

MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Marcham Parish Council held on Wednesday 13th January, 2010 in the residents' lounge, Duffield Place, Marcham at 7.30 p.m.

Present:

Mr. M. Denton (Chairman), Mrs. J. Allan, Mr. C. Bough, Mr. W. Cumber,
Mrs. M. Evans, Miss. R. Mander, Mr. P. Rowe, Mr. D. Walton
Clerk: Mrs. L. Martin

2010/1 Apologies for Absence

No apologies for absence had been received.

2010/2 Declarations of Interest

Mr. Bough declared a personal interest in the agenda item relating to the Anson Trust in that he was a Director of the Trust, but commented that the item related only to the Council receiving an update report on the position in regard to village facilities and would not be discussing or voting on any issues. Mr. Walton declared a personal interest in the agenda item relating to Oxfordshire County Council pension fund in that he had contributed in the past to the fund and would be a future recipient of benefits. Mr. Cumber mentioned that he noted Marcham By Pass was on the agenda, and that his land may be affected depending on the chosen route.

2010//3 Minutes of the meeting held on 9th December, 2009

Mr. Walton stated that in the item relating to the 31 Bus stops, he had offered to speak to the residents at the Longfields westbound stop and not to all residents adjacent to all the bus stops. The Clerk reminded members that she had offered to place an article about the bus stops in MAD News in order to undertake general consultation, but this had not been accepted by Council, and believed that the resolution in the minutes of the December meeting was correct. It was noted that the County Council was, in any event, progressing the matter to the next stage.

Mrs. Allan stated that the resident by the X15's stop on A415 next to the war memorial had had concerns regarding the proposed paint markings and damage to his wall with raising the level of the path. She was reminded that this statement did not relate to the accuracy of the minutes. Mrs. Allan suggested that the heading in the minutes "Oxfordshire County Council – Formal Bus Stop Markings – X15" be changed to "Oxfordshire County Council – Formal Bus Stop Markings – X15 and 31". Members noted that the agenda item had related to the X15, but there had been a brief mention of the 31 service under that heading.

It was agreed that the minutes be accepted as drafted and signed as a true record of the proceedings.

- 2010/4 Matters Arising from the Minutes of the meeting held on 9th December, 2009
X15 Bus Stop
Mr. Walton placed on record the fact that he had not been aware at the last meeting that the X15 stops by the war memorial were being repositioned.
- Letters of thanks received for grants awarded
Council noted receipt of letters of thanks from the Anson Trust Field Management Committee, Home Start Southern Oxfordshire, Marcham Senior Citizens, Duffield Place Sunshine Club, Abingdon and District Citizens Advice Bureau, and South and Vale Carers Centre.
- Flats – Howard Cornish Road
The Vale Housing Association had confirmed that it was working on the tenants’ parking on the highway verge.
- Duffield Place – TV Aerials
The Vale Housing Association had confirmed that they could not trace any problem with the communal aerial in Duffield Place, and that residents in the bungalows had their own private aerials and the repairs were therefore their own responsibility.
- 2010/5 Public Participation
No members of the public were in attendance
- 2010/6 Planning Applications
- a) Decisions on previous applications
No decisions had been received
- b) Applications dealt with prior to the meeting
No applications had been received prior to the meeting
- c) Applications for consideration at the meeting
No applications had been received
- 2010/7 County Councillor’s Report
In the absence of Cllr. Brown no report was available.
- 2010/8 District Councillor’s Report
In the absence of Cllr. Hanna no report was available
- 2010/9 Anson Trust – Proposals for new village facilities
The Chairman reported that he had received a report from the Trust setting out its options for the future. This had been prepared following the public meeting

held in October. It was expected that the Trust would send a copy to the Clerk for circulation among members. This could be an item for the next meeting if appropriate.

2010/10

Oxfordshire County Council – Street Lighting

Council noted that the Chairman and Ms. Mander had not managed to check which lights could be switched off between the hours of 12.30 a.m. and 5.30 a.m. owing to the Christmas holiday break and bad weather. They would do so before the next meeting.

2010/11

Annual Meeting for Electors

Council discussed the initial arrangements for the annual meeting for electors. Council agreed that this would take place approximately the third week in May, and possible topics for guest speakers could include transport issues or the village charity event day.

RESOLVED:

that the Clerk take steps to see when the school hall was available in May to hold the annual meeting for electors.

2010/12

Parishioner of the Year Award

Council noted that at the May 2009 meeting it had appointed Mr. Hutchinson and Mrs. Ricketts to be on the shortlisting working party. Following the resignation from the Council of Mr. Hutchison, a replacement on this working party was required. Members referred to allowing sufficient time for the certificate to be prepared and possibly presented prior to the annual electors meeting.

RESOLVED:

that Mrs. Allan be appointed to the Parishioner of the Year shortlisting working party.

2010/13

Care of the Elderly in Marcham

Mrs. Evans spoke about her concerns regarding the care of the elderly in the parish, as families could find themselves in a crisis and in need of real immediate help, but with little support. Official agencies such as age concern or social services existed, but often took time to respond. Mrs. Evans gave examples of where help could be given, and suggested that the Parish Council could become involved in some way and make financial provision in the budget to fund a support scheme. She thought the Parish Council could be a supporter rather than the prime mover of a scheme. It was thought that the Church was currently considering provision for the elderly. She asked the Council to recognise the initiative and to make financial provision in the budget. Council considered the suggestion, and agreed that Mrs. Evans, Ms. Mander and other interested villagers such as Mrs. J. Creasy, Mrs. R. Gaisford and Revd. R. Zair

meet to discuss how best support could be given. The Chairman offered to write an article for MAD News on the theme of “do you know your neighbour” and the provision for the elderly.

2010/14

Grant Awarded to Duffield Place residents

Council was reminded that it had awarded a sum of £150 at the November meeting, to Duffield residents to improve the condition of the public area of the garden, to be paid on presentation of receipts. The residents had asked for advance payment of the grant to enable items to be purchased. They had arranged for the Vale Housing Association to receive and hold the cheque on their behalf.

RESOLVED:

that the grant sum of £150 be paid to the Vale Housing Association to be used for the benefit of the public garden area of Duffield Place.

2010/15

Budget 2010/2011

The Clerk explained the budget papers. Council carefully considered the current balances, the likely balances at the year end and the budget for 2010/2011

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the budget as shown on the forms annexed to these minutes be approved.
- (ii) that a precept of £35,000 be set for the year 2010/2011

2010/16

Meeting with the Vale of White Horse District Council – New Waste Collection Service

Mr. Cumber gave a report on a meeting that he had attended on 17th December. A new refuse/recycling collection service would start from 4th October, 2010. A 240 litre bin would be supplied for recycling and collected fortnightly. A 180 litre bin would be supplied for non-recyclable waste and collected fortnightly on alternate weeks, together with a 23 litre bin for kitchen food waste which would be emptied weekly. The garden waste service would continue as at present.

2010/17

Marcham By Pass

Members discussed the lack of reference to the Marcham By Pass in recent press. The project appeared to have been forgotten. The South East Regional Assembly would be assessing its priorities again in 2011. Members felt it very important to re-invigorate the village’s overall concerns and referred to a writing campaign, particularly outlining the traffic problems in Oxfordshire, of which Marcham formed a part.

RESOLVED:

that Mr. Denton, Mrs. Evans and Mr. Walton prepare of list of the relevant people and organisations to receive letters and to consider what could be stated at this stage.

2010/18 Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Development Framework – Information consultation on land won aggregates spatial strategy options
Council noted an invitation to attend a workshop at Stanford in the Vale village hall on 23rd February at 7.30 p.m. to hear the draft spatial strategy proposals for sand and gravel, soft sand and crushed rock working.

RESOLVED:

that Mr. Cumber represent the Council at this meeting.

2010/19 Vale of White Horse District Council – Your Vale Your Future: Additional Consultation
Council noted that amendments to the Core Strategy Preferred Options published in January 2009 had been made. Council noted the changes and

RESOLVED:

that it had no comment to make on the changes to the document.

2010/20 Oxfordshire County Council – Pension Fund – Funding Strategy
Council considered a letter from the County Council regarding the Pension Fund. Council considered delegating the response to the questions attached to the letter to the Clerk in consultation with the Chairman. Mr. Walton asked that no increase to the recovery period be included in the response as this would lead to a worsening of the long term situation.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the Clerk in consultation with the Chairman respond to the questions contained in the letter from the County Council regarding the Pension Fund.
- (ii) that “no increase in the recovery period” be included in the response.

2010/21 Correspondence
a) Oxfordshire County Council – Pension Fund – Report and Accounts
b) Oxfordshire Rural Community Council – Review Autumn/Winter
c) NHS Health News
d) OALC Nov/Dec update
The Clerk drew Council’s attention to the key issues in this update document. One referred to the fact that the National Association of Local Councils

believed that the current rules on the way that local councils can make payments were an anachronism and they needed to be updated to reflect the modern age. Mr. Walton stated it was possible for banks to allow two signatories electronically. The Clerk was asked to find out exactly what NALC's intentions were.

2010/22

Accounts

Council noted the list of cheques numbered 2071- 2079 to be signed and authorised payments totalling £5371.16 in respect of administration costs, play area maintenance, and items for flood protection.

2010/23

Matters Raised by members for information

Dog Waste Bin – Mill Road

Questions were asked about the possibility of siting a dog waste bin in Mill Road owing to the quantities of faeces that was being left on the roadside. The Clerk advised, that in theory, provided there was easy access for emptying, it would probably be something that the District Council would consider. Further thought would be given to this matter.

Oxfordshire County Council – Grit Bin – The Gap

Questions were asked about the lack of a grit bin in The Gap. The County Council had been asked some months ago to look at the possibility of providing a bin, and had been chased once. The Clerk would remind them again.

North Street / Sheepstead Road – condition

Complaints were made regarding the poor state of the footways in North Street and Sheepstead Road. The Clerk was asked to refer this to the County Council. The Chairman offered to supply the Clerk with photographs for submission.

Hyde Copse – works to trees

Mr. Bough stated that enquiries had been made of the Anson Trust as to why they were cutting down the trees in Hyde Copse. This site was in fact nothing to do with the Trust. Mr. Cumber advised that essential works to trees were taking place as a branch from one tree had fallen onto the garden fence belonging to an adjacent property.

2010/24

Items for MAD News

Council noted the list of items for inclusion in the village newsletter.

2010/25

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Council would be held on Wednesday 10th February, 2010 in the residents' lounge, Duffield Place at 7.30 p.m.

The meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.

Signed Date

MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

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Present:

Mr. M. Denton (Chairman), Mrs. J. Allan, Mr. W. Cumber,
Mrs. M. Evans, Miss. R. Mander, Mrs. C. Ricketts, Mrs. S. Turney,
Mr. D. Walton
Clerk: Mrs. L. Martin
Cllr. Ms. J. Hanna (District Councillor)
4 members of the public
Guest Speaker: Ms. Jane Barker, Village Shops Advisor from the Oxfordshire Rural Community Council.

Prior to the commencement of formal business Ms. Jane Barker spoke about the procedure to follow when setting up a community shop. She advised on undertaking a survey within the village to gauge the level of support, and explained how other community shops operated. If the idea gained support in principle, a feasibility study would then be the next stage looking at costings. A charity, the Plunkett Foundation, currently supported such ventures. She outlined the finance behind such a project and ways of operating as an industrial provident organisation, and appointing a shop manager. The Post Office was seen as an addition which complemented the shop. She answered questions on how a shop would be stocked, the setting up of a company, the sale of locally grown products, business rates payable, and opening hours. The Chairman thanked her for her presentation and she left the meeting leaving booklets and information for the attention of members. She agreed to email the Clerk with an example of a questionnaire if required.

- 2010/26 Apologies for Absence
Apologies had been received from Mr. C. Bough, Mr. P. Rowe and Cllr. I. Brown (County Councillor).
- 2010/27 Declarations of Interest
There were no declarations of interest.
- 2010/28 Minutes of the meeting held on 13th January, 2010
These were agreed and signed as a true record of the proceedings. The Chairman however placed on record that he had received the apologies from Mrs. Turney in respect of a pre-meeting and had misunderstood that these had intended to relate to the Parish Council meeting as well.
- 2010/29 Matters Arising from the Minutes of the meeting held on 13th January, 2010
NALC – Payments by Local Councils
Council noted that the Oxfordshire Association of Local Councils would advise as and when they received further information as to the way in which the National Association was proposing to modernise the system of payments by local councils.

Annual Meeting for Electors

Council noted that this was to take place either Wednesday 19th May or Wednesday 26th May. Cllr. Hanna expressed a preference for 26th May in view of other commitments. The Clerk would arrange the school hall for this date.

Care of the Elderly in Marcham

Council noted that the steering group formed to consider this matter was to meet on 12th February.

Marcham By Pass

The Chairman produced a letter and list of recipients that he had drafted following the last meeting. He handed this to members. The Clerk was asked to send this to those on the list.

2010/30

Public Participation

Mr. Buckingham stated that if a survey was done to gauge the level of support for a community shop, one of the questions should ask whether the residents would be prepared to spend a certain amount each week in the shop.

2010/31

Planning Applications

a) Decisions on previous applications

Extraction and processing of soft building sand and infilling with inert waste, provision of all ancillary facilities.

Upwood Quarry

Hills Minerals & Waste Ltd

Permitted 14th January, 2010

b) Applications dealt with prior to the meeting

No applications had been received prior to the meeting

c) Applications for consideration at the meeting

MAR/19610/2 Application to extend the time limit of permission
MAR/19610/1 for the demolition of existing bungalow and redundant
farm building. Erection of 3 bed house
Rushey, Mill Road
For: Mr. J. Duffield
Comments: Council had no objections

2010/32

County Councillor's Report

Cllr Brown had submitted a written report on the County Council's budget which was noted. Council noted that the council tax increase was 2.75%

2010/33 District Councillor's Report

Cllr. Hanna gave a report from the working group which she had formed to consider the village consultation in regard to any proposals from the Anson Trust. The group had considered the options document produced by the Trust (now on the MAD News website) and thought that it was a significant step forward and a useful point of engagement with the village. The group would write to the Trust and also ask for copies of the document to be put in the Post Office.

The Chairman suggested that those councillors, who wished to, could meet to look at the document. He indicated that he had heard the Trust would arrange a further public meeting in March.

Cllr. Hanna continued and advised that she would forward the District Council's budget details.

2010/34 Anson Trust – Proposals for new village facilities

Council noted receipt of the options document produced by the Anson Trust

2010/35 Oxfordshire County Council – Bus Route 31

Council noted the current proposals from the County Council. Mr. Walton clarified the criteria for the bus stop markings, and stated that if there was no real danger of cars parking in a bus area, then there was no requirement for the markings or clearway sign, particularly as there was a general assumption that enforcement would not necessarily follow. Council noted the comments submitted by Cllr. Brown. Council felt that the use of bus stop markings in North Street were important

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the proposals now being put forward by Oxfordshire County Council be noted.
- (ii) that the County Council be asked to review the markings of the bus cages with a view to minimising them
- (iii) that this Council, however, supports the proposed markings in North Street.

2010/36 Oxfordshire County Council – Street Lighting proposal to turn off between 12.30 a.m. to 5.30 a.m.

The Chairman placed on record his thanks to Ruth Mander for her efforts in connection with the street lighting proposals. Council considered the suggestions put forward, and the requests from the public to turn certain lights off and leave other lights on. In the garage block areas, particular off Haines Court, there had been differences of opinion as to the lighting. It was suggested that motion sensors might be a way forward.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the list of recommendations as to which lights could be turned off as attached to these minutes be submitted to the County Council

- (ii) that enquiries be made of the County Council as to whether motion sensors could be fitted in the garage block areas.

2010/37 Hills Aggregates Liaison Committee
Council received a report from Mr. Cumber who attended this meeting.

2010/38 Weed Management
Council noted that the company Weed Management, previously approved by the County Council for highway weed spraying, was offering weed spraying in the 2010 season.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that under s. 137 the sum of £825 plus vat be spent on highway weed spraying in the 2010 season.
- (ii) that the Clerk instructs Weed Management to proceed.

2010/39 Oxfordshire Fire Service – Cuts in fire service provision in Abingdon
Members had noted from a press article that public meetings had been held to discuss the proposed cuts in fire service provision, and noted that Dr. Evan Harris MP for Abingdon had raised concerns about the lack of public awareness about the proposed cuts. Members discussed the general lack of consultation.

RESOLVED:

that a letter be sent to Oxfordshire County Council, copied to Evan Harris M.P. expressing concern about the lack of consultation

2010/40 Wantage Advice Centre
Council considered a grant application from the Wantage Advice Centre, following the receipt of the additional information that had been sought. Council noted that 10 residents from Marcham had been helped during 2009

RESOLVED:

that under s. 137 LGA '72 a grant of £100 be awarded to the Wantage Advice Centre.

