

OLD MARSTON PARISH COUNCIL COMMUNITY NEEDS 2023 SURVEY

[Anecdotal responses:](#)

INTRODUCTION

The following statements are not necessarily the views of Old Marston Parish Council. They are comments made by residents on the latest survey.

- Please take action on requesting a speed limit of 20mph on Cherwell Drive. I've asked the PCC for this several times over the last 2 years – no action.
- Too many cars parked on road when houses have garages,
- The yellow barrier at Croft Road recreation blocks the cycle lane and makes it dangerous for pedestrians and cyclists.
- Can the PC employ a youth worker? (maybe in conjunction with other organisations or swan school)
- Historical issues with lack of proper financial management of football pavilion,
- Loss of village shop and post office although we are lucky to have co-op and post office albeit rather dull and run-down.
- School delivery and collection traffic chaos
- Glad there are now more cycle racks, but the public external appearance of Mortimer Hall is downright depressing. It needs beautifying.
- Just had vets bill of £600 to remove grass seeds from dogs' paws – grass needs to be cut regularly.
- This form was not delivered to my house, I could not download it to complete it online. I had to print it out and complete it. I have tried to put it in named places, church was closed, Mortimer Hall was closed, can't email it as it wasn't possible to complete online.
- The football pavilion creates huge amounts of waste which is not recycled. The pavilion cost, residents a huge amount of money and is private. It creates an unpleasant atmosphere, huge waste and regularly mows/destroys wildflower verges.
- Boults Lane is a cut through to allotments.
- Mill Lane playing field is a cut through to walk not a playing field,
- The pavilion is a complete waste of money.

- Please remember not everyone has the internet so are unable to receive emails or download information.
- Illegal parking when picking up and dropping off children.
- Please get residents to cut back hedges, the paths are getting narrower, and you have to bend to miss branches.
- The parish council doesn't listen.
- Community identity already lost.
- Too many in village stuck up and not from here originally.
- Orchard Triangle is just a poo area for dogs.
- St Nicholas Church is under used.
- I am R.C. but have great respect for the female priest. We are not all C of E. It was a renowned fact that people were co-opted on for a vote for various matters, which meant the direct action was taken.
- Would it not be more constructive to give a new makeover to Mortimer Hall rather than a new building.
- St Nicholas Church – Skye is a lovely lady, as is her husband Joel, a lovely gentleman but although the church would have been the Centre of a village in times gone by now not every dwelling is church of England we are of all faiths.
- I think it is a great pity that the local shop closed. There is tremendous interest in a volunteer led community shop/café to provide a hub for community development and support for the elderly and young families. Ideally this would be provided as part of the redevelopment of Mortimer Hall, which is obsolete.
- Marston does not need a Community Centre as St Nicholas Church offer good services, i.e., coffee pot and lunch club and an 'Eco' shop, so a Community Centre is not needed. A Community Centre would involve further traffic congestion in the village, well it isn't a 'village' no more what with the 3 housing developments taking place. The 'village' cannot take any more traffic what with the new Swan School traffic. The 'S' bend can't cope, the traffic calming 'blocks' do not help – all these do is cause road-rage/confrontation. The 'big' buses have difficulty moving along through the 'village' as it is, but at least the 'village' has a good bus service now, so people can access the local shops - we do not want to lose our local shops!
- There will be even more traffic congestion if Oxford City Council grant permission for the 'Community Hall' at the OXSRD site –

Marsh Lane cannot cope with more traffic this 'community Hall' would generate. The traffic is at a standstill and backing up onto the A40 – Ambulances have a difficult time in trying to get to the hospitals. All this traffic is using the 'village' and Elms Drive as a 'rat run'.

- Traffic gates on Marston Ferry Road. This should not be allowed to go ahead. How are people expected to access the local shops/facilities – I suppose use extra fuel in their cars to drive up the A40 which is always congested and wait to turn on to Banbury Road to access shops, doctors, dentists, etc. on the Banbury Road.
- Old Marston village will be grid locked. All very well that Oxford City Council want everyone to use their bicycle – not everyone can or has the confidence to ride a bicycle.
- In the recent report on pollution, it says that pollution is worse than ever on Cowley Road, Iffley Road and St. Clements – that's what these LTN's cause.
- Tender to resurface Boults Lane car park. How can Old Marston Parish Council justify spending £39,784.00 plus VAT and £14,880.00 plus VAT when the area is hardly used. If the work needs to be done, then ask for a contribution from Marston Saints Football Club.
- 'No mow May' – isn't everywhere a mess – although good excuse for Oxford City Council not to mow. Bugs and insects survived long before 'no mow May' was brought in. Farmers also leave headlands for bugs/insects/birds. Get and mow the verges now or knock some money off everyone's Council Tax for the month of May. Doesn't Oxford City Council realise what a fire hazard these uncut verges are – it only needs a cigarette and up it goes!
- St Nicholas Churchyard – At last this has been mown and strimmed off, although, a general gardening sort out is still needed. The verges outside the church need to be mown off too – dreadful when you have weddings/hearses parking outside.
- Memorial garden – weeds growing in the shingle. There is a tree which overhangs people's memorial stones – people have paid a lot of money to have these stones made only to have the overhanging trees spilling their sap all over them. Please get them cut back and tidy up underneath this tree.

- The library/Harlow Garden – needs mowing and strimming – years ago this was kept spotless.
- Old Marston Parish Council have a leaflet about a circular walk (Back Lane) – may I remind you that this Back Lane is actually a Bridleway, so horses take precedence over anyone. The Back Lane should be left alone i.e., no hard pavement or lights and it is not a cycle track! The British Horse Society are aware of this Bridleway and are keeping an eye on how it is run and maintained.