

**19/09/09 Co-option to fill casual vacancy:**

Charlotte Vinnicombe gave a brief outline of her background and why she wanted to be a Councillor. After some discussion Charlotte Vinnicombe was co-opted onto the Council.

**19/09/10 Confirmation that the weekly operational checks on the defibrillator have been carried out and any faults reported:** Confirmed that the checks had been done.

**19/09/11 Swan School:** Due to unforeseen circumstances Tony Harris, the representative from Gallifordtry, was unable to attend the meeting. The Clerk gave a brief update of which Tony had informed him.

**19/09/12 Boult's Lane Recreation Ground:**

A resident has asked for a section of the hedge next to their property in Jessops Close to be removed as it is pushing down their boundary fence which they are going to replace. After some discussion it was **RESOLVED** that the hedge should not be removed, it should be pruned back to the property boundary.

**19/09/13 Finance:**

- a. Bank balance as at 27/08/2019 –  
 Current Account £33,898.28      Business Reserve Account £3,753.69  
 Newbury Building Society Account £84,329.86      Petty Cash £63.10

The following accounts to be paid:	£ Incl. VAT
Clerk's Pay Including Expenses, Pension, etc. – July & August 2019	
BGG (Litter Pick & Grass Cut for June 2019)	441.00
Argos (Cordless Hedge Trimmer)	60.00
GDT Fire Alarm Ltd (Fix Fault)	212.40
Total Pest Control (UK) Ltd (Quarterly Charge)	177.60
SLCC (Repayment of cheque 2127)	84.76

Signed by the Chairman.

Castle Water (Cemetery Water Usage)	4.11
Ambassadoor (Repair to Pavilion Shutter)	476.40
Playsafety Ltd (Annual RoSPA Report)	124.20
MP Security (Annual Pavilion Service)	128.53
BGG (Grass Cutting & Litter Picking for July 2019)	351.00
Skipton Building Society (Transfer from Newbury BS)	5,000.00
Playdale Ltd (50% Deposit of Order)	22,338.94
Castle Water (Cemetery Water Use)	3.42
Helping Hands (Litter Pickers for OXCLEAN)	129.72
Staples (Stationery)	116.38
BT (Clerk's Office Phone)	116.18
Oxford City Council (Cemetery Garden Waste)	104.00
SLCC (Knowles on Local Authority Meetings)	84.76
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£32,862.88</b>
<b>Petty Cash Expenditure:</b>	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£00.00</b>
<b>INCOME :-</b>	
SSE (Wayleave)	8.00
Mrs Embury (Purchase of a burial plot)	1,385.00
Openreach (Wayleave)	26.46
Newbury Building Society (Transfer to NatWest A/c.)	35,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£37,879.46</b>

It was **RESOLVED** to accept these accounts.

b. Review of the minutes of the Finance Committee meeting held on the 19<sup>th</sup> August 2019 where the following **RESOLUTIONS** were made:

- Accept the tender for 20 bollards at the end of School Lane on Parish Council land for £1,282.86 plus VAT.

Signed by the Chairman.

c. Review the Budget v Expenditure & Income: The Clerk went through the spreadsheet. AM asked about tree maintenance being over budget. The Clerk explained that, although a tree survey is done each year, this mainly only lists the trees needing work done. The Clerk is working on including a sum in next year's budget for a survey to be done giving a list of the Council's tree stock.

d. **Insurance Renewal:** It was **RESOLVED** to accept the quotation of £2,899.14 and to enter into a 3 year binding Long Term Agreement.

**19/09/14 Burial Plot Request:** It was **RESOLVED** to accept the request for Mrs & Mr Turner formally of 136 Oxford Road.

**19/09/15 Environment Committee: Review the minutes of the Environment Committee meeting held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2019 where the following recommendations were made:**

- a. PW to draft a letter to County Councillor Yvonne Constance, County Councillor responsible for the Environment (including transport), pointing out the Council's concerns regarding speeding, congestion and safety. It was **RESOLVED** a letter be drafted by PW to Councillor Hudspeth copying ML.
- b. That from next season the far corner of the Cemetery paddock and the Orchard Triangle should only be cut once a year, except for the public right of way. PC proposed move to next item. Seconded MC. It was **RESOLVED** to move to next item.
- c. PW to draft a letter to the City Council stating the Council's concern about the poor air quality. It was **RESOLVED** PW would revise letter.
- d. A further letter should be sent to the Head Teacher asking for a reply. The Clerk informed the Council that the Head Teacher had confirmed that bulletins are sent periodically to all parents including parking and congestions. It was **RESOLVED** no further letter necessary.
- e. A leaflet be produced raising the awareness of the environment, asking what people thought the Parish Council could do. After some discussion it was **RESOLVED** the Environment Committee would draft the leaflet/survey to bring to the November Council meeting.
- f. Letter from St Nicholas Church re grass mowing in Elsfeld Road Cemetery. It was **RESOLVED** that this had already been covered under item b.

