

Minutes of the Old Marston Parish Council Meeting held on the 2nd September 2024 at the Mortimer Hall from 7:00pm.

CONFIRMED

Present:

Parish Council:

Duncan Hatfield – Chairman
Martin Smith
Louise Upton

Pat Hall (Vice-Chair)
Mick Bates
Alistair Morris.

Skye Denno
Mary James

Oxford City Council: Mary Clarkson

In attendance: Tim Cann (Clerk) Members of Public: 8

24/09/01 Intention to record the proceedings of the meeting: NONE.

24/09/02 Apologies for Absence: Parish Councillors Charlotte Vinnicombe – vacation, Charlie Haynes – prior engagement, Oxfordshire County Councillor Mark Lygo – family emergency.

24/08/03 Website and social media: DH advised there are an increasing number of followers on Facebook.

24/08/04 Public, County & City Councillors & Thames Valley Police participation (if any requests received)

a. **Thames Valley Police:** No Report received.

b. **County & City Councillor Reports:**

Oxford City Councillor Mary Clarkson reported:

Marston Ferry Road Bus Stop – The county council wanted to remove the bus stop closest to the Marston Ferry Road junction with Banbury Road, which would have meant that passengers returning to Old Marston, often with shopping, would have had to walk to the stop outside Cherwell School. Along with the parish council, Cllr Mark Lygo and I lobbied the County to retain the stop and in mid-July we heard that this was successful. It even has a seat!

Church Lane – bus idling – There have been complaints about the no.14 bus stopping outside the church hall, blocking visibility from Church Lane and leaving its engine idling. I have taken this up with Stagecoach and it seems that they have now moved along the road past the chicane and closer to the Vicarage. I haven't heard any more complaints so assume that this has improved.

Back Lane – I took this up along with residents, parish council and other local councillors. I hope that the damage never occurs again and that the meeting this week will establish a way of looking after Back Lane for the future.

E-scooters and e-bikes – There is an ongoing problem with e-bikes and e-scooters being dumped in unauthorised places. They are surprisingly difficult

to move, even for a fit and healthy person. More seriously, there are places where they are blocking routes for wheelchair users. I am about to undertake a walking tour around Marston with a wheelchair user, who works at the JR and raised this with me.

c. Public:

- Marston Paddock: Some trees have been cut down and fencing erected; are the remaining trees safe? How many houses are actually going in? Can the public footpath be moved, clerk to enquire.
- Private coaches are coming along the Oxford Road, through the village, instead of along Marsh Lane.
- The paddock behind the cemetery looks untidy and unkempt. It was agreed to be on the October agenda.

24/09/05 Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 1st July 2024.

It was RESOLVED these are a true record.

24/09/06 Matters Arising (omitting those for which an Agenda heading follows):

- None.

24/09/07 Operational Checks:

- The clerk reported that the weekly checks on the defibrillator had been carried out. All working correctly.
- The clerk reported that the weekly checks on the play equipment had been carried out and working correctly.

24/09/08 Co-option of two casual vacancies:

- Despite having four enquiries only one candidate applied. Unfortunately, they were unable to attend the meeting, so this was deferred to the October meeting.

24/09/09 Planning:

Applications considered between meetings: NONE.

Decisions:

24/01154/FUL – 5 Haynes Road – APPROVED
24/01236/FUL – 9 Gordon Close – REFUSED
24/01224/FUL – 7 Beechey Avenue – REFUSED
24/01138/FUL – 32B Oxford Road – APPROVED
24/01416/FUL – 52 Oxford Road – REFUSED
24/01393/FUL – 139A Oxford Road – APPROVED

Awaiting Decisions:

20/02457/DEL – Willow Barn, Oxford Road
21/03294/FUL – 56 Marsh Lane
22/03049/FUL – Land North of Bayswater Brook

24/01415/FUL – 43 Arlington Drive
 24/01274/VAR – Land to the West of Mill Lane

Applications to be decided:

- **24/02006/FUL – 95 Oxford Road** – Change of use of dwellinghouse (Use Class C3) to a house in multiple occupation (Use Class C4). Provision of bin and cycle storage – NO OBJECTION.
- **FOR INFORMATION**
24/01796/PIP – Land to the Rear of 36 Oxford Road – Permission in principle application for the erection of a minimum of 1no. and maximum of 2no. dwellings (Use Class C3). Provision of amenity space, car parking and electric car charging points (All matters of design including scale, demolition and/or conversion and all technical matters reserved for future application).
- **24/01601/FUL – 19A Oxford Road** - Erection of a Single storey side extension, formation of a canopy to front door. Replacement of 1no window to rear elevation – NO OBJECTION.
- **24/01797/FUL – 26 Raymund Road** – Demolition of garage and front porch, erection of a front porch and a single storey part side, part rear extension. Formation of 1no rear dormer, insertion of 2no rooflights to front roofslope in association with a loft conversion. Installation of gates and fencing, Installation of external insulation and render – NO OBJECTION.
- **24/02033/FUL – 44 Arlington Drive** – Demolition of existing garage, erection of a single storey side extension and erection of a part two, part single storey rear extension – NO OBJECTION.

