**OTTERHAMPTON PARISH RECREATION ASSOCIATION**

**Minutes of the OPRA Committee Meeting held on 7th February 2011 at The Anchor at 8 pm**

**PRESENT** Robert Palmer (Chair) Tina Gardener

Ann Leathwood (Secretary**)** Barry Leathwood

Lyn Palmer

**APOLOGIES**  Liz Sidebotham and Sue Francis

**11/12 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING;**

**M**inutes of the meeting held on 10th January 2011 were approved by the meeting and signed by

the Chairperson.

**11/13 MATTERS ARISING**

1. An update on the progress of a web site was given. The new site has been registered as [www.combwich.org.uk](http://www.combwich.org.uk) . Graeme Wigley is now building the site and it was agreed that the group of people who will help administer the site will meet with Graeme in due course. It was agreed to contact Rob Wright who would perhaps be willing to help. The Chair has not had a reply from Matthew Wilkes despite leaving telephone messages and sending an email. He will send a further email in the hope Matthew will reply.
2. It was confirmed that the Newsletter had been printed and delivered last week.

Barry was thanked for his help.

**11/14 TREASURER’S REPORT including 100 Club**

The Treasurer sent bank details with her apologies. The details are as follows:

OPRA account £ 325.14 Cash in hand £ 202.36

Savings account £2926.82 100 Club £ 585.19

OPRA’s total funds £4039.51

**11/15 CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Letter from Aly Prowse (Steart) thanking OPRA for Christmas tree
2. Email from Liz Brown re Brownies
3. Account re non-payment of Barn rent – Secretary sent details of cheque and an apology was received, the Parish Clerk had coded it wrongly.

**11/16 AGM**

It was agreed that the date of the AGM should be changed to 11th March at the Anchor at 7.30 pm.

The Chair had contacted all members of the Committee and all were happy to seek re-election.

A draft invite was shown to the Committee and agreed, this will be printed and need to be delivered by 24th February – giving 14 days’ notice as required by our constitution.

After the meeting all are invited to a game of skittles. Tina agreed to ask Matt to provide some light refreshments.

**11/17 EASTER ACTIVITIES**

Robert asked if anyone else would like to prepare the Easter Egg Hunt questions. Discussion took place and Robert and Lyn agreed to manage the activity at The Anchor but would like to seek the help of Angela Partridge and possibly Nicole Wigley who may have some ideas to help set the questions..

We will order the Easter Eggs from Rob at the Post Office, Robert and Lyn will purchase the single large Easter Egg as main prize. The Hunt will take place on Good Friday morning at 10.30 am.

The usual Quiz would be held on Easter Sunday evening and Tina agreed to contact Shaun and Mary to arrange this.

**11/18 COMMUNITY CHOIR**

Nicole Wigley has approached OPRA for help to start a community choir in Combwich. She outlined her plans in an email. It was confirmed by OPRA that we thought this a good idea and agreed to pay the first 6 weeks hall rental and then review the situation. The choir would meet on the second and fourth Thursday each month and each member would pay £1 per session.

**11/19 PARISH PLAN**

Barry outlined the current situation and gave details of the Drop-In session to be held in the Village Hall on Saturday 12th February. Posters are being placed around the village and it was hoped residents would come along and give their support.

It was reported that the OPRA printer was used to provide the posters and a small amount of other literature for this occasion.

**11/20 WALKS AND TALKS**

A walk in the Quantocks is planned on Saturday, 19th February and a further walk on 20th March.

A talk by Ewart Walker on the ‘Malmesbury Mystery’ will take place on Thursday, 17th February and a further talk and demonstration by Lyn and Robert Palmer on ‘Keeping Bees’ will take place on Thursday, 31st March.

Discussion took place on future talks and it was felt that we could possibly find more local people to present a talk. Several names were mentioned and it was agreed that we would look into this before the next winters talks were planned.

**11/21 ANY OTHER RELEVANT BUSINESS**

1. Barry’s First Aid certificate would expire in June. It was agreed that, as we have two other people with current certificates, we would not ask Barry to renew his certificate until next year when all three could take the course together.
2. The possibility of having a youth representative was raised again and Robert agreed to contact Helen Jowett.
3. We have received a copy of the Minutes of the recent Chat and Chill Committee. These were noted.
4. The youth badminton session was being well supported. Gary Perrett asked if it would be possible to start a session for younger children aged 7-8 years. OPRA was no too sure about this as it was felt this should be an after-school activity. Tina agreed to talk to the Headteacher about this.
5. Royal Wedding – various topics were discussed about celebrating this and we would enquire to see if the Anchor was planning an event.
6. Summer Ball – it was agreed to discuss holding a Ball again this year at our next meeting and in the meantime Matt would be asked for dates available in July.
7. The Gardening Group led by Elaine Last and Robert told us of their progress so far – planting bulbs, tidying up the back of the church. Robert asked if a meeting with himself, Elaine Last, Peter Shaw the Parish Clerk and Barry could be arranged to discuss future plans.

**DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Monday, 4th April 2011 at the Anchor at 8 pm.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 10.15pm