**19/09/16 Review of Open Meeting of the 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2019**

All those who gave an email contact have been emailed an initial 'contact' email, so they are aware they are on the database.

- Volume of Traffic
- Parking
- Loss of Parish Facilities
- Impact of planned extra homes
- Cyclists
- Pollution
- Climate Change
- Flooding
- Council need to discuss a future date and subject of the next public meeting.

PW believed that in principle the meeting went well. It is important to remain in contact with those wanting to attend such events and allow a space for them to

express their feelings. However, Council needs to be at least seen to be acting too, otherwise people will lose faith.

It was **RESOLVED** to review date and future topic at the November Council meeting.

**19/09/17 Request from Alistair Morris/Marston Community Garden:**

- a. Two additional fruit trees in Orchard Triangle – These would be provided by the MCG – **RESOLVED** to accept.
- b. Two additional woodland trees in small triangle. – **RESOLVED** to accept.
- c. A bird box and bat box on second dead tree near School Lane. – **RESOLVED** to accept.
- d. 1 x lavatera, 1 x forsythia, 1 x buddleia plus several lavender bushes along metal fence. – **RESOLVED** to accept.
- e. Half metre strip along metal fence reseeded with wildflowers. – **RESOLVED** to accept.
- f. More autonomy for local groups once approval is granted for community projects with regular reports and updates. – DH stated that this is not possible as the Council can only delegate its powers to either the Clerk, a Committee or another Local Authority.

**19/09/18 Planning:**

**Applications considered between meetings:**

Review the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on the 19<sup>th</sup> August 2019 where the following decisions were made:

- 19/01771/FUL – 39 Arlington Drive – NO OBJECTION.
- 19/01611/FUL – 41 Oxford Road – NO OBJECTION.
- 19/01612/LBC – 41 Oxford Road – NO OBJECTION.
- 19/01836/FUL – 9 Gordon Close – NO OBJECTION.
- 19/02023/FUL – 26 Elms Drive – NO OBJECTION.
- 19/01990/FUL – 10 Southcroft – NO OBJECTION.
- 19/01885/CUE DEL – Hill View Farm – NO OBJECTION.
- Oxfordshire County Council Consultation – It was **RESOLVED** to support this consultation as it was believed to be a good idea.

**Decisions:**

19/00234/FUL – 24 Ashlong Road – APPROVED  
19/00288/FUL – 17 Haynes Road – APPROVED  
19/00233/FUL – 60 Mortimer Drive – REFUSED  
19/00239/FUL – 29 Mill Lane – WITHDRAWN  
18/03385/FUL – Cumberledge House, Cumberledge Close - APPROVED  
19/00220/FUL – 1A Mortimer Drive - APPROVED  
19/00548/FUL – 2 Haynes Road - APPROVED  
19/00830/FUL – 120 Arlington Drive - APPROVED  
19/00840/FUL – 12 Park Way – APPROVED.

**Awaiting Decisions:**

18/01549/FUL – 20 Raymund Road  
18/03048/FUL – Manor Farm, 15A Mill Lane  
19/01356/FUL 148 Oxford Road

**Applications to be decided:**

**19/02185/FUL – Land to the rear of Manor Farm, 15A Mill Lane –**

Erection of a 1 x 4 bed dwelling with double garage and private amenity space. Alterations to boundary from fence to wall. – **NO OBJECTION**

**19/09/19 Items of an urgent nature which have come to the Clerk's attention since the Agenda was set:**

The Clerk advised that he had received a letter from the Post Office replying to Anneliese Dodds MP. Although it did not give any further news about a branch reopening in Costcutters it did imply that they were looking at other venues to open a branch! It was **RESOLVED** the Clerk write to the Post Office expressing strongly its concern at the loss of its Post Office facility and explore other venues or a mobile branch.

**19/09/20 Information sharing (including correspondence)**

Rural Services Network Digest etc,  
OALC Newsletter July,  
Marston Times Article for July & August,

School Lane street lighting awaiting report from County Council,

- Headington Neighbourhood Committee has requested to the Oxford City Council that they become the Headington Community Council. This is currently going to consultation with all residents involved.
- Annual Report for the CommunityFirst Oxfordshire
- The Chairman and Clerk attended the annual review of work of the Oxford Preservation Trust. There was an interesting guided walk around its Marston assets and a very enjoyable buffet afterwards.
- Letter to the Head Teacher of St Nicholas Primary School making her aware of the Council's concerns about congestions, parking and air quality,
- Email from Tony Greenfield regarding continual use of Raymund Road by construction traffic.
- Notification from Virgin Sport about road closures for Oxford Half Marathon
- Clerks & Councils Direct July 019
- PH asked when a walkabout was scheduled to see the Access to Headington work completed. M and Clerk to investigate.
- PW mentioned a letter from Jane Madden asking if its contents could be put on the agenda for the meeting in October.

**MEETING CLOSED: 9:15pm**