2010/41 Correspondence
a) New Road – Parking
Council noted receipt of a letter from Head of Facilities at Denman College confirming that he had asked the college staff to park within the grounds. He would monitor the situation.
b) DEFRA – Thames Water – Water Resources Management Plan
Confirmation received that the Public Inquiry will start on 15th June 2010 in the Conference Centre, Oxford and was expected to last 10-12 days.

- c) Oxfordshire Waste Partnership - Flytipping
Council noted information as to fly tipping. Last year 4383 fly tipping incidents in Oxfordshire had to be dealt with at a cost of £250,000. The Clerk would include information in MAD News. Questions were asked as to the disposal of litter when village litter picks took place, when the new waste collection service was introduced. Cllr. Hanna would make enquiries about this.
- d) ORCC – Community Led Planning – Training Event 6th March
Council noted information for this event.
- e) Letter from Parishioner
Council noted receipt of a letter from a parishioner expressing concern about overgrown hedging by the X15 bus stop at Hyde Farm Nursery and the lack of the timetable, as well as potholes and other overhanging foliage. The Clerk had raised these matters with the relevant authorities. It was noted that the timetable case had now been installed. The X15 stop at the war memorial would be checked for timetable cases.
- f) ORCC – publication of 90th birthday book – unique county book on Oxfordshire’s communities
Council noted that ORCC was publishing a 90th birthday book. This would feature community life in Oxfordshire. Council had been invited to submit an entry, and also complete a questionnaire about village life. Mr. Denton offered to look at a possible submission.

RESOLVED:

that an entry based on the photographic history of the village produced by the Marcham Society be submitted for publication.

- g) Oxfordshire County Council – Felling of Tree A338
Council noted that the County Council was felling a tree on the East side of the A338 just South of the entrance to Oxford Instruments owing to it having been hit by high sided lorries.
- h) Vale of White Horse District Council – Summons and Agenda
Council noted receipt of the Summons and Agenda for the meeting to be held on 17th February.

2010/42

Accounts

Mr. Walton gave a report on a meeting of the Working Party which had undertaken a review of the effectiveness of the internal audit. This had concluded that it believed that the Council’s system for internal financial control was satisfactory, and that the internal audit met the standards for scope, independence, competence, relationships, planning and auditing which were recommended by the National Association of Local Councils in Governance and Accountability – A Practitioners Guide. Council reviewed the Terms of Reference of the Internal Auditor and the Audit Plan

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the report of the “Review of the Effectiveness of the Internal Audit Working Party” be accepted.
- (ii) that the Terms of Reference for the Internal Auditor remain as previously adopted.
- (iii) that the Audit Plan as revised and appended to these minutes be adopted.

Council noted the list of cheques numbered 2080 - 2089 to be signed and authorised payments totalling £4015.56 in respect of administration costs, play area maintenance, grant, allotment water, works to trees in the Churchyard, and Licence fee for use of school tennis courts.

2010/43

Matters Raised by members for information

Arboretum – clearing of spinney

It was reported that the contractor had started work on the clearing of the spinney area.

Moles – Cemetery

Questions were asked as to the clearing of moles from the Cemetery. It was understood that the Clerk to the Burial Committee had spoken with the Chairman of that committee and contacted a mole catcher. The problem was being dealt with.

Big Charity Event

The Chairman reported that planning of this event to take place in June was going ahead. It was thought that the group might approach the Parish Council for assistance, possibly for help with a road closure for a street party, and even financial assistance.

X31 Bus – Stagecoach

It was suggested that visitors to Marcham such as the students at Denman College using the bus did not know where to alight. The use of recorded information which informed passengers as to their location would be helpful.

X15 - Bus

It was suggested that steps should be taken to encourage the X15 service around the village rather than it travelling the A415. This was particularly so since the stagecoach 31 service ran less frequently and was now hourly.

Churchyard - Steps

It was reported that from the top of the steps into the Churchyard to the point where the paths divide was wet and boggy. Further hoggin was required on the path.

Village Shop

It was suggested following the presentation by Ms. Barker, that the

questionnaire survey form be obtained from ORCC. Mr. Denton and Mrs. Ricketts offered to meet to look at this in the first instance.

Longfields Play Area

The Clerk was asked when the litter bin would be installed. She stated that this had been collected by the contractor prior to Christmas. Probably the winter weather, snow and freezing conditions had prevented its installation. She would remind the contractor.

Driving on pavements

It was reported that driving on pavements and obstruction to vision at the entrance to Longfields was still continuing. It was understood that the Police Community Support Officer was to speak to those involved. She would be reminded.

2010/44

Items for MAD News

Council noted the list of items for inclusion in the village newsletter.

2010/45

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Council would be held on Wednesday 10th March, 2010 in the residents' lounge, Duffield Place at 7.30 p.m.

The meeting closed at 8.55 p.m.

Signed Date

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Miss. R. Mander, Mrs. C. Ricketts, Mr. D. Walton
Clerk: Mrs. L. Martin
3 members of the public

- 2010/46 Apologies for Absence
Apologies had been received from Mr. W. Cumber, Mr. P. Rowe, Mrs. S. Turney and Cllr. J. Hanna (District Councillor).
- 2010/47 Declarations of Interest
Mrs. Ricketts declared a personal interest in the agenda item relating to the allotments in that her husband was an allotment holder. Mr. Walton declared a personal interest in the agenda item relating to the allotments in that his wife was an allotment holder.
- 2010/48 Minutes of the meeting held on 10th February, 2010
These were agreed and signed as a true record of the proceedings
- 2010/49 Matters Arising from the Minutes of the meeting held on 10th February, 2010
- New Road – parking difficulties
Members placed on record their disappointment that parking problems still existed in New Road. Members stated that consideration might have to be given to writing to Denman College again requesting that their employees park within the college grounds.
- Public Meeting arranged by the Directors of the Anson Trust
Mrs. Allan stated that it was disappointing that the Parish Council had not been notified about the date of a public meeting which had been planned by the Trust. The Chairman replied that at the last Parish Council meeting, whilst aware of the probability of a meeting open to the public, he had not been aware of the precise date.
- Marcham By Pass
Council noted acknowledgements of its letter sent regarding the By Pass from Ed. Vaizey M.P., Cllr. D. Robertson, Deputy Leader Oxfordshire County Council and current Chairman of the Regional Transport Board, and Cllr. C. Mathew (County Councillor for the Eynsham division). Cllr. Mathew had suggested a joint meeting with other parishes on the A415 to consider a collective approach to the County Council regarding the problems of this road. A selection of dates for such a meeting had been provided. Members expressing an interest in attending were Mr. Denton, Mrs. Evans, and Mr. Rowe

who had expressed an interest prior to the meeting. The Clerk would pursue the arrangements for such a meeting. Council noted receipt of a letter from Mr. S. Howell, Head of Transport indicating that the By Pass was unlikely to proceed in the near future as Government monies for transport improvements were unlikely to be available.

Village Shop Questionnaire

Council noted that an initial questionnaire regarding the likely use of a village shop had been placed in MAD News. The Chairman encouraged replies to be returned to the boxes by 15th March.

2010/50

Public Participation

Blocking of public footways near Duffield Place

Complaints were registered with the Council regarding vehicles which formally blocked the bus stop at Duffield Place and which were now parking on the path. The Chairman advised that the Police Neighbourhood Action Group would be looking at the problem. A general leaflet would be left on any offending vehicles, followed by a Police notice should the vehicles remain.

St. Peter's Cross Roads

It was suggested that consideration should be given to a mini-roundabout at the cross roads, as cars from the Cothill Road clash with cars emerging from Sheepstead Road. There had been several near miss incidents. Council noted that ways of improving the junction should be considered.

2010/51

Planning Applications

a) Decisions on previous applications

MAR/19610/2 Application to extend the time limit of planning permission MAR/19610/1 for the demolition of existing bungalow and redundant farm building. Erection of a three bedroom house.
Rushey, Mill Road
Permitted 24th March, 2010

b) Applications dealt with prior to the meeting

No applications had been received prior to the meeting

c) Applications for consideration at the meeting

2010/52

County Councillor's Report

In the absence of the County Councillor, no report was available.

2010/53

District Councillor's Report

Cllr. Hanna, when offering apologies for the meeting, had indicated that there was nothing of note on District Council matters which affected the parish.

2010/54 Police Matters / Police Neighbourhood Action Group
Mr. Denton, as the Council's representative on the NAG group gave a report. The local crime rates were low. There had been "break ins" in caravans left on driveways and sanitary ware removed. Crimes which had been committed had been generally solved. The public perception of crime and fear of crime was greater than the incidents themselves. The Thames Valley Police published local newsletters. These had been placed in Duffield Place and Sweetbriar. Ms. Laura Schmid, the Community Police Support Officer was one of 12 out of 53 nominees who had been successfully nominated for an award from the High Sheriff of Oxfordshire. She would be presented with this on 23rd March. Council discussed putting the Police report on the Parish Council's website. A link to the NAG website was thought preferable. The Clerk was asked to put a précis of the Police report into MAD News under the Parish Council's section.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that a letter be sent to PCSO Laura Schmid congratulating her on her award from the High Sheriff of Oxford.
- (ii) that a link from the Parish Council's website be created to allow access to the NAG website, to enable the Police reports to be viewed.
- (iii) that the Clerk include in the Parish Council's report for the next edition of MAD News, a précis of the Police report and crime statistics.

2010/55 Oxfordshire Fire Service – Fire Service Provision in Abingdon
Council noted a reply to its letter from Cllr. Judith Heathcoat indicating that the re-arrangement of shifts at the Abingdon station did not represent cuts and commenting on the consultation process. Council discussed the reply and expressed concern again about the lack of consultation, and stated that the response of the Abingdon station would be dependant on how quickly firemen arrived at the station, this would add to risk.

RESOLVED:

that a further letter be sent to stating that the Council was saddened by the lack of consultation and expressing the belief that local communities would be put at greater risk owing to potential delays as firemen would be on call and would take time to arrive at the station.

2010/56 Oxfordshire County Council – Minerals and Waste Development Framework
Council noted a written report submitted by Mr. Cumber who had attend a stakeholder workshop meeting on 23rd February. This outlined various options under consideration by the County Council for future mineral working.

2010/57 Care of the Elderly in Marcham

Mrs. Evans gave a report on a meeting which had taken place the previous day between interested parties. There had been slightly different approaches, but an underlying commonality concerned with good neighbourliness. 10-12 offers of help from volunteers had been received from the article placed in MAD News. The idea was to provide volunteers to offer initial assistance such as shopping, car driving, visiting, identifying help and supporting rather than to take over from the established agencies. Having the right people to assist to ensure effective support was key as was meeting regularly with the volunteers. The group would place an article in MAD news outlining what it was trying to achieve.

2010/58

Parishioner of the Year 2009

Council noted the nominations identified in the Clerk's report. Council selected the recipient of the award for 2009. The preparation and presentation of the Certificate would be considered by the working party in consultation with members.

2010/59

Cow Lane Allotments

Council noted complaints from residents who walked the path from Longfields to Cow Lane, about allotment holders taking dogs on to the allotment site, contrary to the notices. Dogs on the site, even if within enclosed allotments, were barking and jumping up on fences causing problems for the users of the path, particularly those with other dogs. Council noted and considered the problems identified. It was suggested that there were plenty of areas for exercising dogs in the village, and in walking past the allotment it would be possible to encounter other dogs, and not only those that might have been taken by allotment holders on to their enclosed plots. Mrs. Ricketts, offered to arrange to speak to the allotment holders near the path. Council also considered a request from the tenant of plot 16A to erect a fence around his plot and also erect a small shed.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the Clerk place an article in MAD News asking those allotment holders who took dogs into their enclosed plots to be kept under control.
- (ii) that Mrs. Ricketts, who knew the allotment holders who worked plots near the path, speak to and advise them concerning the problems reported to Council.
- (iii) that the tenant of plot 16A be granted permission to erect a fence around the plot and to erect a small shed.

2010/60

Correspondence

- a) Vale of White Horse District Council – Summons and Agenda 24th February
- b) Energy Savings Trust – Notification of advice for community involvements in tackling climate change and energy saving in community buildings. The Clerk was asked to pass this information to Dr. Dunford who happened to be

considering this issue.

- c) Letter from St. Helen Without Parish Council regarding Chinook helicopters which were to be based at RAF Benson.

Council noted that St. Helen Without Parish Council were concerned over the plans to use RAF Benson as a base for Chinook helicopters and the likely effects on the area when training. That Council had asked for a meeting with the RAF. Council asked the Clerk to advise St. Helen Without Parish Council that it would, in principle, be interested in sending representatives to such a meeting. Advance notification of any training programme might be useful.

- d) Letter from Marcham Society – Vale of White Horse District Council Chairman’s awards

Council noted receipt of a letter of thanks from Marcham Society for the Council’s nomination of the “Marcham Remembered” editorial team for an award. The team had been selected and recently had attended a lunch and presentation ceremony at the Guildhall, Abingdon.

2010/61

Accounts

Council noted the list of cheques numbered 2090 - 2097 to be signed and authorised payments totalling £2671.95 in respect of administration costs, play area maintenance, fencing, and hire of school hall for annual meeting of electors.

2010/62

Matters Raised by members for information

Longfields play area

It was reported that the fence and litter bin had now been installed

Public Meeting hosted by the Anson Trust

Mr. Bough reminded members that a public meeting would be held on Wednesday 17th March in Marcham School.

Churchyard

Mrs. Allan reported that she had met with the handyman in the Churchyard. He would trim back the edges of the path in due course. Contractors had cleared the vegetation around the Churchyard and removed ivy from graves, and the dead elms.

Untidy Areas

Mr. Denton reported that there were still two untidy areas in the village, one was at Parkside allotments, the other was around the telephone exchange. He asked that consideration be given to these as future projects.

Green Belt network

Mr. Walton asked that formal membership of this organisation be considered should the current informal situation cease.

Oxfordshire County Council

The Clerk was asked if there had been any news from the County Council regarding its action to turn off some of the street lights over night, or to a possible replacement for street lamp no. 6 Packhorse Lane which had been knocked down. The Clerk confirmed that the suggested list of lights to be switched off had been sent after the last meeting, but there was no further information about this, nor on the replacement street column.

2010/63

Items for MAD News

Council noted the list of items for inclusion in the village newsletter.

2010/64

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Council would be held on Wednesday 14th April, 2010 in the residents' lounge, Duffield Place at 7.30 p.m.

The meeting closed at 8.25 p.m.

Signed Date

MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Marcham Parish Council held on Wednesday 14th April, 2010 in the residents' lounge, Duffield Place, Marcham at 7.30 p.m.

Present:

Mr. M. Denton (Chairman), Mrs. J. Allan, Mr. C. Bough, Mr. W. Cumber,
Mrs. M. Evans, Miss. R. Mander, Mr. P. Rowe, Mr. D. Walton
Clerk: Mrs. L. Martin
2 members of the public
Joined by Mrs. C. Ricketts and Cllr. I. Brown (County Councillor)

- 2010/65 Apologies for Absence
No apologies for absence had been received.
- 2010/66 Declarations of Interest
Mr. Cumber commented that he noted there was an agenda item relating to a community shop. As a Director of the company which owned the former village shop site he would possibly decide to declare a personal and prejudicial interest at the time depending on the discussion undertaken.
- 2010/67 Minutes of the meeting held on 10th March, 2010
These were agreed and signed as a true record of the proceedings

Mrs. C. Ricketts joined the meeting.
- 2010/68 Matters Arising from the Minutes of the meeting held on 10th March, 2010

Unsung Heroes of the Vale
Council noted receipt of a letter from the Chairman of the Vale of White Horse District Council thanking the Parish Council for its nomination for the Chairman's awards.

X15 RH Transport bus service – previous withdrawal of service around village
Council noted that RH Transport would consider re-routing the X15 around the village again when next reviewing the service later in the year.

Letter – Bridget Rudge
The Chairman reported that he had received a letter of thanks from Mrs. Bridget Rudge acknowledging the Council's condolences sent on the death of her husband, former District Councillor Cyril Rudge.
- 2010/69 Public Participation
The public present had no matters to raise.
- 2010/70 Planning Applications

a) Decisions on previous applications
No decisions had been received.

b) Applications dealt with prior to the meeting

Work to trees – Thin crowns 15 -20% and reduce limbs
Sycamore trees rear of 20 Kings Avenue
For: Mr. D. Higginson
Comments: Council had no objections

Trim Fir tree
Fir Tree Cottage, North Street (grounds of Denman College)
For: Denman College
Comments: Council had no objections

c) Applications for consideration at the meeting

MAR/SAH 1841/39 Erection of boarding house, alterations to car park, new access and ancillary development
Cothill House School
For: Cothill Educational Trust
Comments: Council noted that this revised application had taken into account its earlier concerns and raised no objections to the current application

d) Planning Correspondence

Council noted receipt of a letter from the Vale of White Horse District Council confirming that the Tree Preservation Order no. 2 had been extended in its wording to include reference to wilful damage.

