**OTTERHAMPTON PARISH RECREATION ASSOCIATION**

**Minutes of the OPRA Committee Meeting held at 7.30 pm on Wednesday, 5th March 2014**

**at The Anchor Inn**

**PRESENT**

Robert Palmer (Chair) Barry Leathwood

Ann Leathwood (Secretary) Lyn Palmer

Sue Frances (Treasurer) Jacqui Sparks

Tina Gardener

**14/71 APOLOGIES** - Rob Wright

**14/72 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

Minutes of the meeting of 26th November 2014, were approved by the meeting and signed by the Chair.

**14/73 MATTERS ARISING**

None

**14/74 CORRESPONDENCE**

1) Minutes of Coffee Morning meeting

2) Letter from CAB thanking OPRA for donation

**14/75 TREASURER’S REPORT**

The Treasurer reported that cash held in OPRA accounts is as follows:

Bank account £543.23 Cash £209.95

100 Club £1259.08 Savings £1133.90

**100 Club**

Lyn was pleased to report that we still have 100 members and this will increase to 102 in April.

The following cheques have been drawn:

Cheque no. 22114 OVH Hall £ 18.00

22115 Diesel for tractor £ 32.00

22116 Insurance £171.29

22117 DVLA – mower £55.00

22118 Gas Cylinder £65.24

22119 Fireworks £35.53

22120 Fireworks £50.00

22121 Talk & Chat and Chill £27.00

22122 Wessex Water £.12.36

22123 Stiga Park mower £2000.00

22124 Junior badminton £40.00

22125 Talk fee & copy paper £43.95

22126 Veg & deserts – Xmas £280.28

22127 Web space £20.16

22128 Oil – tractor £55.08

22129 OVH Talk £20.75

22130 Crackers £29.94

22131 Tina – no.plate , turkey, etc £214.54

22132 Jacqui – soup etc. £23.67

**14/76 AGM**

It was agreed that the AGM would be held on Friday, 21st March 2014 at the Anchor at 7.30 pm.

We will check with Matt that this date is alright and enquire about a possible game of darts following the meeting. Also ask Matt to provide refreshments (bread and cheeses).

The invites will be ready for distribution 3 weeks prior to the meeting, i.e. end of February.

All present members and officers of the committee agreed to stand for election again.

**14/77 REPORT ON CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES**

The Christmas dinner was again very successful with 73 diners. Several thank you letters and cards have been received.

Discussion on various ‘things’ that need to be considered for next year’s dinner, i.e. an alternative source for vegetables will be required which may include frozen vegetables. More Christmas puddings and only two flavours of cheesecake should be offered. Our thanks to all who helped.

The lighting of the Christmas tree drew more spectators than ever this year – coming to see the ‘Bristol Zoo’ short necked giraffe Jiffy! Our thanks to Ray Howard for making this event successful and also for the costume donation.

**14/78 TALKS AND WALKS**

Mervyn Brown has handed over his list of speakers to OPRA. The list is rather outdated and attempts are being made to obtain a current list. The last two talks have not been very well attended – due possibly to the cold hall and uncomfortable seats. Agreed to consider possible alternative venues.

The February talk will be “An evening with Jean and Mem” and we hope this will be well attended. The March talk will be with Dick Best from Steart and his subject will be “Arctic Wildlife”. We hope both talks will be enjoyable and informative.

The January walk has just taken place (on one of the best winter days) in the Quantocks.

It is hoped that a guided walk around the new paths can be arranged when both paths are open.

It was felt that a ‘talks’ programme co-ordinator for the next session of talks was required. Tina Gardener offered to do this with help. Potential speakers to be approved by the committee.

**14/79 BARN, PAVILION AND MOWER**

The new mower is now in the barn waiting for the rain to stop! Thanks to Mike Gardener and Tina for purchasing and taxing the mower.

The Barn seems to have survived with winter storms but the Pavilion did have water flowing in during the storms. When it is dry it will need to be cleaned out and the equipment stored there checked.

**14/80**  **FUTURE ROLE OF OPRA**

This year’s activities will include the Easter Egg Hunt and Quiz, Fete including a hog roast, Firework Display and the Christmas dinner and tree lighting as usual.

**14/81** **FETE**

The date of the Fete has been agreed for 5th July. Hopefully the weather will be kinder this time! It will take the usual format on the small common.

The Secretary will check the village hall is free that day. If so she will contact the Dance School and the Clown we had previously to see if we can book them.

**14/82**  **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There was no further business to discuss. The next meeting will take place at 7.30pm at the Anchor

on Wednesday, 5th March 2014.

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm.

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