24/09/10 Finance: Bank balance as at 28/08/2024 –

**BALANCES REPORT
 As at the 28th August 2024**

Unity Trust Current Account	7,705.21
Newbury Building Society	40,339.05
Skipton Building Society	55,741.50
Petty Cash	7.79
TOTAL	£103,793.55
CiL Money (included in above figures)	£27,272.56

PAYMENTS AWAITING APPROVAL

The following accounts to be paid:	£ Incl. VAT
Clerk's Pay Including Expenses, Pension, etc. – July & August 2024	
Boward Tree Surgery (Work for bus route)	1,320.00

Oxfordshire County Council (Traffic Survey)	2,280.00
BGG (Grass Cutting & Litter Picking)	504.00
Playsafety Ltd (Rospa Report)	326.40
Mrs Richardson (Burial Plot Refund)	1,385.00
Mr D. West (Hedge work in Jessops Close boundary)	350.00
Greenbarnes (Noticeboard)	2,188.34
SLCC (Clerk's Training)	246.00
TOTAL	£13,152.42
Petty Cash Expenditure:	NONE
INCOME:	
Oxford City Council (CiL Money)	6,951.34
Openreach (Wayleave Payment)	26.46
Sandra Homewood	286.00
Haven Memorial	458.00
TOTAL	£7,721.80

RESERVES

Total Balances	£103,793.55
General Reserves	£31,216.00
Fixed Asset Reserves	£10,000.00
Emergency Reserve	£10,000.00
Total	£52,577.55

- a. It was RESOLVED to accept these accounts.
- b. It was RESOLVED to award St Nicholas Church a Grant of £500.00 towards the Autumn Fun Day.
- c. It was RESOLVED to accept the insurance renewal.

24/09/11 Governance

- It was RESOLVED to accept higher OALC membership increases to enable the OALC to continue and enhance its work.

- It was RESOLVED to support in principle the Oxfordshire Charter but would like to be kept informed of developments.

24/09/12 Playgrounds & Cemetery:

- a. It was RESOLVED the clerk investigate costs to have new noticeboards at the Raymund Road and Oxford Road end of the Orchard Triangle.
- b. It was RESOLVED the clerk investigate costs to have extra and/or larger bins in both recreation grounds.
- c. The clerk updated the council on the Right of Way gate from the allotments to Mrs Baker's land.
- d. Localised flooding in the cemetery:
(PH declared an interest)

The council reviewed two estimates:

- **Estimate 1:** Mow off area before Top Soil (non-contaminated) can be spread out to the level that is needed and then new grass seed applied. **£1,200.00 No VAT (including materials as priced at August 2024) and labour**
- **Estimate 2:** To dig out existing grass area and build up with Type 1 Hardcore. Spread out Top Soil (non-contaminated) and level out ready for new grass seed to be applied. **£2,200.00 No VAT (including materials priced at August 2024) and labour.**
- **Headstone Removal and Reinstating:** I have just received a quote from our stonemasons and the cost to remove and put back would be £1063.20p They have said they would have to be totally dry before they could remove these.
- **It was RESOLVED to accept estimate 2, subject to ICCM approval of using hardcore in the cemetery.**

24/09/13 Clerk's Report:

- The report was noted.

24/09/14 Reports from Members:

- No meetings had occurred.

24/09/15 Plus, anything of an urgent nature which has come to the clerk's attention since the agenda was set.

- The Ministry of Housing Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) is now conducting a public consultation open until 24th September on the new government's draft proposals to radically change the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) to permit more of the Green Belt to be used for housing as part of its plan to build 1.5 million new homes within 5 years. The very large 60% increase in the number of homes planned to be built in Oxfordshire will have an impact on every Parish Council in the Oxford Green Belt if the existing planning policy to protect it against inappropriate development is relaxed, as this new NPPF would permit. It was RESOLVED to hold a meeting on Monday 9th September at 7pm in the Roy Garner Pavilion.
(SD declared an interest.)
- Community Larder: it was RESOLVED to give £1,000 financial support due to increased demand during the summer holidays.

- It was RESOLVED to decline permitting Ponting to have curbing on the grave.
- It was RESOLVED to permit Mr William Peter Mansell's memorial.

24/09/16 Information sharing (including correspondence)

- Rural Services Network Digest etc.
- OALC Newsletter
- Correspondence
- Annual Report
- There is a meeting of residents at 7pm tomorrow (Tuesday 4th) in the Roy Garner Pavilion of residents to discuss the future maintenance of Back Lane. Despite what the Marston Times recently reported, this is not a parish council event.

24/09/17 Date of next meeting: - Monday 7th October 2024 7pm in the Mortimer Hall.

Meeting closed: 8:41

Signed: Chairman

Date:

Please note: Minutes become CONFIRMED following resolution at the following Full Council Meeting.