2010/71

County Councillor's Report

Cllr. Brown was not present at this point in the meeting.

2010/72

District Councillor's Report

In the absence of Cllr. Hanna no report was available.

2010/73

Police Matters/Police Neighbourhood Action Group

Mr. Denton as the Council's representative on the local NAG group gave a report. Crime statistics were still low for Marcham. The Police Community Support Officer would be in attendance at Duffield Place on Tuesday 20th April in the morning for residents to speak to her. He answered questions as to how this had been advertised. He referred to "Oxfordshire Together – Have Your Say" which was an event organised by the Oxfordshire Safer Communities Partnership and an opportunity to hear speakers from the partnership such as the Head of Probation, Head of Drugs and Alcohol Team, Assistant Director of Public Health. This event was to take place at the Oxford Hotel, Wolvercote Roundabout on Tuesday 27th April at 6.30 p.m. Mr. Denton confirmed that he would attend.

2010/74

A415 – Meeting with County Councillors and other parishes – 7th April

Council received a report from Mr. Denton and Mrs. Evans who attended this meeting.

This meeting was a joint group of parishes bordering the A415 to discuss the merits of forming a body to talk to the County Council as one rather than as individual councils. It had been thought appropriate to also include those parishes adjacent such as Cumnor, and Appleton. The group had decided to try and arrange a meeting with Mr. Steven Howell, Head of Transport at Oxfordshire County Council.

Cllr. I. Brown (County Councillor) joined the meeting. Cllr. Brown commented that major road improvements were not the responsibility of the County Council, and they would look to other bodies to finance any schemes. He felt that it was important to still make views known to the County Council. He suggested contacting other parishes to get them on board.

2010/75

County Councillor Report – Cllr. Brown

Cllr. Brown commented that the Regional Transport Board through SEERA was responsible for funding. He thought that this body might disband after the general election depending on the new government in place. He offered to support all villages that did not want a bridge at Newbridge without other improvements on the A415. He referred to the A34 Marcham Interchange where visibility for pedestrians/cyclists crossing the South bound slip road next to Tesco was poor, and in particular a blind corner for pedestrians/cyclists trying to see traffic emerging from Abingdon.

Cllr. Brown stated that people had got in touch with him regarding the bus markings and had written to Ed. Vaizey as they were unhappy about the proposals. He offered to speak to the County Council regarding less paint markings should the Parish Council require him to do so. Mr. Denton confirmed that the Parish Council had requested no yellow markings other than on both sides of the road in North Street.

Mr. Cumber pointed out that in connection with the new bridge at Newbridge then when the presentation by the County Council was given it was suggested that whilst the bridge would be able to take 44 tonnes lorries, the 18 tonne weight limit would remain in place. This is what was believed would happen.

2010/76

A415 – other issues Eastern entry point to village

Council noted correspondence from a resident concerned with speeding traffic entering the village. He had been advised previously of the measures already taken. Suggestions put forwards to reduce speeding included the toucan crossing lights permanently on red, a chicane, replacing the red markings and possibly relocating the 30 mph limit further out.

RESOLVED:

that enquiries be made of the County Council as to what other measures could be undertaken.

2010/77

Vale of White Horse District Council – New Waste Services – Meeting on 1st April

Council received a report from Mr. Cumber who had attended this meeting.

The wheelie bins to be issued had been explained. Assisted waste collection for the elderly would continue. Further meetings and presentations for stakeholders would take place in May. These would take place on Monday 17th and Tuesday 18th May in Wantage and 19th and 20th May in Abingdon. Council considered sending representatives to these meetings. In view of the presentations already attended Council

RESOLVED:

- (i) not specifically to send representatives to one of these further meetings.
- (ii) should any member decide he/she wished to attend, then to advise the clerk accordingly

2010/78

Marcham Charity Weekend

Council considered a letter from the organisers of the charity weekend requesting a grant of £600 towards the cost of entertainment at the charity weekend. The organisers also requested that the Parish Council consider insurance for the event, and also assist by applying for a road closure order on Saturday 19th June in Morland Road for a street party. The Clerk advised that following discussion with the Council's insurers, it would be difficult for the Council to take out insurance as they were not the organisers of the event. Should the Council organise one of the activities such as the street party, then a full risk assessment would be required, regard would have to be had for food hygiene regulations, and the Council would only be covered for items that the Council would be legally liable for. The Chairman stated that he understood that the residents in Morland Road had been contacted by the organisers regarding a road closure order and they had raised no objections.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that a grant of £600 for fixed costs / entertainment at the charity weekend be awarded
- (ii) that any grant sums be paid to the entertainers or other providers direct
- (iii) that the Council not seek insurance cover and the organisers be advised that any insurance cover required would be for themselves to arrange
- (iv) that an application for a road closure order for Morland Road between its junction with Orchard Way and the entrance to the Anson field between the hours of 11.00 – 17.00 on Saturday 19th June be lodged.

2010/79

Fence at 20 Howard Cornish Road

Council noted receipt of concerns from residents about the new tall closeboarded fence erected at the back edge of the footway at 20 Howard Cornish Road.

RESOLVED:

that this be referred to the Vale of White Horse District Council for investigation

2010/80 National Association of Local Councils – Localism in Action – NALC Conference Friday 2nd July Bristol
Council noted the details of this conference and considered whether to send a representative

RESOLVED:

that no representative attend this event

2010/81 Community Shop – Survey results
Mr. Denton gave a report on the community shop survey. Approximately 1100 copies of Marcham and District News were printed, each with a survey form. There was a population of over 1800 in the parish with approximately 681 houses. There had been 6 locations in the village where replies could be posted. There had been 198 replies with some families completing more than one form. Mr. Denton would write an article summarising the results in the next edition of MAD News. Mr. Cumber referred to the current position regarding business rates. Discussion focused on to what extent the survey results accurately represented the interest in the village and whether a shop could be sustained on a commercial basis, and the likely interest from visitors to Denman College. Questions were answered as to the previous suggestion of Abingdon College's students being involved in a project involving the shop. This was no longer proceeding. It was suggested that the results of the survey be shown to the Oxfordshire Rural Community Council. Mr. Cumber asked to be kept informed.

RESOLVED:

that Mr. Denton, Mrs. Allan, Mrs. Ricketts and Mr. Cumber meet with the village shops adviser from the Oxfordshire Rural Community Council to discuss the results of the shop survey.

2010/82 Oxfordshire County Council – Bus Route 31 – Further Consultation
Council noted the information provided in the second round consultation, and discussed the proposals. Council noted that the yellow paint markings had been reduced, but it considered that markings other than in North Street were superfluous, owing to the amount of car parking in North Street and the businesses that operated there. The Chairman advised that he had received a letter from Mr. Collins who had commented direct to the County Council on the North Street proposals.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the County Council be advised that the Parish Council was of the opinion that no markings were necessary other than in North Street on both sides of the road, and that all other proposed markings be removed.

- (ii) that the Clerk write to Mr. Collins acknowledging receipt of the letter sent to the Chairman.

2010/83

Purchase of paper trimmer and laminator

Council considered the purchase of a paper trimmer and laminator to assist with office tasks, at an approximate cost of £150. Mr. Bough advised that he knew of a second hand paper trimmer and laminator which may be suitable. He would arrange for the Chairman and Clerk to view these items.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that authority be given to the Clerk to purchase the items known to Mr. Bough or spend up to £150 on new items if they were not considered suitable.

2010/84

Annual Meeting for Electors

Council considered a possible guest speaker for the annual meeting of electors. Council noted that there would already be a report from the Parish Council, the County Council, Vale of White Horse District Council, Marcham CE Primary School and the Police. The organisers of the Marcham Charity Weekend had been approached some weeks ago, but they were unsure at that stage whether they would be away at the date of the meeting.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the organisers of the Charity Weekend be asked again to send a representative.
- (ii) that if they were unable to attend then no further speaker be sought.

2010/85

Correspondence

- a) Vale of White Horse District Council – Morse, Murder and Mayhem
an evening with Colin Dexter, hosted by the Chairman of the Vale District Council at Wantage Civic Hall on Wednesday 28th April at 7.30 p.m.
- b) Vale of White Horse District Council – Community flood Workshop – Thursday 22nd April at the Guildhall, Abingdon at 6.00 p.m.
Mr. Denton indicated that he would attend this event.
- c) Oxfordshire County Council – Local Transport Plan 3 - Newsletter
Council noted receipt of the newsletter.
- d) Oxfordshire County Council – Footpath no. 7 Diversion at Garford
Council noted that plans to divert this footpath were not continuing owing to a change in ownership of the land, and the new owner not wishing to proceed.
- e) Thames Water’s Resources Management Plan – Inquiry

Council noted that additional information – Defra’s briefing for the Inspector was on the Defra website.

f) Thames Valley Police – Community Policing Awards/Special Constabulary

Council noted the competition currently running for Police awards, a recruitment campaign for special constables and receipt of the Rural Abingdon newsletter from April 2010

g) OALC – March update

Council noted receipt of the update

2010/86

Accounts

Council noted the list of cheques numbered 2098 - 2110 to be signed and authorised payments totalling £3828.14 in respect of administration costs, subscriptions, play area and cemetery maintenance, grass cutting, and grants

2010/87

Matters Raised by members for information

Litter Blitz

Council was advised that a community group was arranging a litter blitz for Saturday 17th April starting at 9.30 a.m. at the pavilion in the Anson field.

Anson Trust – new community facilities

The first meeting of the new community group looking at facilities had been held. It was noted that the Parish Council could be in a position to assist but first needed to be approached with a request from the group on how best to help. The Anson Trust was aware of the good constructive spirit of the meeting and was pleased that there was focus on new facilities.

Parishioner of the Year

It was reported that the certificate for the parishioner of the year had been framed. This would be presented to the recipient formally prior to the annual meeting of electors.

2010/88

Items for MAD News

Council noted the list of items for inclusion in the village newsletter. Mr. Denton would include an article about the village shop survey. He would also arrange the next meeting to discuss parish arrangements for the elderly.

2010/89

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Council would be held on Wednesday 12th May, 2010 in the residents’ lounge, Duffield Place at 7.30 p.m.

The meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.

Signed Date

MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Marcham Parish Council held on Wednesday 12th May, 2010 in the residents' lounge, Duffield Place, Marcham at 7.30 p.m.

Present:

Mrs. J. Allan, Mr. W. Cumber, Mrs. M. Evans, Ms. R. Mander, Mrs. C. Ricketts,
Mr. D. Walton
Clerk: Mrs. L. Martin
5 members of the public
Joined by Mr. Rowe

In the absence of the Chairman, Mr. Walton the Vice-Chairman, took the chair for the start of the meeting.

2010/90 Election of Chairman
The Chairman for the start of the meeting, Mr. Walton, called for nominations for the election of a Chairman of the Council to hold office until the next Annual Meeting of the Council

It was moved by Mrs. Evans, seconded by Ms. Mander and

RESOLVED: nem.con
that Mr. Walton be elected Chairman of the Council to hold office until the next annual meeting of the Council

2010/91 Declaration of Acceptance of Chairman
Mr. Walton made and signed the declaration of acceptance of office as Chairman.

2010/92 Letter to immediate past Chairman
Mrs. Evans suggested that a letter be sent to the immediate past Chairman stating the Council's regret that he was ill and congratulating him on his achievements during his term of office, and to express the Council's hope that he would continue working hard on behalf of the parish.

RESOLVED:
that such a letter be sent

2010/93 Mr. Rowe joined the meeting.

2010/94 Election of Vice-Chairman
The Chairman called for nominations for the election of Vice-Chairman of the Council to hold office until the next annual meeting of the Council

It was moved by Mr. Cumber, seconded by Mrs. Evans, and

RESOLVED: nem.con
that Mr. Rowe be elected Vice-Chairman of the Council
to hold office until the next annual meeting of the
Council

2010/95 Appointment of Planning Working Group

RESOLVED:
that the Clerk be given delegated powers in consultation
with Mrs. Allan and Mr. Cumber to respond on
behalf of the Council on planning applications requiring
Council's comments before the next ordinary meeting of
the Council.

2010/96 Appointment of Representative for the Oxfordshire Association of Local
Councils

RESOLVED:
(i) that no specific member be appointed as representative
(ii) that the agenda for these meetings be presented to
Council, and members would decide at that time if they
wished to attend

2010/97 Appointment of Public Transport Representative

RESOLVED:
that Mr. Walton represent the Council

2010/98 Appointment of Representative to Hills Aggregates Liaison Committee

RESOLVED:
that Mr. Cumber represent the Council

2010/99 Appointment of Representatives to the Anson Field Management Committee

RESOLVED:
that Mr. Bough and Mrs. Ricketts represent the Council

2010/100 Appointment of Members to the Churchyard Working Party

RESOLVED:
that Mrs. Allan and Mrs. Ricketts represent the Council at
meetings with 2 representatives nominated by the
Parochial Church Council to discuss the maintenance of
the closed Churchyard

2010/101 Appointment of Representative to the Reservoir Affected Parishes Group

RESOLVED:

- (i) that no specific member be appointed as representative
- (ii) that information regarding these meetings be presented to Council, and members would decide at that time if they wished to attend

2010/102 Appointment of MAD News Correspondent

RESOLVED:

that the Clerk write a monthly article on Parish Council business for the village newsletter

2010/103 Review of Effectiveness of Internal Audit Working Party

RESOLVED:

that Mr. Walton and Mr. Rowe serve on the review of effectiveness of internal audit working party

2010/104 Planning Consultation Working Party established by Cllr. J. Hanna

RESOLVED:

that Mrs. Evans and Mr. Walton represent the Council on the working party established by Cllr. Hanna to discuss how to undertake parish consultation should a planning application for new housing and recreation facilities be lodged.

2010/105 Parishioner of the Year Award working party

RESOLVED:

that Mrs. Allan Mrs. Ricketts form a working party to consider nominations for the Parishioner of the Year Award and to administer the arrangements for the Certificate.

2010/106 Staff Working Party

RESOLVED:

that Mr. Denton, Mr. Rowe and Mrs. Turney form a working party to Council consider staff issues as per the adopted terms of reference

2010/107 Apologies for Absence
Apologies for absence had been received from Mr. Denton, Mr. Bough, Mrs. Turney and Cllr. J. Hanna (District Councillor).

2010/108 Declarations of Interest
Mr. Walton declared a personal interest in the agenda item relating to Cow Lane

allotments in that his wife was an allotment holder. Mrs. Ricketts declared a personal interest in the agenda item relating to Cow Lane allotments in that her husband was an allotment holder. Mr. Cumber stated that as a director of W. Cumber and Son (Theale) Ltd which owned the Post Office property he may declare a personal and prejudicial interest and leave the room at a later stage in the meeting in regard to the agenda item relating to the community shop survey results.

2010/109 Minutes of the meeting held on 14th April, 2010
These were agreed and signed as a true record of the proceedings

2010/110 Matters Arising from the Minutes of the meeting held on 14th April 2010
20 Howard Cornish Road - Fence
Council noted that the District Council had responded and acknowledged that there covenants in the Deeds which prohibited the erection of fencing, planning consent for the fence had been given. In the circumstances it was not pursuing the matter further.

Annual Meeting for Electors
Council noted that organisers for the Great Marcham Weekend were able to attend the annual meeting for electors and would give a talk about the event.

Morland Road – Road Closure Order
Council noted that the Vale of White Horse District Council had confirmed that a road closure order for Morland Road between its junction with Orchard Way and the entrance to the Anson Field should be issued for between 11.00 a.m.- 17.00 p.m. on Saturday 19th June, once formal consultation had taken place.

2010/111 Public Participation

Post Office
Mr. Buckingham referred to the public apology he had given on a previous occasion to Mr. Cumber regarding the Post Office. He expressed concern that the Post Office was vulnerable again and referred to situations where local residents had had to go elsewhere for Post Office services. He asked for the Parish Council to contact the Post Office authorities to confirm the current position in regards to the service, and to advise residents accordingly and to appeal for business to be brought back to the local Post Office.

