**OTTERHAMPTON PARISH RECREATION ASSOCIATION**

**Minutes of the OPRA Committee Meeting held on 17th October, 2011 at The Anchor at 8.00 pm**

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

Ann Leathwood (Secretary**)** Barry Leathwood

Lyn Palmer Sue Frances (Treasurer)

Rob Wright

**11/67 APOLOGIES** None

**11/68 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

Minutes of the meeting of 5th September, 2011 were approved by the meeting and signed by the Chair, with one error being corrected – date of next meeting should read 17th October.

**11/69 MATTERS ARISING**

Robert agreed to send out a questionnaire to see what future events villagers would like to help OPRA and other groups produce a Village Plan.

A Newsletter has been printed and delivered and thanks were conveyed to Barry for producing it.

The Art Class and Choir are very successful with 22 and 15 attending respectively. John Bailey said that the Art Group were now in a position to pay for the hire of the hall and asked that OPRA cease paying as from 3st October. Mr Bailey thanked OPRA for their support with the hire of the hall to get the group up and running.

The Badminton sessions were still being subsidised quite heavily by OPRA. It was agreed that the Chair write to the group to suggest that subscriptions be increased to £4 per person per session and juniors to remain at £2 per session.

**11/70 CORRESPONDENCE**

The following correspondence has been received:

1. Minutes of the Coffee Club. The mornings go from strength to strength with ‘specials’ including soup and roll lunch, cream teas, etc. They have also made donations to various charities by having raffles, etc.
2. 1st Combwich Brownies – card thanking OPRA for their generous donation. They thoroughly enjoyed the trip to London and seemed to fit a lot into the time they were there.

**11/71 TREASURER’S REPORT**

The Treasurer report that cash held in OPRA accounts as follows:

Bank Account £379.67 Cash £266.26

100 Club £1023.19 Savings £2529.30

The 100 Club has 95 numbers this quarter. Unfortunately one new member’s bank will only pay by monthly direct debit.

The renewal notice for the Public Liability Insurance has been received and Barry said he had checked the policy and it was agreed to renew the policy for a further year.

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**11/72** **AUTUMN EVENTS**

**Fireworks Display –** The list was updated and agreed. It was agreed to start cooking for the BBQ earlier this year.

It was agreed to purchase a new PA system as we were no longer able to loan the one as previously. Mike Gardener would research and purchase one up to £200.00.

We will meet at 2 pm to set up fireworks, and at 5 pm to start the BBQ. On Monday morning the clear up would start at 10 am.

**Christmas Dinner** – Lists were updated, agreeing that we would again hire crockery from the West Somerset Catering Hire, Bristol Road.

Invite letters will all be delivered on Sunday, 6th November, to give everyone an equal chance to secure a place!

**11/73 WALKS AND TALKS AND BADMINTON**

The next walk will take place on 20th November and will be led by Brian Hutchens and Tom Jacobs, and will start from Brean.

The local history walk was a great success with 56 residents attending. It was a larger number than was anticipated and sometimes difficult for everyone to hear what was being said. Bill Johnson and Barry plus many other residents gave facts about the housing, life in Combwich, etc. A welcome cup of tea and a biscuit was available in the Village Hall afterwards, and everyone agreed it had been a good walk and thanks go to Barry and Bill for their efforts. It was suggested that a local history group may be a good idea and signatures were requested if interested. Also a follow-up evening would be a good idea and a date would be arranged.

The first talk of the series will be held on Thursday, 27th October, and be given by Helen Toye and she will bring her ‘Rescued Birds of Prey’. A good turnout (44) enjoyed listening to how the venture began and now Helen has applied to be registered as a charity. The birds, owls of various sizes were quite happy to be handled. All in all a most enjoyable evening.

The dates of future talks will be: 24th November, 19th January 2012, 16th February, 15th March and 19th April. These dates have been booked with the village hall.

**11/74 TRACTOR, BARN AND PAVILION**

The tractor hasn’t been put in the barn as yet.

**11/75 OPRA PLAN**

It was agreed that 2 people from each organisation be invited to the meeting to be held on 17th November at the village hall. The invite to be printed on Parish Council headed paper.

**11/76 ANY OTHER RELEVANT BUSINESS**

OPRA has been approached by Angie Griffiths to ask for support a celebration of the Olympics in an attempt to encourage youngsters to join in sports and exercising. OPRA has agreed to help.

Will we organise a celebration for the Queens Diamond Celebration? Discussion followed as to whether this could be part of our Fete? Would it be a big street party? Will the Parish Council donate towards the celebration. More discussion is required at future meetings.

**DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Monday, 21st November at 8pm at The Anchor.

There being no further business and the meeting closed at 10.45pm.

Signed………………………………….. Date…………………………….

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