2010/112 Planning Applications

a) Decisions on previous applications

No decisions had been received.

b) Applications dealt with prior to the meeting

MAR/14886/1 New ground floor porch and toilet/shower room. Remove first floor bathroom window
Heathberry House, Oxford Road
For: Mr. D. Sheerin
Comments: Council had no objections

c) Applications for consideration at the meeting

Fell to ground level in sections and treat stump
1 sycamore tree
Front garden 60 North Street
For: Mrs. Maw
Comments: Council had no objections

MAR/21183 Retention of The Croft and erection of 4 x 4/5 bed houses
Land adjoining The Croft , Packhorse Lane
For: Millgate Homes
Comments: Council had no objections, but did express concern regarding increased traffic flows and poor sight lines. It assumed the County Council would fully consider the highways position. Council wished to remind the District Council of previous attempts to develop elsewhere in Packhorse Lane which had received objections from the planning officers owing to the access onto Packhorse Lane.

2010/113

County Councillor's Report

In the absence of Cllr. Brown no report was available.

2010/114

District Councillor's Report

Cllr. Hanna had not raised any District Council matters when giving her apologies for the meeting.

2010/115

Police Matters/Police Neighbourhood Action Group

Council noted receipt of the May edition of the Thames Valley Police's Rural Abingdon newsletter. The Clerk reported that she was aware of criminal damage and vandalism to vehicles in Tubney, Cothill and Marcham together with vandalism to the public telephone box in Frilford.

2010/116

Community Shop – Survey Results

Mrs. Ricketts gave a report on a meeting that she, Mr. Denton and Mrs. Allan had attended with Ms. Jane Barker village shops advisor regarding the shop survey results and the possibility of a community shop. ORCC had been

optimistic that a community shop could go ahead even though there was only a small number of questionnaires returned. She referred to the funding opportunities outlined by Ms. Barker when she addressed council at a previous meeting, and the need for a business plan, shop manager and steering group to investigate the idea further, plus volunteers to run the facilities. Mr. Denton had stated that he would place an article in MAD News. Reference was made to

staffing the Post Office. The current situation regarding the Post Office, on what terms it would remain, and the staffing for it was unknown. Council discussed contacting the Post office Authorities for information as suggested by the public. This was thought best left for the time being. Mr. Walton offered to speak to the current sub-postmaster responsible for the Post Office.

RESOLVED:

that an article be placed in MAD News requesting reminding residents of the existence of the Post Office and encouraging support for it.

2010/117

Highways Planting

Council noted that it had been suggested that for the Great Marcham Weekend that planting could take place on the verges at the entrance points to the village. The origin of the request was explained by the Clerk, and confirmation given that the organisers had been advised to check with the County Council as to their requirements.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the Council supports in principle the idea of highway verge planting
- (ii) that the organisers fully comply with the requirements of Oxfordshire County Council
- (iii) that planting be sympathetic to the area.

2010/118

Allotments

Council noted that there was essentially only one allotment plot left available for letting and considered whether to start a waiting list or to prepare one of the pony paddocks for allotment use. Council noted that the poplar trees on the Southern side of the allotment site were very tall and overshadowed the allotments. Tree roots also reached the allotments. Council discussed asking the owner to either pollard or raise the canopy on the trees. It was noted that the trees were almost 40 years old and probably coming to the end of their life. Council considered altering the rent sums due from the tenants whose plots could be affected by the poplar trees

RESOLVED:

- (i) that a waiting list for the allotments be started
- (ii) that consideration be given in the future to converting one of the paddocks to more allotments should the need arise
- (iii) that a letter be sent to the owner of the poplar trees requesting that they be pollarded in the first instance or if not then the canopies be raised.
- (iv) that the rent levels for the plots under the trees on the Southern side of the site remain the same as for the other plots.

2010/119

Longfields Play Area

Council noted that the contractor had not installed the fencing on the original

line as asked, nor had the gates been installed as required. The gates now had catches which were inaccessible under the Disability Discrimination Legislation and now opened inwards instead of outwards. They were not self closing as they had not been set at the required tension. Council considered leaving the fencing in the current condition until after the inspection by RoSPA due in July, or undertaking works to rectify the problems immediately. Council noted that if there were any problems, then it would have to accept the risks involved.

RESOLVED:

that the Longfields Play area fence be altered to comply with the Disability Discrimination Act and that the gates be re-hung at the required tension opening outwards.

2010/120

Oxfordshire Rural Community Council

Council noted that the 90th Birthday Celebrations of ORCC were being held on Saturday 3rd July 10.00 a.m. – 2.00 p.m. Council had been invited to send two representatives.

RESOLVED:

that Mr. Walton and Ms. Mander represent the Council

2010/121

Correspondence

- a) Oxfordshire Local Environment Group – Conference 2nd October at Kirtlington Village Hall
- b) Information from the Group Against the Reservoir Campaign – request for Council and/or individuals to join the GARD group
- c) Oxfordshire Nature Conservation Forum / Biodiversity News
- d) Soldiers of Oxford Military Museum – Progress Report on new museum
- e) Oxfordshire Safety Partnership – Forum 18th May 7.00 p.m. at the Oxford Hotel, Wolvercote Roundabout, Oxford.

Items notified to the Clerk since the preparation of the Agenda

- f) Editor – Marcham and District News – Notification received by the Clerk on a personal basis, that there was planned a village quiz in The Crown on Friday 18th June to start the Great Marcham Weekend.
- g) Notification of Army lorries travelling the bends on the A415. Council noted that it was difficult to state the origin of the vehicles, but the resident reporting the matter had referred to a previous informal agreement with Dalton Barracks that driver training would take place away from the village. Council discussed the concerns and commented that the situation should be monitored for the time being
- h) Cothill School – Request from Savills
The Clerk had been contacted by Savills, as agents for Cothill House School, in regards to its planning application for development at the school. They had enquired whether the Parish Council would engage more actively with

the District Council in regards to the application, rather than just saying that it had no objections, and send a representative to address the District Council's Development Control Committee meeting when the application was considered. Council noted that the Clerk had advised them that Council had submitted its comments on the application, but could consider sending a representative to the committee when the planning officer's report was available. Council referred to this and agreed with this course of action.

h) Letter from Suzanne Crafer on behalf of the Marcham Community Group – Grant Request

Letter received outlining the origins and establishment of the group. The group was exploring the best legal structure for the group and the running of new village facilities, and was seeking advice in this regard. Initial advice would cost £500, with further legal costs for setting up a new group up to £3500. The group was requesting a grant of £500 in the first instance. Council noted the letter and comments on different aspects. Council required that representatives from the group attend the next meeting of the Parish Council to give a presentation about the group and to answer questions, before being able to consider any grant request.

2010/122

Accounts

Council considered the receipts and payments accounts for the year ended 31st March 2010. Council considered internet access for the Clerk to the current account held at NatWest Bank to enable easier and regular checking of the bank statements. Council noted the list of cheques numbered 2111 - 2122 to be signed and authorised payments totalling £3749.20 in respect of administration costs, decoration to youth shelter, parishioner of the year certificate, play area maintenance, grass cutting, and deposit for Silver Band for Marcham Weekend events.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that Council approve the receipts and payments accounts for the year ended 31st March 2009 as presented.
- (ii) that internet access to the current account be permitted for the Clerk to enable easier checking of the bank statements.

2010/123

Matters Raised by members for information

Local Transport Plan 3 – Questionnaire

The Chairman referred to the questionnaire for the County Council in connection with the Local Transport Plan consultation. The Clerk had previously advised members that there was a drop in event at the Royse Room, Abingdon on 25th May. Mr. Walton stated he would attend. The matter would be an agenda item for the next meeting.

Cow Lane – Condition of Surface

Comments were made about the poor state and condition of the surface of Cow Lane. This was a bridleway. Council suggested that those who were concerned should refer the matter to the County Council.

A415 – granite setts / Cow Lane corner

It was reported that loose granite setts near 9 Packhorse Lane on the A415 had been repaired quickly by the County Council, but a pothole near the corner of Cow Lane was still in need of fixing.

2010/124

Items for MAD News

Council noted the list of items for inclusion in the village newsletter

2010/125

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Council would be held on Wednesday 9th June, 2010 in the residents' lounge, Duffield Place at 7.30 p.m.

The meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.

Signed Date

MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Marcham Parish Council held on Wednesday 9th June 2010 in the residents' lounge, Duffield Place, Marcham at 7.30 p.m.

Present:

Mr. D. Walton (Chairman), Mr. W. Cumber, Mrs. M. Evans, Ms. R. Mander,
Mr. P. Rowe, Mrs. S. Turney
Cllr. J. Hanna (District Councillor)
Clerk: Mrs. L. Martin

4 members of the public including Mrs. Suzanne Crafer who had attended on behalf of the Marcham Community Group to give a brief talk about the group and its aims.

- 2010/134 Apologies for Absence
Apologies for absence had been received from Mrs. J. Allan, Mr. C. Bough, Mr. M. Denton and Mrs. C. Ricketts.
- 2010/135 Declarations of Interest
There were no declarations of interest
- 2010/136 Minutes of the annual meeting held on 12th May, 2010
These were agreed and signed as a true record of the proceedings
- 2010/137 Matters Arising from the Minutes of the meeting held on 12th May, 2010
Marcham and District News – Post Office article
Council noted that the previously agreed article regarding the use of the Post Office had to be excluded from the June edition of MAD News by the editor owing to lack of space.
- 2010/138 Public Participation

Appointment of representative for the Reservoir Affected Parishes Group
It was suggested that the Council should have an appointed representative for the Reservoir Affected Parishes Group in that the Public Inquiry was soon starting. The Chairman advised that at the last meeting Council had resolved not to specifically appoint a named person, but as and when the meetings of the group were held and the content of the agenda known, members would decide if they wished to attend.

Marcham Community Group
Mrs. Crafer spoke about the origins of the group which had arisen out of public meetings held by the Anson Trust. They had about 20 members with half from private households, and the other half attending as representatives from village organisations. The purpose of the group was to promote and coordinate the provision, ownership and management of a community hall and facilities to meet the needs of residents of Marcham and district.

It was looking at the possibility of selling the Institute, and siting a community building on the existing Anson field. This would be done in consultation with the village.

It had met with the Oxfordshire Association's Village Hall advisor, and had obtained a promise of funding for a consultation exercise. It had also met with the Oxfordshire Council for Voluntary Action which was helping search for funding bodies. It appeared that the biggest provider was the National Lottery which had a new community programme starting in August. The group wished to take legal advice to see whether it would be better setting itself up as a Community Interest Company, a Charity, private Trust or Co-operative, and to determine how the future facility would be run. Mrs. Crafer answered questions. One related to timing and the group was aware that the Anson Trust was still continuing with its plans and that they were not prepared to put anything on hold. Cllr. Hanna stated it would be helpful to have clarity as to the group's consultation with local people because there was already an established independent group which was undertaking consultation. Cllr. Hanna would welcome a meeting with the Community Group to discuss and understand their plans in regards to consultation.

2010/139

Marcham Community Group

Council discussed a grant application from the group for financial assistance up to £500 to obtain legal advice as to the best structure for the group. Council noted that at the public meetings hosted by the Anson Trust there had been strong local feeling and general support for investigating alternatives for community facilities other than the one suggested by the Anson Trust. Council recognised that it was important for any group structure to be correct as successful grant funding applications would be dependent on it. However, as the elected body Council was of the opinion that it would require access to any reports obtained, or attendance at any meetings with advisers if it were to provide grant assistance. Council also discussed sending a representative to the regular meetings of the Marcham Community Group. It was aware of possible conflict with other roles and the implications of the Code of Conduct. Its preference was to send an observer rather than have full involvement and voting role in the group.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that in principle a grant of £500 be awarded to Marcham Community Group so that it could obtain legal advice as to the best structure for the group
- (ii) that the grant only be provided if access is given to all reports obtained, and that should meetings with legal advisers take place, then Council representatives would have the opportunity to attend.

- (ii) that Ms. Ruth Mander be appointed as observer representative on Marcham Community Group's steering committee.

2010/140

Planning Applications

a) Decisions on previous applications

MAR/14886/1 Proposed new ground floor porch and toilet/shower and removal of first floor bathroom/wc window
Heathberry House, Woodside
Permitted 26th May 2010

b) Applications dealt with prior to the meeting

None received

c) Applications for consideration at the meeting

None received for the meeting. One application had been received since the preparation of the agenda, and this would be dealt with under delegated powers.

d) Planning Correspondence

Council noted a copy letter from Millgate Homes sent to Cllr. J. Hanna. The company had lodged a planning application for development of 4 new houses at The Croft, Abingdon, Road. The Company had stated that following a meeting with the planning officer it had been advised that the application was likely to be refused owing to the low density of development on the site. The company sought the views of the Parish Council on the suggestion for a higher density development and the suitability of the access for this. Council considered whether it wished to form a view on this at this stage. Council considered the impact of a higher density on the character of the area, which was made up of large detached houses in large gardens. It also considered the potential for increased traffic and pedestrian movements and the implications given the existing dangers of Packhorse Lane. Council also considered, that should the current application for 4 dwellings be taken to the District Council's development control committee, then the Parish Council send a representative to address the committee.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that a letter be written to the planning officer dealing with the current application at the Vale of White Horse District Council expressing concern should a high density development be considered for the grounds of The Croft given the impact on

- the character of the area, and the implications for road safety
- (ii) that should the current application go to the District Council's development control committee then Mr. Cumber attend and speak representing the Council.

- 2010/141 County Councillor's Report
In the absence of Cllr. Brown no report was available.
- 2010/142 District Councillor's Report
Cllr. Hanna had no further matters she wished to raise.
- 2010/143 Police Matters/Police Neighbourhood Action Group
In the absence of Mr. Denton, the Council's representative, no report was available.
- 2010/144 A415
Meeting of A415 parishes 3rd June – Stanton Harcourt
Mrs. Evans gave a report on this meeting which she attended. 7 parishes on the A415 had been represented. The individual parishes had put views forward and also expressed views about the proposed new bridge at Newbridge. The collective view was that there should be no new bridge without the necessary improvements along the A415, as the A415 would be unsuitable for the increased number and size of vehicles that would use the new bridge.
- Newbridge – Oxfordshire County Council – 10th June, Kingston Bagpuize
Council noted that the meeting for parishes to hear the results of the Newbridge consultation in advance of the matter going to County Council's Cabinet had been cancelled as the matter of the new bridge was no longer going to Cabinet as planned. The County Council had decided to carry out a review of all capital projects owing to a 50% reduction in available capital from Central Government. Council would be advised when a meeting had been reconvened.
- 2010/145 Great Marcham Weekend
Chemical Toilets
Council noted that it had previously resolved to award a £600 grant towards the costs for the village weekend, paying contractors direct. A contract had been received for the hire of chemical toilets at a cost of £211.50, with the Council being fully responsible for them. The cost of adding them to the insurance policy for the weekend was £31.25

RESOLVED:

- (i) that Council gives authority to the Clerk to sign the contract for the hire of 3 chemical toilets for the weekend of 18th – 19th June.
- (ii) that the toilets be added to the insurance policy for the weekend at a cost of £31.25

Road Closure – Morland Road

Council noted that the road closure order for Morland Road, applied for by the Parish Council, had been made on 4th May. The Clerk reported that she had received a telephone call from the Police offering advice regarding the road closure in terms of public safety, lost children and lost property, first aid and entertainment licence requirements for events where there was music played. The Clerk advised that should music be the main event and tickets sold, then a public entertainment licence would be required, but as the event was more along the lines of a Summer fete and the only music was the Wantage Silver Band, then a Licence was not required. As the Council was not the organiser of the event, its responsibility, if any, was minimal. The Clerk had provided the Police with the details of the event organisers. Council considered its own insurance position as it had been the applicant for the road closure. The event organisers were providing stewards and as the Fire Brigade, Police, St. John Ambulance, and a paramedic were part of the event and in attendance, there appeared no necessity for stewards to be first aid trained. Council had public liability cover for £5million. In the circumstances Council was of the opinion that this amount of cover was sufficient.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the Council's public liability cover remain at £5million for the Marcham Charity event weekend
- (ii) that the Clerk obtain a quotation for permanently increasing the public liability cover to £10million
- (iii) that the Clerk check with the organisers the position regarding stewards and their training.

Display in Church

Council considered the suggestion that as part of the Great Marcham Weekend, it should have a display in the Church along with other organisation. Mrs. Evans agreed to organise this.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that a Parish Council display be arranged in the Church for the Great Marcham Weekend.
- (ii) that Mrs. Evans arrange this on behalf of the Council
- (iii) that expenditure for this be agreed at £50

2010/146

Marcham Society - Grant

In December 2008 Council awarded Marcham Society a grant of £250 to support the Society's project to publish a pictorial history of the village. Owing to funds received from elsewhere £98 of the Council's grant remained. The Society had sought permission to use the £98 towards the costs of improving the Society's archive storage

RESOLVED:

that permission be given to Marcham Society to use the amount of grant remaining towards the costs of

improving the archive storage.

2010/147 Local Transport Plan 3 Consultation 5 : Scenarios
Council carefully considered the options put forward by the County Council on the overall approaches that it should follow for transport in Oxfordshire over the next 20 years. Documentation had been divided into rural areas, Oxford city, Larger towns and smaller towns.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that this Council supports Rural Oxfordshire scenario A - promoting lower emissions together with reducing danger and the number of casualties on the roads.
- (ii) that this Council supports larger town scenario B – promoting transport choice

2010/148 Mill Road – The Pound
Council considered a suggestion that The Pound in Mill Road should be cleared and a bench seat installed. Reference was made to grants that used to be available, and to the possible views of Marcham Society. It was noted that the area was overgrown and it was difficult to see its precise state and condition.

RESOLVED:

that the matter be deferred until the Autumn when access to the site was easier.

2010/149 Village Green
Council noted comments received again from a resident regarding the damage caused to the Village Green by vehicles, and was reminded of previous suggestions as to solutions. It was noted that the problems were similar to those in New Road where the verge was being damaged by vehicles.

RESOLVED:

that the matter be deferred to allow members to think about other possible solutions.

2010/150 Oxfordshire County Council – Consultation workshop on minerals spatial strategy
Council noted that the County Council was holding further workshops to present the refined options following earlier consultation on where sand, gravel, and crushed rock working may take place. The meeting for this area was on Monday 12th July at Standlake Village Hall at 2.00 p.m.

RESOLVED:

that Mr. Cumber attend and represent this Council

2010/151 Rural Services Network

Council noted that the network was a not for profit membership organisation established to both argue the case on behalf of rural services and the financial provision to them, and to network and seek to establish and promote best practice. The Vale of White Horse District Council was currently a member of the Rural Local Authority arm of the network, and the Parish Council had automatically been included with free membership. Regular email digests would be sent. Council considered the membership and possible removal from the group.

RESOLVED:

that Council continues with membership of the Rural Service Network

2010/152

Correspondence

a) Vale of White Horse District Council – New Waste Collection Service

Council noted information as to the publicity of the new scheme. Leaflets were being delivered to all households. The new wheelie bins would be delivered between 23rd August and 6th September. The collection day from October onwards would be Wednesdays. The Clerk reported that the list of households that would be issued with sacks instead of wheelie bins had been received. This identified and some terraced properties and flats.

b) Vale of White Horse District Council – Vale Community Safety Leaflet.

c) Royal Air Force Benson – helicopters

Council noted copy letter from St. Helen Without Parish Council. RAF Benson and confirmed that the earliest arrival of any Chinook helicopters would be 2013. There was nothing to indicate that the use of Dalton Barracks would increase, however some training may be conducted there as at present. Disruption to residents would be kept at a minimum/ Once firm details regarding the arrival of Chinook helicopters was known, RAF Benson would arrange a meeting with a number of local representatives.

d) ORCC – Spring/Summer Review

e) NHS Oxfordshire – Health News

f) OALC – May Update

Council noted information from OALC. One training event was to be held on Cemetery Management on 15th September. The Clerk expressed an interest in attending.

RESOLVED:

that Council funds up to £47.50 plus vat for the Clerk to attend the training event.

g) Notification from Marcham Community Group – Day Conference

Berkshire Community Council conference at Reading University Thursday

8th July on the topic of “Common Goals Different Attitudes – the power of community relationships”. Cost £89.

h) Oxfordshire County Council – Gateways at entrances to village

Confirmation received from the County Council that it will cut back the vegetation overhanging the gateways at the entry points to the village and would repaint the gates.

i) Abingdon and District Citizens Advice Bureau – Annual General Meeting

Invitation to attend the Bureau’s AGM at the Roysse Room, Guildhall, Abingdon at 7.00 p.m. on Thursday 24th June. Speaker: Naomi Kent – Topic: Parliamentary Outreach. Refreshments at the Bureau. The Chairman indicated that he was interested in attending and would check his diary and notify the clerk.

j) Letter from Ms. D. Pagan regarding the spraying of weeds

Council considered a letter expressing concern that the spraying of weeds on highways had killed wild flowers such as poppies, particularly in North Street. A request had been made for no spraying to be done. Council did not agree with the idea that no spraying should be done, but did consider it reasonable to leave certain parts of North Street.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that should weed spraying be undertaken next year, then the contractor be asked to not spray the wild flowers growing in the vicinity of The Institute to New Road.

k) Letter of thanks from Mrs. A. Rowe

Council noted a letter of thanks from Mrs. Rowe, for the small gift given by the Chairman for the preparation of Parishioner of the Certificate .

2010/153

Accounts

Council had been provided with a copy of the proposed annual return. It considered the figures on the annual return and the governance assurance statement. Council noted that Mr. Walton and the Clerk had attended a meeting with the internal auditor to receive his report for the 2009/2010 year. The internal auditor had raised one main query regarding the Council’s asset value of £54654 and its insurance value of £27387. He asked that the Council should consider insurance for its other assets. The Clerk provided a list of items not currently covered by insurance, mainly shelters, seats, bins, fencing and war memorial, some of which were old and some grant funded in the first instance. Council considered possible insurance for these items.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that Council approve the annual return figures and the governance of assurance required by the external auditor BDO Stoy Hayward on the annual return

- (ii) that the report from the internal auditor RJS (IA)Ltd be noted
- (iii) that the clerk obtain a quotation for insurance of the bus shelter for further consideration
- (iv) that Council's other uninsured items remain uninsured.

Council noted the list of cheques numbered 2123 - 2134 to be signed and authorised payments totalling £4954.48 in respect of administration costs, Great Marcham weekend expenditure, grass cutting, play area maintenance, clearance works in Churchyard, weed management and Chairman's allowance.

2010/154

Matters Raised by members for information

Junction of Howard Cornish Road / North Street / Sheepstead Road

Concerns were expressed about the length of grass in private gardens at this junction. It was noted that the properties were in the ownership of the Vale Housing Association. The Clerk was asked to contact the Association.

Trees – Low Branches

It was reported that there were several trees in the parish with low branches making it difficult to walk underneath. Ms. Mander offered to walk the village to make a note of those which needed the canopy raising. One area identified as a problem was between Hyde Copse and Longfields on the wide grass verge.

Signatories for Council cheques

The possibility of increasing the total number of signatories authorised to sign cheques was raised in view of the fact that only two were present at the meeting and two signatories were required for cheques. This would be considered after the next election next year.

A415 – Cycle path

It was reported that the cycle track between Marcham and the A34 was in need of sweeping. Cycle tyres were being punctured. A clear track would encourage cyclists to use it.

Churchyard – sunflowers

The Chairman reported that he had been contacted regarding the Council giving permission for the planting of sunflowers in the Churchyard. These had been left following a fund raising event elsewhere in the village. The Clerk reminded members that the Churchyard, although a closed Churchyard and maintained by the Parish Council, had a conservation policy and in the past, when it had been suggested that new species be introduced, this had been rejected. It was then suggested that these could possibly be given to the school

2010/155 Items for MAD News
Council noted the list of items for inclusion in the village newsletter

2010/156 Date of Next Meeting
The next meeting of the Council would be held on Wednesday 14th July,
2010 in the residents' lounge, Duffield Place at 7.30 p.m.

The meeting closed at 9.25 p.m.

Signed Date

MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Marcham Parish Council held on Wednesday 14th July, 2010 in the residents' lounge, Duffield Place, Marcham at 7.30 p.m.

Present:

Mr. D. Walton (Chairman), Mrs. J. Allan, Mr. C. Bough, Mr. W. Cumber,
Mr. M. Denton, Mrs. M. Evans, Ms. R. Mander, Mrs. C. Ricketts, Mrs. S. Turney
Clerk: Mrs. L. Martin
3 members of the public

- 2010/157 Apologies for Absence
Apologies for absence had been received from Mr. P. Rowe,
- 2010/158 Declarations of Interest
There were no declarations of interest
- 2010/159 Minutes of the meeting held on 9th June, 2010
These were agreed and signed as a true record of the proceedings
- 2010/160 Matters Arising from the Minutes of the meeting held on 9th June, 2010
Junction of Howard Cornish Road / Sheepstead Road / North Street
Council noted that the Housing Association had agreed to arrange to cut the front gardens of the properties at the two corners on a one off basis. These gardens had now been cut.
- 2010/161 Public Participation
Grass Cutting – junction of Howard Cornish Road / Sheepstead Road / North St
It was suggested that the Parish Council should contact the Housing Association and request that it regularly cuts the grass in the gardens of its tenants at this location as the long grass impacted on the appearance of the area. The Chairman advised that the Council would monitor the situation.
- 2010/162 Planning Applications
- a) Decisions on previous applications
- Fell sycamore tree
 60 North Street
 Permitted 9th June, 2010
- MAR/21215 Construction of a conservatory to the rear of the property
 20 Fettiplace Road
 Permitted 20th June, 2010

b) Applications dealt with prior to the meeting

MAR/21215 Construction of conservatory to rear of property
20 Fettiplace Road
For: Mr. Crickmay
Comments: Council had no objections

MAR/15176/4 Demolition of existing garage and workshop. Erection of single storey extension, new glazed roof and wall to previously approved rear extension
3 Mill Road
For: Mr. S. Middleton
Comments: Council supported the application.

c) Applications for consideration at the meeting

MAR/21251 Change of Use from agricultural field to playing field, construction of pedestrian access point and improvements to existing access. Land opposite Cothill School and 44 Cothill Road
For: Mr. K. Welby on behalf of Cothill Educational Trust
Comments: Council had no objections. It commented however, that it was unclear that the new crossing point was within the 30 mph speed limit area, and also unclear was the type of crossing.

MAR/ 21183 Retention of the existing house (The Croft) and erection of 4 x 4/5 bed detached houses with associated garages
Land adjoining The Croft, Packhorse Lane
For: Millgate Homes
Comments: Council was in broad agreement, and a development of 4 houses was its preferred option rather than an increase in number as has previously been suggested, as it was keen to preserve the general character of the area. It suggested that the new path within the site should link through to the public footpath at the rear as this would encourage pedestrian access to village facilities.

2010/163 County Councillor's Report
In the absence of Cllr. Brown no report was available.

2010/164 District Councillor's Report
In the absence of Cllr. Hanna no report was available.

2010/165 Marcham Community Group
Ms. Mander gave a report on a meeting of the group that she had attended as Council's representative. The group had been discussing various ideas and there were no firm proposals. Members asked questions as to a timeline. Mr. Bough as an Anson Trustee responded and explained that the Anson Trust had not abandoned its plans, and it had not changed its mind. It was however

supportive of the community group and was co-operating with the group as the group's idea was seen as a preferred alternative if the Trust's plans fail. It was thought that the Trust's scheme would either go ahead or fail before the Community Group's idea came to fruition. There was a lot of common areas such as the design of a building, or the running and operation of new facilities. The Trust had clear plans and had invited offers from developers. There was a preferred developer, but as there had been a change in government, it was unclear as to what was happening with planning/house building and the developer had some concerns. That company was checking whether they wanted to go ahead with the offer that had been made. The Anson Trust did have another developer in mind if necessary. Conditions obviously would exist on any agreement between them, such as obtaining planning consent for housing development on the Anson field, and the Trust being able to obtain planning consent for village development at the site adjacent to Hyde Copse. If planning permission for housing development on the field was not obtained, then the whole idea failed.

Mr. Walton gave a report on a meeting that representatives from the Marcham Community Group had had with its Solicitor. He had attended with Ms. Mander as observers for the Council. A list of options for the legal structure of the Community Group had been provided and discussed. The preference seemed to be for a charitable company with residents becoming members with voting rights for the directors. The governance needed to be sorted before any company could be set up. The Community Group was thinking about holding a public meeting in September or October to gain village support for its ideas.

2010/166

Oxfordshire County Council – Minerals Spatial Strategy

Council received a report from Mr. Cumber who attended a consultation workshop meeting on minerals spatial strategy options. Options had been to continue working in existing areas, dispersed working or to start working in new areas. The advantages and disadvantages of each had been considered at the workshop. In order to minimise the impact on the environment, Council's preference was to continue to work the existing areas.

RESOLVED:

that a letter be sent to the County Council stating this Council's preference for continued mineral working in the existing areas.

2010/167

Overhanging Trees

Cow Lane – Allotments

Council noted that the owner of the poplar trees on the land adjacent to the Southern boundary had no planned programme of works for these trees. He had given permission for the Council to trim the trees and had pointed out that Council had the legal right to cut back anything that was overhanging. Council noted that it was difficult for vehicles to access the Southern side of the allotments.

RESOLVED:

that a price from a tree surgeon be obtained for trimming back the poplar trees to allow for vehicular access to the Southern side of the allotments.

Village – Overhanging Trees

Council noted that Ms. Mander and the Clerk had undertaken an audit of the trees/shrubs that were overhanging footways. Council noted a report on these. Some were more of a nuisance than others and were obstructing the footway, others were in the ownership of the County Council or District Council. The details of the owners of some of the trees were given to the Clerk.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that a letter be sent to each of the occupiers of the affected properties, and to the County Council and Vale of White Horse District Council asking that the overgrowth be cut back.
- (ii) that the Vale of White Horse District Council be asked to remove the cotoneaster in the public amenity area opposite no. 26 Kings Avenue

2010/168

Great Marcham Weekend – Grant

Council was reminded that it had previously awarded a grant of up to £600 towards the expenses of the Great Marcham Weekend. Invoices received amounted to £617.35. Council considered awarding a further grant of £17.35 or maintaining the grant figure at £600. Members commented on the favourable comments that they had received from the residents regarding the weekend's events. Requests had been received for such an event to be organised again. It was understood that the organisers had prepared a written record of how the event had been arranged. It was noted that the celebrations of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee as a ruling monarch would be an opportunity for the village to hold a similar event.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that a further grant of £17.35 be awarded towards the costs of the Great Marcham Weekend event
- (ii) that a letter of thanks and congratulations be sent to Mr and Mrs. J. Asher for their efforts in organising the weekend event.

2010/169

Oxfordshire County Council – Recycling Permits

Council noted the County Council's proposal to introduce a new permit scheme to prevent the depositing of trade waste at household waste recycling centres. Council commented that it seemed expensive to set up and run at costs of £100,000 and £20,000 respectively.

RESOLVED:

that this Council supports the County Council's scheme to introduce recycling permits

2010/170

Correspondence

- a) Thames Valley Police – newsletter June
- b) Wantage Independent Advice Centre – Annual General Meeting 5th August

RESOLVED:

that Council not send a representative to the annual general meeting of the Wantage Independent Advice Centre

- c) Vale of White Horse District Council – Standards Committee agenda 1st July
The Clerk drew members' attention to the proposed decentralisation and localism bill which included proposals to abolish the Standards Board regime. Until new arrangements were in place the current statutory framework remained operative.
- d) Vale of White Horse District Council – Letter from Chairman
Council noted an offer from the Chairman, Cllr. Beth Flemming, to attend village activities and meet members of the community. Members recalled the previous Chairman presenting the prizes for the Best Kept Garden Competition which was considered valuable. Council would bear in mind this offer for future activities.
- e) OALC Update – June
- f) NHS Oxfordshire – A “talking health” database would be established and once registered, individuals would be kept informed of all consultation and engagement which may be of interest.
- g) Oxfordshire County Council – Preparing for Emergencies – Community Plan Event at the Guildhall, Abingdon 13th July, 2010
Mrs. Evans, Mr. Denton and Ms. Mander had attended this event. They gave a report on the recommendations for a community emergency plan. Various emergency topics had been covered including planning for cold weather. It was suggested that Council consider the purchase of a salt bin which the County Council could keep filled with salt. Council was advised that a booklet on emergency planning was to be distributed when the wheelie bins for the District Council's new waste service were delivered.

RESOLVED:

that a working party be set up comprising Mr. Denton, Mrs. Evans and Ms. Mander to prepare a draft emergency plan for Marcham.

2010/171

Accounts

Council noted the list of cheques numbered 2135-2147 to be signed and authorised payments totalling £2665.09 in respect of administration costs, Great Marcham weekend expenditure, grass cutting, play area

maintenance, subscription, and licence fee for use of the school's tennis courts Council received and noted the quarterly report on the accounts for the period ending 30th June, 2010. It was suggested that the costings listed under establishment be broken down into smaller groupings. Queries were raised as to work undertaken by S.T. Grounds Maintenance and the monitoring of the firm's services. The Clerk reminded members that a small working party had been set up to monitor the work undertaken.

RESOLVED:

that the contractor supply a written report itemising the work undertaken during his half a day a week that he spent in the parish during the Summer months.

2010/172

Matters Raised by members for information

Longfields play area fence

It was reported that one of the slats had come loose on the fence. Mrs. Turney offered to arrange to have this replaced.

Potholes

Concerns were raised regarding the time it had taken to repair potholes in the area. Some had had both white and then red paint around them, but had been waiting for repair for several weeks.

Pre-School - Playgroup – Waste bins

Questions were asked as to how the pre-school playgroup could obtain the new waste bins and be included in the new refuse collection scheme. Mr. Cumber who had attended the waste meetings at the District Council would advise.

2010/173

Items for MAD News

Council noted the list of items for inclusion in the village newsletter

2010/174

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Council would be held on Wednesday 8th September, 2010 in the residents' lounge, Duffield Place at 7.30 p.m.

The meeting closed at 9.05 p.m.

Signed Date

MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Marcham Parish Council held on Wednesday 8th September, 2010 in the residents' lounge, Duffield Place, Marcham at 7.30 p.m.

Present:

Mr. D. Walton (Chairman), Mr. C. Bough, Mr. W. Cumber, Mr. M. Denton,
Mrs. M. Evans, Ms. R. Mander, Mrs. C. Ricketts
Clerk: Mrs. L. Martin
2 members of the public

- 2010/175 Apologies for Absence
Apologies for absence had been received from Mrs. J. Allan, Mr. P. Rowe, and Mrs. S. Turney. Apologies had also been received from Cllr. I. Brown (County Councillor) and Cllr. J. Hanna (District Councillor).
- 2010/176 Declarations of Interest
There were no declarations of interest
- 2010/177 Minutes of the meeting held on 14th July, 2010
These were agreed and signed as a true record of the proceedings
- 2010/178 Matters Arising from the Minutes of the meeting held on 14th July, 2010
Cow Lane allotments - overhanging trees
These trees will be cut back by the handyman.
- 2010/179 Public Participation
Vale of White Horse District Council – New Waste Collection Service
A resident asked questions as to what was happening in regards to the waste collection service at Sweetbriar. It was pointed out that there could be difficulties in sorting out rubbish into the correct communal bins, if these were provided. There would be the need to speak to the carers as at the moment rubbish was not always put in the correct bin. Alternatively if sacks were provided, any resident lacking mobility would find it difficult to put them out regularly. Mr. Cumber offered to find out the precise arrangements for the new waste collection service at Sweetbriar.
- Churchyard and Cemetery
A resident stated that many people in Marcham were pleased to see the clearance works in the Churchyard and Cemetery. They considered it a great improvement.
- 2010/180 Planning Applications
a) Decisions on previous applications

MAR/18664/1 Extend garage flat roof forward to building line at front of house, fitting of new garage and side doors.
18 Morland Road
Permitted 26th August, 2010

MAR/15176/4 and MAR/15176/5-LB
Demolition of existing garage and workshop. Erection of single storey extension, new glazed roof and wall to previously approved rear extension
3 Mill Road
Permitted 8th July, 2010

MAR/21251 Change of use of agricultural field to playing field, construction of pedestrian access point and improvements to the existing access.
Land opposite Cothill House School and 44 Cothill Road
Permitted 23rd July 2010

MAR/21183 Retention of existing house (The Croft). Erection of 4 x 4/5 bed detached houses with associated garages
Land adjoining The Croft, Abingdon Road
Refused 2nd September, 2010

b) Applications dealt with prior to the meeting

MAR/18664/1 Extend garage flat roof forward to building line at front of house, fitting of new garage and side doors
18 Morland Road
For: Mr. S. Heffernan
Comments: Council had no objections

In regards to the following application, Mr. Cumber, although a member of the planning working group, declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the application and took no part in the formation of comments back to the District Council. W. Cumber & Son (Theale) Ltd, owned land in the vicinity of the application site, and he was a director of that company. Ms. Mander acted as substitute.

MAR/1584/1 Demolition of existing dwelling and replacement with new 4 bed dwelling and associated garaging.
Woodend, Frilford Road
For: Ms. M. Giddins
Comments: Council had no objection, but expressed concerns regarding the increased size and footprint of the new dwelling and also the materials which were thought not to be in keeping with the area.

c) Applications for consideration at the meeting

No applications had been received

- 2010/181 County Councillor's Report
 Cllr. Brown had sent a report to the clerk. The items included:
- Local Transport Plan 3
 Cllr. Brown had reminded members of the possibility of suggesting items to the County Council for consideration for possible inclusion under the Plan.
- Bridge at Newbridge
 The County Council's engineers were still monitoring the bridge. It appeared that even though the weight limit had been reduced to 18 tonnes, the structure was still worsening. There was an outside chance of the weight limit having to be reduced further, but if this were the case, it would impact on the bus service.
- Thames Water Ltd – Water Resources Management Plan – Inquiry
 This Inquiry was now complete, and the Inspector was due to report to the Minister by the end of the year.
- County Council – Spending Review
 The County Council was undertaking a spending review and would be holding public meetings, to hear the views of residents.
- County Council – Maintenance Contract
 Cllr. Brown had advised that the new maintenance contract had not started smoothly. Area stewards had been appointed, and there would be a better reporting system.
- 2010/182 District Councillor's Report
 In the absence of Cllr. Hanna no report was available.
- 2010/183 Police Matters / Police Neighbourhood Action Group
 Mr. Denton gave a report on NAG matters. He had attended the opening of the new Police base at Wootton in the Summer. He reported that burglars had been in several houses in Marcham, and a Land Rover had been stolen locally. The Police were increasing patrols in the area. Mr. Denton agreed to place an article in MAD News.
- 2010/184 Marcham Community Group
 Ms. Mander, as the Council's observer on this group, gave a report on the group's meeting held on 7th September. This meeting had concentrated on the planning for a public meeting which was likely to be held in October possibly towards the end of that month, and the structure of things to come.
- 2010/185 Community Emergency Plan
 Mr. Denton gave a report on the progress of the Community Emergency Plan. Information was being collected from other councils, the plan had started to be drafted. When completed the draft would be presented to Council. Council noted that the emergency plan booklets from the County Council had been received, and these would be distributed in the parish.
- 2010/186 Licensing Act 2003 – Draft Joint Statement of Licensing Policy
 The Vale of White Horse District Council in conjunction with South Oxfordshire District Council had drawn up a draft joint statement of Licensing

Policy. Council considered the statement and the main changes from the previous one.

RESOLVED:

that this Council has no comments to make on the draft policy.

2010/187

Vale of White Horse District Council – New Executive Arrangements

Council noted that the Vale of White Horse District Council was undertaking a consultation exercise on the proposal for new executive arrangements for the running of that Council. Council considered the options

RESOLVED:

that this Council supports the new style strong leader and executive option.

2010/188

Parishioner of the Year – Community Donation

Mrs. J. Brod, recipient of the Parishioner of the Year Award 2009 had requested that the grant sum associated with this be awarded to Marcham Primry School. The Clerk advised that this could not be used to fund items that the County Council, as education authority, would fund. The Clerk was asked to make enquiries as to whether the cheque should go to either Friends of Marcham Primary School or the Parents Teachers Association.

2010/189

Parish Council's Insurance

Council noted that the premium for insuring the bus shelter would amount to £48.09 and the premium for increasing the council's public liability to £10 million would be £72.22. Council discussed the options for changing the policy.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that checks be made to see whether the bus shelter would be specifically covered for vandalism
- (ii) that the Council's public liability cover be increased to £10million from the next renewal date in June 2011.

2010/190

Proposed Council Tax Increase Referendums

The Chairman outlined the content of the government's consultation paper. If enacted within the Localism Bill, any excessive increase in the precept would be subject to a parish referendum. Council discussed this. Council thought that whilst spending to local wishes was important, together with the principle of local accountability, the proposal would stagnate the process. Reserves would not be run down. The referendum process would be expensive in comparison to the budget.

RESOLVED:

that a letter expressing the Council's concerns and requesting that town/parish councils be excluded

from the proposals be sent to central government.

2010/191 Mr. Walton declared a personal interest in the following item in that his wife was an allotment holder. Mrs. Ricketts declared a personal interest in the following item in that her husband was an allotment holder.

2010/192 Cow Lane Allotments – Water Charge
Council considered the charges for water for the 2010/11 year based on the consumption and costs for previous years.

RESOLVED:

that the water charge for a whole plot be set at £13 for 2010/11

2010/193 Oxfordshire County Council – Service 31 Bus Stop Improvements
Council noted that the County Council, whilst having agreed the changes to the bus stop arrangements in Marcham, had put the scheme on hold and this would be reviewed in October. The real time information posts would soon be available, and these would be installed in any event. These were planned for the eastbound stops opposite the Post Office, and at Longfields. Council noted receipt of copy correspondence from a resident in North Street sent to the County Council complaining about the proposed yellow paint markings proposed for the stops in North Street. This he regarded as a waste of public money.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the Council notes the action of the County Council
- (ii) that checks be made that the real time information posts would not be installed at the current stops and then have to be moved should the new arrangements take place.
- (iii) that the correspondence from the resident be noted.

2010/194 Vale of White Horse District Council – Chairman’s Community Awards Lunch 30th October, 2010
Council noted that the theme for this year’s awards was “Caring for the Vale”, and considered whether there were nominations for submission.

RESOLVED:

that no nominations be submitted for this year’s award.

2010/195 Correspondence
a) Marcham Society – Grant

A letter of thanks from Marcham Society for Council's permission to use the grant funding previously allocated for "Marcham Remembered" for archive storage.

- b) Vale of White Horse District Council – New Waste Service
Confirmation received that the new wheelie bin had been delivered containing more information about the service, which was due to commence on 4th October.
- c) Oxfordshire Rural Community Council – Annual General Meeting
(i) Invitation to attend the Annual General Meeting on Friday 8th October at 11.30 a.m. at The Oxford Centre, Banbury Road, Oxford.
(ii) ORCC 90th birthday book – celebrating vibrant communities
(iii) ORCC – Bulletin September
- d) Wantage Independent Advice Centre – Annual Report 2009/10
- e) Vale of White Horse District Council – Summons and Agenda 14th July
- f) Oxfordshire County Council – “The Big Debate”. An invitation to engage in the County Council's planning for significant reductions in its budget, via its website or via public meetings planned throughout September in the main towns.
- g) OALC – Notification of training course “Local Councils & Charitable Trusts”
Notification of training course received. The cost was £29.38 for members and £44.06 for non members. Mr. Bough expressed an interest in attending. It was suggested that it might be a relevant course for the Marcham Community Group which was considering new village hall facilities.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the expenses for Mr. Bough to attend be met by Council
- (ii) that help towards the cost of funding to send a member of the Marcham Community Group on the training course be funded from s. 137 Local Government Act 1972.

2010/196

Accounts

Council noted the list of cheques numbered 2148-2163 to be signed and authorised payments totalling £5197.64 in respect of administration costs, Great Marcham weekend expenditure, grass cutting, grant awarded, play area maintenance, allotment water rates and paper for Marcham and District News.

2010/197

Matters Raised by members for information
New Waste Collection Service

Clarification was sought by one member on the disposal of recyclables in the same bin. Mr. Cumber, suggested that if there were any questions regarding the new waste service, then perhaps they could be emailed to him, and he would look into them.

Tree survey

A query was raised as to the progress in dealing with the many overhanging trees in the village. The Clerk advised members that the letters to residents were still to be done. A note first, would go in Marcham and District News.

Parkside Trees

It was reported that a resident had said that the trees on the highway verge in Parkside were blocking out light from a property. The Clerk was asked to bring this to the attention of the County Council.

The Croft, Abingdon Road – Planning Application

Mr. Cumber reported that he had spoken on behalf of the Parish Council at the Development Control Committee meeting at the Vale of White Horse District Council when this application was considered. This had been refused 10:4.

Mill Road - Potholes

67 potholes in Mill Road had been marked by the County Council some while ago, however, the paint markings had now disappeared and the potholes had not been repaired.

Invitation through Flood Groups to attend an event at Wallingford

Mr. Denton advised that he had been invited to attend an event at Wallingford in connection with flood prevention planning. There was a £10 deposit payable, which would be refunded should the person registering for the event actual attend. He asked whether Council would fund the £10 deposit should he be able to attend.

Oxfordshire Travel Information Service

As public transport representative, Mr. Walton had received information leaflets regarding an advice service for the elderly and those in need. He referred to the distribution of the leaflets within the parish. Suggestions were made as to where they could be located.

2010/198

Items for MAD News

Council noted the list of items for inclusion in the village newsletter. These included trees which were overhanging footways causing difficulties, and advice regarding Halloween.

2010/199

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Council would be held on Wednesday 13th October, 2010 in the residents' lounge, Duffield Place at 7.30 p.m.

The meeting closed at 8.45 p.m.

Signed Date

MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Marcham Parish Council held on Wednesday 13th October, 2010 in the residents' lounge, Duffield Place, Marcham at 7.30 p.m.

Present:

Mr. D. Walton (Chairman), Mrs. J. Allan, Mr. C. Bough, Mr. W. Cumber,
Mr. M. Denton, Mrs. M. Evans, Ms. R. Mander, Mrs. C. Ricketts
Clerk: Mrs. L. Martin
3 members of the public

- 2010/200 Apologies for Absence
Apologies for absence had been received from Mrs. S. Turney. Apologies had also been received from Cllr. I. Brown (County Councillor).
- 2010/201 Declarations of Interest
Mr. Bough declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the agenda item relating to the emptying of litter bins on the Anson field, in that he was an Anson Trustee. Mr. Cumber declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the agenda item relating to the planning application at Buildings Farm, in that he was the applicant.
- 2010/202 Minutes of the meeting held on 8th September, 2010
These were agreed and signed as a true record of the proceedings
- 2010/203 Matters Arising from the Minutes of the meeting held on 8th September, 2010

Cow Lane allotments - overhanging trees
Council noted that these trees had been cut back.

Grant to Marcham Primary School – Parishioner of the Year donation
Council noted that the school did have a special purposes account from which funds were used to support the children. Funds from that account were not used for items which would otherwise be funded by the County Council. The cheque could therefore be made payable to the school.
- 2010/204 Public Participation
Vale of White Horse District Council – New Waste Collection Service
A resident from Sweetbriar stated that the District Council's previous contractor had taken away the bulk waste bins, but the new contractor had not replaced these straight away. 5 domestic size bins had been delivered for 30 flats, which seemed insufficient. A question was asked as to whether it was possible to have a communal garden waste bin. The residents were happy to pay for this. Mr. Cumber offered to visit the site and to check what had been delivered and would contact the District Council/Contractor. Cllr. Hanna asked that she be contacted should there be any difficulties.

Street Lighting

A resident complained that a light in the Haines Court garage block that he had previously requested to be switched off was still on. The Chairman explained the history of the County Council undertaking night time conversions and turning off some lights, and that the work had started in error without taking into account comments from the Parish Council. He also stated that there had been differing opinions as to what should happen. He stated that the Parish Council would investigate and would check whether the County Council was prepared to implement some changes, as nothing further had been done, since the initial switching off, or offer explanations as to whether the lights were linked, or could not be switched off. The Clerk was asked to place the matter on the agenda for the November meeting.

2010/205

Planning Applications

a) Decisions on previous applications

MAR/SHA/1841/139 Erection of boarding house, alterations to car park, new access and ancillary development.

Cothill House School

Permitted 9th September, 2010

Cllr. Hanna confirmed she had attended a meeting with the Chairman of development control committee and the planning officer. The applicant had agreed to conditions put forward by St. Helen Without Parish Council.

b) Applications dealt with prior to the meeting

MAR/113162/6-LB New central heating system, oil fired boiler complete with radiators, new bathroom ceiling, new rainwater goods and down pipes to 2 19th and 20th century extensions. Structural repairs to roof timbers and general repairs to roof coverings and chimneys.

Hyde Farm House, Abingdon Road

For: Mrs. C. Goulding-Mew

Comments: Council had no objections

c) Applications for consideration at the meeting

MAR/21341 Proposed rear extension (part two storey) and internal alterations

3 Parkside

For: Mrs. D. Cox

Comments: Council had no objections

MAR/21343 Demolition of garage. Erection of two storey extensions.

Erection of new double garage

68 Howard Cornish Road

For: Mr. B. Phipps

Comments: Council expressed concern that the extensions would impinge on the neighbouring property by virtue of being dominant, cutting out light and

affecting amenity. The garage would be forward of and touching the neighbouring garage in Orchard Way

Details pursuant to Conditions 5,21,23,25,38 and 39 of planning permission MAR/5529/1-CM

Upwood Quarry

For: Hills Aggregates

This application had been available for viewing under the County Council's e-planning system. As not all members had had an opportunity to view the documents it was

RESOLVED:

that the response to this application be delegated to the Clerk in consultation with Mr. Cumber and Mrs. Allan.

Mr. Cumber, having declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the following application, left the room.

MAR/843/7 Change of use of redundant pig buildings to provide 20 partitioned stables with associated feed and tack storage for equestrian livery use and land for an outdoor exercising school measuring 50 m x 40 m

Buildings Farm, Gozzards Ford

For: Mr. W. Cumber

Comments: Council expressed concern that there would be substantially increased vehicular movements. There were potential dangers for large lorries turning into the farm having to give way in a single track lane. It would not be acceptable for the back of a vehicle to be jutting out into the road. Changes were required to the driveway and entrance to widen and improve the junction and provide adequate sight lines.

Mr. Cumber rejoined the meeting.

2010/206

County Councillor's Report

Cllr. Brown, when giving apologies to the clerk had referred to Oxfordshire's Big Debate. This was an agenda item for later in the meeting.

2010/207

District Councillor's Report

Cllr. Hanna apologised for having missed two previous meetings of the Parish Council owing to District Council commitments and holidays. She advised that she had received a communication from the Vale of White Horse District Council confirming that the s 106 agreement in connection with the planning applications for alterations to the Institute and housing to the rear had been completed.

2010/208

Police Matters / Police Neighbourhood Action Group

Mr. Denton gave a report on NAG matters. Someone had been apprehended in relation to some of the burglaries referred to at the last meeting. PCSO Laura

Schmid was leaving to join the regular Police force. There was no replacement appointed yet. There were Police budget cuts planned and the future was uncertain, but the local police had indicated that there was still to be a focus on community policing.

2010/209

Marcham Community Group

Council noted that the meeting of the community group planned for 12th October had been postponed to 19th October. No update report was therefore available. Concerns were expressed that there was no information available about which the Parish Council could express an opinion. The Chairman reported that he had been invited, in a personal capacity, to chair a meeting open to the public which had been arranged by the Community Group for 22nd October. There was some confusion over the purpose of the public meeting. It appeared not to be for planning what was required in a community facility as per the notice in the village newsletter, but more for explaining the situation and getting the village to understand what was happening. Mr. Bough stated that there seemed to be a widespread view that nothing changes, and he hoped that the view could be made clear that doing nothing was not an option. Cllr. Hanna reminded the Council of the existence of her group and its remit. She stated she would not wish things to be muddled.

2010/210

Oxfordshire County Council – The Big Debate

Council received a report from Mr. Walton who attended a meeting in Abingdon regarding the County Council's budget cuts. The County Council had to save £200 million over 4 years. A broadbrush savings plan would be published in November, with cuts planned in February 2011. Cllr. Hanna reminded Members of the existence of the Health Overview and Scrutiny Committee which acted as an independent scrutiny process on certain matters. Budget cuts and their effect on services would be a matter for scrutiny.

2010/211

Parish Council Insurance – Bus Shelter

Council noted that the insurers had confirmed that the shelter would be covered for vandalism. Council discussed whether to add the bus shelter to the policy. The chairman called for a show of hands to the proposal to add the bus shelter to the insurance policy with immediate effect at a cost of £48.09

In favour 6 Against 0 Abstentions 2

RESOLVED:

That the bus shelter be added to the policy with immediate effect at a cost of £48.09

2010/212

Junction of Howard Cornish Road / Anson Close – Parking Problems

Council considered a letter from a resident regarding parking congestion and a traffic accident in Howard Cornish Road at the junction with Anson Close. It considered possible action that it could take and

RESOLVED:

to refer the matter to the Police for investigation

160

and monitoring.

2010/213 Play Areas – The Anson Field and Longfields – RoSPA safety report

Council noted the RoSPA report for the two play areas. For the Anson Field it identified trip hazards, a worn gate guard and the requirement for a padlock for the vehicle access gate. As for Longfields it identified that the gates required alteration to allow a self closing mechanism to function, and a road sign and bench seat were recommended. Council commented that a road nameplate already existed at the entrance to the road.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the handyman be asked to fill in the ground where there were trip hazards and make the necessary alterations to the Longfields gates
- (ii) that a padlock and chain be obtained immediately for the Anson Field play area
- (iii) that a quote for a gate guard be obtained and put to the next meeting.
- (iv) that Longfields be considered as a suitable place for a seat should a parishioner wish to donate one at some point in the future.

Mr. Bough, having declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the following item, left the room.

2010/214 Anson Field – Emptying of litter bins – Letter from Trust

Council considered a request from the Trust for the Council to take on the emptying of the 2 litter bins next to the pavilion. The Clerk had advised that other than the play area and youth shelter where the Council had a Lease and Licence, there was no direct obligation to undertake maintenance on any other part of the field, as the field was in the ownership of and management of The Anson Trust. Council could, however, award a grant towards the costs. Points raised included the fact that the bin near the pavilion was full and overflowing. At busy times the Trust arranged for the emptying twice a week. Refuse from inside the building needed sorting. The sports club and adjacent nursery were commercial operations and did not qualify for free waste collection.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that Council not contribute towards the costs of litter bin emptying at the pavilion
- (ii) that the Trust be advised that the Trust, Clubs and Nursery should work together on a solution
- (iii) that the Trust be advised that the Council hopes the Trust would take action in the near future owing to complaints received, and the rubbish was an eyesore and could present a health hazard.

Mr. Bough rejoined the meeting.

2010/215

Correspondence

a) Thames Valley Police – Neighbourhood Update October

b) OALC – September’s news update

2010/216

Accounts

The external audit had now been completed and Council noted that there were no matters which came to the attention of the external auditor which required the issuing of a separate additional issues arising report. Council received and noted the quarterly report on the accounts for the period ending 30th September, 2010. Council also noted that the Bank of Ireland was proposing to transfer part of its UK banking business to a new UK subsidiary, the Bank of Ireland (UK) Ltd. Council noted the list of cheques to be signed and authorised payments totalling £3195.71 in respect of administration costs, play area inspections and maintenance and rent, grant, grass cutting and cemetery maintenance.

RESOLVED:

that the completed annual return be approved and accepted

2010/217

Matters Raised by members for information

The Farthings, ivy over rear garden walls.

It was reported that ivy was growing over the rear wall of no. 6 The Farthings. This property backed onto North Street where there was no footway, and residents had to walk well into the road to avoid the overgrowth. Mr. Denton advised that the village volunteer group was planning a village litter blitz and could look at this. Given that the District Council’s contractor had changed he was unsure how the group could arrange for collection of the waste accumulated. The Clerk was asked to assist in finding out what the arrangements were for litter collection following litter blitzes.

Remembrance Sunday – War Memorial

Mr. Denton stated that he was planning to tidy the war memorial in readiness for the Remembrance Day service. He asked for help with this. The Clerk reported that a road closure order had been applied for to allow the parade to take place without hindrance from traffic. Mr. Denton agreed to liaise with the Police regarding assistance with traffic control.

Vale of White Horse District Council – Waste collection service

A statement was made that fly tipping would probably increase now that waste had to be sorted into landfill and recycling. The Clerk was asked to place an article in MAD News asking residents to be vigilant for fly tipping and also provide in the article the mechanism for reporting such incidents.

Churchyard Trees - ivy

It was reported that ivy was growing up trees in the Churchyard. The Clerk was

asked to check with Mr. MacLean, nurseryman, as to whether this should be stripped off. Comments were made that the Northern boundary area of the Churchyard which had been cleared was growing through again.

2010/218 A member of the public called out to speak again. Council allowed him to address Council.

Play Area

The member of the public mentioned that he thought the roller barrel in the Anson Field play area dangerous because it was made of metal. He suggested it needed rubber to make it safer. Mr. Denton stated he would look at this.

2010/219 Items for MAD News
Council noted the list of items for inclusion in the village newsletter. These included advising residents to be vigilant for fly tipping, and advice regarding fire works night.

2010/220 Date of Next Meeting
The next meeting of the Council would be held on Wednesday 10th November, 2010 in the residents' lounge, Duffield Place at 7.30 p.m.

The meeting closed at 9.10

Signed Date

MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Marcham Parish Council held on Wednesday 10th November, 2010 in the residents' lounge, Duffield Place, Marcham at 7.30 p.m.

Present:

Mr. D. Walton (Chairman), Mrs. J. Allan, Mr. C. Bough, Mr. W. Cumber,
Mr. M. Denton, Mrs. M. Evans, Ms. R. Mander, Mrs. S. Turney
Clerk: Mrs. L. Martin
4 members of the public

- 2010/221 Apologies for Absence
Apologies for absence had been received from Mr. P. Rowe. The Chairman advised that he had just received a letter of resignation from Mr. Rowe. This was owing to his move away from the area. Mr. Rowe had been appointed to various posts within the Council. The appointment of his replacement would be considered at the next meeting.
- 2010/222 Declarations of Interest
Mr. Bough declared a personal and prejudicial interest in the agenda item relating to the grant application by the Anson Trust, in that he was an Anson Trustee.
- 2010/223 Minutes of the meeting held on 13th October, 2010
These were agreed and signed as a true record of the proceedings
- 2010/224 Matters Arising from the Minutes of the meeting held on 13th October, 2010
- RoSPA Report – Anson Field Play Area
RoSPA had confirmed that the words “reinstate worn guard at entrance gate” should have read “reinstate worn ground at entrance gate”. The handyman had been asked to reinstate this, along with dealing with the other minor issues referred to on the RoSPA report.
- Anson Close / Howard Cornish Road - Parking
Council noted that the Police had visited the junction on 4 occasions since the last meeting and had not found any parking issues. They had undertaken to continue to monitor the situation, but could not take any other action at the moment. The Clerk was requested to ask the complainant to advise the Council of any particular time of day when parking was a nuisance. The Clerk stated that a reply had already been sent to the complainant giving information as to the Police's response and asking for assistance in identifying particular problems.
- Litter Blitz – Collection Arrangements
Council noted that the Vale of White Horse District Council had confirmed that

the new contractor, Verdant, used two types of bags for collection of litter, clear ones for recyclables, and blue for general rubbish. Anyone undertaking a litter blitz would be issued with both types of sack, and would have to sort litter as it was collected. All other arrangements for the loan of litter picks, and collection of litter after the event would remain as before.

Churchyard - Ivy

Council noted that Mr. MacLean had recommended removing a section of ivy approximately 6 inches deep around the base of the trees and leaving the remainder to die off. The Clerk was asked to arrange for the handyman to cut the ivy back on the trees in the Churchyard.

Overhanging and low trees - Marcham

An update was requested on the position regarding low and overhanging trees. The Clerk advised that a note had appeared in MAD News requesting those with overhanging and low trees to trim them back. Residents had been given an opportunity to respond to the request, and individual letters were now in the course of being prepared. All letters would be sent out on the same day.

2010/225

Public Participation

Oxfordshire County Council – Concessionary fares

A member of the public noted that the County Council was taking over the bus pass scheme with effect from April 2011, and asked the Council to support a 9.00 a.m. start for the scheme when submitting its comments to the County Council.

Marcham and District News – Grant Application

The editor of Marcham and District News explained the current position regarding the duplicator that was used by MAD News and the need for a replacement. Questions were asked by members of the editor as to the way the newsletter was currently printed.

2010/226

Planning Applications

a) Decisions on previous applications

MAR/13162/6-LB New central heating system oil fired boiler complete with radiators, new bathroom ceiling, new rain water goods and downpipes to 2 19c and 20c extensions, structural repairs to roof timbers and general repairs to roof coverings and chimneys
Hyde Farm House, Abingdon Road
Permitted 3rd November, 2010

b) Applications dealt with prior to the meeting

No applications had been received

c) Applications for consideration at the meeting

No applications had been received

d) Comments delegated last meeting

Details pursuant to conditions 5,21,23,25,38 and 39 of Planning Permission
MAR/5529/1-CM

Upwood Park Quarry

For Hill Aggregates

Comments: Council had no comment to make on the details submitted

2010/227

County Councillor's Report

In the absence of Cllr. Brown no report was available.

2010/228

District Councillor's Report

In the absence of Cllr. Hanna no report was available.

2010/229

Police Matters / Police Neighbourhood Action Group

Mr. Denton gave a report on NAG matters. The PCSO Laura Schmid had now left. A replacement was being appointed. In the meantime Sandra Syphas, a PCSO from another area was standing in on a temporary basis provided she was not called away to problems elsewhere. She would be in attendance on Remembrance Sunday to help with traffic control. Thames Valley Police, like many organisations, was reviewing its staffing and operation levels. The NAG group had discussed community policing confirming its efficacy within the area. It was proposed that a letter be sent to the Chief Constable confirming the Council's support for continued community policing. Council discussed this, and owing to the busy schedule of the Chief Constable thought that such a letter would have little effect.

RESOLVED:

that no letter be sent to the Chief Constable which stated the Council's support for continued community policing.

2010/230

Marcham Community Group

Ms. Mander gave a report on a steering group meeting that she had attended following the public meeting organised by the group. The group had thought that there had been sufficient support from the public to go ahead and set up a charitable company, and was proceeding to do this. Questions were asked as to whether the Council supported the group. It was stated that the Council had distanced itself from the Anson Trust, similarly it should do so with the Marcham Community Group. This was an independent group looking at ways of providing community facilities. It may approach the Council for grant funding, the Council too would have to represent the parish at the time of any planning application. Its independence and lack of pre-determination was important.

2010/231

Local Government Boundary Commission – Oxfordshire County Council Review

Council noted and discussed the review in that it aimed to make local elections fairer by ensuring all County Councillors represented a similar number of people and that the County Council had the right number of councillors to represent the area effectively. Council agreed that it was sensible that each Councillor had the same number of electorate.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that this Council not submit any comments to the Local Government Boundary Commission
- (ii) that members submit private individual comments should they wish to do so.

2010/232

Grant Applications

Mr. Bough, asked to make a statement in regard to the application by the Anson Trust. Council agreed. Mr. Bough then made a statement and left the room for the debate on the grant application relating to the Anson Trust

Council considered grant applications from various organisations and

RESOLVED:

- (i) that under s. 137 Local Government Act 1972 the following grants be awarded where there is benefit to some or all of the community.

Marcham Senior Citizens Club	£250
Duffield Place Sunshine Club	£250
South and Vale Carers Centre	£200
Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal	£75
St. John Ambulance	£100
Air Ambulance (BerksOxonBucks)	£200

- (ii) that the sum of £1000 be awarded to the Anson Field Management Committee under s. 19 Local Government (Misc.Prov.) Act 1976 towards the expenses of grass cutting in the recreation ground
- (iii) that the sum of £450 be awarded under s. 142 Local Government Act 1972 to the Abingdon and District Citizens Advice Bureau.

Council also considered a request from Marcham and District News to set aside £500 per annum for 4 years towards the cost of a new duplicator. Members wished to ask questions of the editor who was present at the meeting as a member of the public. The Chairman adjourned the meeting. The editor answered questions relating to the grant application. The Chairman reconvened

the meeting. Council noted that the cost of a new duplicator was £7,400 plus vat. Council discussed possible ways of providing some financial assistance.

RESOLVED:

that a working party comprising the clerk, Mrs. Allan, Mr. Bough, Ms. Mander and Mr. Walton meet with the editor to discuss the precise requirements and to investigate possible ways of the Council providing financial assistance.

The Clerk advised that since preparing the agenda a grant request had been received from Marcham Parochial Church Council towards the costs of the village youth worker. £1500 had been set aside in the budget.

RESOLVED:

that the sum of £1500 be awarded to Marcham Parochial Church Council towards the costs of the provision of a youth worker for the 2010/2011 financial year.

2010/233

Remembrance Sunday

Council noted that the Road Closure Order for the A415 between Church Street and North Street, together with Church Street and New Road had been made. This was operational between 10.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m. Council noted that arrangements had been made for road closure signage. PCSO Sandra Syphas would be in attendance to assist with traffic control.

2010/234

Oxfordshire County Council – Street Lights

Council noted that the County Council could accommodate any further changes to street lights should the Parish Council wish, provided the relevant light cells were available. Council considered the list of suggested night time conversions previously prepared, and discussed two issues where there had been a request to turn off one light which was left on, and to turn on another light which had been switched off.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the list of lights to be changed to night time conversions previously prepared, remain the same, subject to checking two lights opposite 13 Orchard Way and in the Haines Court garage block
- (ii) that Mr. Walton and Ms. Mander check the two lights under discussion.

2010/235

BT Race to infinity – High Speed Broadband

Council noted that the District Council was encouraging local people to vote to get their area high speed broadband in BT's race to infinity. The five areas with the highest number of votes by 31st December 2010 would have BT infinity fibre optic cables installed in their area.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that the Parish Council make no comment or take action on the proposal.
- (ii) that an article be placed in MAD news so that individuals could respond should they wish to do so.

2010/236

Vale of White Horse District Council - Review of Polling Places

Council noted that the Vale of White Horse District Council had to ensure that electors had such reasonable facilities for voting as was practicable and to have regard to the needs of electors who were disabled. It was undertaking a review of the provisions. Council considered that the existing arrangements for voting in Marcham were adequate.

RESOLVED:

that no comment be submitted to the Vale of White Horse District Council.

2010/237

Oxfordshire County Council – Concessionary Bus Passes

Council noted that the issuing of bus passes would be administered by the County Council and not the Vale of White Horse District Council from April 2011. The County Council was proposing a common scheme for the whole of Oxfordshire. Council discussed the proposals and

RESOLVED: that it

- (i) would support a 9.00 a.m. start for the scheme
- (ii) would support the ability of a companion to travel free of charge to assist disabled people who cannot travel independently
- (iii) would not support the withdrawal of rail cards or National Travel Tokens as an alternative to the bus pass.
- (iv) would not support the proposal to withdraw the concessionary bus pass from use on the dial-a-ride, and community door to door transport services.

2010/238

Risk Assessment

Council carried out a risk assessment as outlined in the National Association of Local Councils Guide on Governance and Accountability. Council considered risks to its assets and liabilities on an individual basis. It was noted that insurance for the bus shelter had been included, and other insurance values amended. Mr. Denton stated that there would be a requirement in the future to re-point the war memorial wall. The Clerk would obtain a quotation for the budget meeting.

RESOLVED:

that the risk assessment as presented be adopted

2010/239

Correspondence

- a) Oxfordshire Playing Fields Association – Annual General Meeting and retirement of Roger Davis
Steeple Aston Village hall, Tuesday 30th November at 7.30 p.m.
- b) OALC – October’s news update
- c) Vale of White Horse District Council – Summons and Agenda 20th October
The Clerk drew members attention to the motion that the Vale of White Horse District Council would establish a scheme, open to all town and parish councils in the district to offer speed awareness stickers that can be placed on residents’ wheelie bins. She also drew members’ attention to the fact that there were 3 complaints against parish councillors within the Vale of White Horse district reported to the Standards Committee during the last financial year, plus 2 outstanding from the previous year which were the subject of investigations which were nearing completion.
- d) Thames Valley Police – Neighbourhood Action Group update November
- e) NHS – Health News magazine. The Clerk drew members’ attention to the fact that the Health News magazine was no longer going to be published. The news section of the Oxfordshire NHS website, however would be expanded

2010/240

Accounts

Council noted that following the suggestion by Council at the last meeting to fund members of the Marcham Community Group to attend the OALC training course on charitable trusts and village hall management, two members had expressed an interest in attending. The cost was £88.12 and Council agreed this amount. Council noted the list of cheques to be signed and authorised payments totalling £2952 in respect of administration costs, training course fees, insurance premium for bus shelter, grass cutting, allotment water costs, play area maintenance and litter picking.

2010/241

Matters Raised by members for information
OALC – Training event on charitable trusts

Mr. Bough gave a report on the training event he had attended. He particularly commented on the separate roles of the Parish Council as a Local Authority and when the Council acted as Charity Trustee and the necessity to avoid a conflict of interest between the two. He mentioned that a charity can support recreation in general terms, but not specifically a football club or cricket club because these were seen as commercial.

Packhorse Lane – HGVs

It was reported that a large number of HGVs pulling trailers have returned to the A415/Packhorse Lane. These were almost jackknifing on the bends. Council noted it was difficult to take action when it was an “A” road. This issue could be considered when Council looked at the County Council’s consultation on the Local Transport Plan.

North Street – drain clearance

It was reported that tankers had been seen in North Street clearing out drains. This was apparently due to fat being deposited in the drainage system. The disposal of certain refuse was more difficult since the new waste collection service was introduced in October. The Clerk was asked to place an article in MAD news regarding the clearance of drains and disposal of fat waste. Mr. Cumber would draft the article and submit to the clerk.

Howard Cornish Road – keeping of caravan

A caravan had been reported in the garden of a Howard Cornish Road flat. This generally detracted from the appearance of the area. The Landlord was checking the Lease with the tenant to see if there were any restrictions on the keeping of such vehicles.

2010/242

Items for MAD News

Council noted the list of items for inclusion in the village newsletter. These included advice regarding the non disposal of fat in the drainage system, and BT race to infinity for broadband.

2010/243

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Council would be held on Wednesday 8th December, 2010 in the residents' lounge, Duffield Place at 7.30 p.m.

The meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.

Signed Date

MARCHAM PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of Marcham Parish Council held on Wednesday 8th December, 2010 in the residents' lounge, Duffield Place, Marcham at 7.30 p.m.

Present:

Mr. D. Walton (Chairman), Mrs. J. Allan, Mr. W. Cumber, Mr. M. Denton,
Mrs. M. Evans, Miss. R. Mander
Clerk: Mrs. L. Martin
2 members of the public

- 2010/244 Apologies for Absence
Apologies for absence had been received from Mr. Bough, Mrs. Ricketts, Mrs. Turney and Cllr. J. Hanna (Vale of White Horse District Council).
- 2010/245 Declarations of Interest
Mrs. Allan declared a personal interest in the agenda item relating to bus stops. The Clerk clarified whether this was to be a personal and prejudicial interest. Mrs. Allan confirmed that she wished to declare just a personal interest.
- 2010/246 Minutes of the meeting held on 10th November, 2010
These were agreed and signed as a true record of the proceedings
Miss Mander asked that she be known as Miss Mander and not Ms Mander.
- 2010/247 Matters Arising from the Minutes of the meeting held on 10th November, 2010

Cllr. I. Brown
Council noted that Cllr. Brown had tendered late apologies for absence from the November meeting. His report had been circulated to members.

Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal
Council noted receipt of a letter from the Poppy Appeal acknowledging receipt of the donation awarded.

Oxfordshire County Council – Street Lights
Council noted that Mr. Walton and Miss. Mander had checked the two street lights in Orchard Way and the garage block rear of Howard Cornish Road. Their recommendations were not to include lamp 6 in Orchard Way in the list of those that should be switched on, and to ask for a shield to be fitted to lamp 7 Haines Court to deflect light away from properties. The list had been sent to the County Council, as it had been previously in the year. The County Council had confirmed that the lights requested to go back on could be done, and this would be carried out in the near future. As for the fitting of the shield around lamp 7 in Haines Court, this matter was being investigated.
- 2010/248 Public Participation

There were no matters brought to the attention of the Council.

2010/249 Planning Applications

a) Decisions on previous applications

MAR/21341 Proposed rear extension (part two storey) and internal alterations
3 Parkside
Permitted 8th November, 2010

MAR/21343 Demolition of existing garage. Erection of two storey extensions and a double garage
68 Howard Cornish Road
Refused 23rd November, 2010

b) Applications dealt with prior to the meeting

FRI/MAR/21385 Demolition of existing conservatory and boiler room
Erection of a two storey rear extension
Keranderry, Faringdon Road
For: Mr. V. Denecker
Comments: Council had no objections

c) Applications for consideration at the meeting

MAR/4625/1 Proposed first floor extension and alterations
41 North Street
For: Oxford Diocese
Comments: Council had no objections

Reduce 3 walnut trees by 25%- 30%
The Anson Field, Morland Road
For: Mr. A. MacLean on behalf of The Arthur Anson Trust
Comments: Council had no objections

2010/250 County Councillor's Report

In the absence of Cllr. Brown no report was available.

2010/251 District Councillor's Report

Cllr. Hanna had left a report with the Clerk. She had confirmed that recycling levels had very much increased since the introduction of the new waste collection service. She had also represented local people at the march through Abingdon town centre by 12 Logistic Support Regiment based at Dalton Barracks, on its return from Afghanistan.
Members discussed recycling in general terms and the sorting of mixed items. It was thought that some local authorities had experienced problems with

mixing all recyclable items and were beginning to think of pre-sorting, particularly coloured glass, before collection, as making new bottles out of mixed glass was not possible. It was noted that Marcham's new community recycling bins took mixed items. It was thought useful to obtain recycling statistics in due course once the new system had become established. The question of recycling could be an agenda item for a future meeting.

2010/252

Police Matters / Police Neighbourhood Action Group

Mr. Denton gave a report on NAG matters. A new PCSO had been appointed. Mr. Denton would ask if she could attend the next Parish Council meeting. The Police were going to announce probable cuts and future arrangements with effect from April 2011. There was therefore a need for an indication as to what might happen. There had been recent burglaries in Wootton and Sunningwell. He suggested that an article be placed in Marcham and District News asking for residents to look out for neighbours during the bad winter weather.

2010/253

Oxfordshire County Council – Draft Local Transport Plan

The Chairman stated that he proposed Council should consider the chapter relating to rural areas and that of Abingdon which were the two most relevant to the parish. The two key issues within the rural chapter were that of Marcham By Pass and the identification of key corridors. The Chairman read sections of the draft Plan. Council noted that the County Council had no major plans for highway improvements in rural areas during the life of the Plan (2011-2030). The County Council currently protected the route of the Marcham By Pass but only on the basis that it was necessary for development in adjacent areas and the County Council expected it to be funded in large part by any development. The chapter had identified corridors with the highest traffic flows based on journey to work data. The Chairman read out the list of primary and secondary corridors, and Council noted that the A415 was not included. Council discussed housing development at Grove and Witney and the impact on the A415. Suggestions were made as to the strong local feelings about improving the A415 in a wider context, such as the new bridge at Newbridge. Discussion was had as to whether the A415 should be regarded as a secondary corridor. It was felt that it would be difficult to restrict HGVs if the A415 were recognised as a secondary corridor. Council then turned to the chapter on Abingdon and noted that as it was not an area for planned housing growth, there were no plans for road improvements. The Chairman gave statistics relating to Abingdon traffic.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that this Council supports protecting the line of the Marcham By Pass and remains committed to pursuing its development and completion.
- (ii) that the statements made in the draft Local Transport Plan relating to Abingdon be noted.

2010/254

Oxfordshire County Council – Meeting for Parish Transport Representatives

Council received a report from Mr. Walton on a meeting of Transport Representatives that he had attended. The County Transport officer has been

reluctant to hold future meetings, but had been encouraged to do so by those attending. The budget figure for next year would be available at the end of January. There was a £5.3 million subsidy for the buses. There was a 4 yearly area review. It was likely therefore that cuts would be made in the areas about to be reviewed rather than in existing committed contracts. The Marcham service was for review in 2011.

RESOLVED:

that an article be placed in MAD News advising residents about the review, and encouraging them to use the subsidised bus services, as the number of passengers influenced the provision of the evening and Sunday services.

2010/255

Marcham and District News – Grant Application

Mr. Walton gave a report on a meeting between the editor of Marcham and District News and Mrs. Allan, Mr. Bough, Miss Mander and the Clerk. Ways of grant aiding the Marcham and District News publication to enable it to continue had been explored. Council noted that it had historically provided £1000 per annum towards the publication. MAD news was in need of £4,000 towards the cost of a new duplicator.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that a grant of £4,000 be awarded to Marcham and District News under s. 142 Local Government Act 1972 towards the cost of the purchase of a new duplicator.
- (ii) to enable publication to continue, that the sum be transferred from reserves and awarded immediately to Marcham and District News
- (iii) that the annual grant of £1000 for paper costs cease from the 2011/2012 year
- (iv) that the grant sum awarded for paper be reviewed again from the 2014/15 year on production of information and accounts from MAD News.

2010/256

Oxfordshire County Council – Premium Bus Routes

Council noted correspondence from the County Council advising that owing to limited funding the extent of the proposed works was to be reduced. The Chairman suggested that Council review the proposals for each stop. Council considered each stop in turn and

RESOLVED:

Post Office West bound – Move stop to outside the Post Office and remove any yellow paint markings.
Post Office East bound – Remove bus cage/yellow paint as per West bound stop and install the RTI post and unit.
Duffield Place East bound – As previously agreed. A

post and flag at the back of the footway beside the recycling bins.

Duffield Place West bound – As previously agreed. A post and flag outside 1-6 Duffield Place.

Longfields West bound – As previously agreed. A post and flag outside no. 54 owing to the fact that cars park in the existing layby at the stop's current location

Longfields East bound – The proposed changes be noted and the installation of an RTI post and unit agreed.

Morland Road West bound - Council's preference for permanently siting the bus stop outside no. 90 be restated.

Morland Road East bound – that the bus stop be left in its current location rather than the proposal of moving it a few feet.

Frilford Road West bound – that the location of the stop be noted and agreed

Frilford Road East bound – that (i) a suggestion be made to move the proposed stop towards the street light, or even put a flag on the street light column. This would create less impact on no. 12 Frilford Road and provide more light at the stop. (ii) Mr. Denton check the possibility of locating a flag on the street column and report to the Clerk.

2010/257 Grant Application

Council considered a grant application from the Independent Advice Centre, Wantage, and noted that parishioners from Marcham had benefited from the centre.

RESOLVED:

that a grant of £100 be awarded to the Wantage Independent Advice Centre under s. 137 Local Government Act 1972.

2010/258 Absence of Dropped Kerbs – vehicles bumping up over kerbs

Council considered concerns raised that several properties in the parish did not have dropped kerbs and were bumping vehicles up over and along footways. In some cases this was over private non highway land and over public amenity areas in order to park their vehicles close to their properties. This presented a danger to users of the footways. A member raised a query over the caravan in the front garden of a property in Howard Cornish Road. The Clerk confirmed this matter had been raised with the Housing Association as landlord and she understood that the Lease was being checked by the Association.

RESOLVED:

- (i) that an article appear in Marcham and District News advising that if residents wished to park their car in an

- area where a dropped kerb was required, then an application should be lodged with the County Council.
- (ii) that Mr. Denton and Miss Mander produce a list of the properties where vehicles were being bumped over footways and amenity areas without dropped kerbs.
 - (iii) that the item be placed back on the agenda for a future meeting.
 - (iv) that a copy of the Lease for Howard Cornish Road flats be obtained from the Vale Housing Association so that checks could be made as to whether tenants could park caravans in their front gardens.

2010/259

Casual Vacancy

Following the resignation of Mr. Peter Rowe, Council considered whether to leave the seat vacant until the next election in May 2011 or to co-opt to fill the vacancy that had occurred. Council also considered the election of a Vice-Chairman and replacement for the working parties on which he served.

It was proposed by Mrs. Allan, seconded by Mrs. Evans and

RESOLVED:

- (i) that Miss Mander be elected Vice-Chairman to hold office until the next annual meeting of the Council
- (ii) that Mr. Cumber be appointed to the to Working Party looking at the effectiveness of the internal audit
- (iii) that no replacement be appointed to the Staff Working Party, and that that continue with two members until the next annual meeting of the Council.
- (iv) that a casual vacancy be declared and steps be taken to fill the seat left vacant by the resignation of Mr. Rowe

2010/260

Correspondence

- a) Email from Laura Hutchins, area Highway Steward at Oxfordshire County Council, outlining her role.
- b) Vale of White Horse District Council – Letter confirming the success of the new waste service, and confirming free parking in each of the market towns on Saturdays in the run up to Christmas.
- c) Vale PE & School Sport Partnership – information
- d) OALC – November/December update
- e) Vale of White Horse District Council – Summons & Agenda 8th December.

2010/261

Accounts

Council noted the list of cheques to be signed and authorised payments totalling £4801.69 in respect of administration costs, and grants awarded

2010/262

Matters Raised by members for information

Howard Cornish Road – gritting

Concerns were raised that Howard Cornish Road became very dangerous when

snow was compacted on it. It was not a road gritted by the County Council. Self help suggestions of obtaining grit from the County Council and spreading it or calling in the army from Dalton Barracks were made. It was thought that Dalton Barracks would only assist in an emergency. It seemed to be a local problem of one road that was blocked. The Clerk was asked to make enquiries to see if there was any help if there was snow this Winter.

Abingdon Hospital - Bus Shelter / Seat

It was reported that the bus shelter on the East bound bus route outside Abingdon Hospital had been moved. The bench seat that used to be adjacent to the bus stop was now several metres away. Anyone sitting on it would miss the bus. The Clerk was asked to bring this to the attention of Abingdon Town Council in whose area the bench seat was located.

2010/263

Items for MAD News

Council noted the list of items for inclusion in the village newsletter

2010/264

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Council would be held on Wednesday 12th January 2011 in the residents' lounge, Duffield Place at 7.30 p.m.

The meeting closed at 9.00 p.m.

Signed Date