**OTTERHAMPTON PARISH RECREATION ASSOCIATION**

**Minutes of the OPRA Committee Meeting held on 4th April 2011 at The Anchor at 8 pm**

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

Ann Leathwood (Secretary**)** Barry Leathwood

Lyn Palmer Sue Frances (Treasurer)

**APOLOGIES**  Liz Sidebotham

**11/26 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING;**

**M**inutes of the meeting held on 7th February 2011 were approved by the meeting and signed by

the Chairperson.

**11/27 MATTERS ARISING**

1. Community Choir – It was reported that the choir was proving popular with 20+ people attending each session. The choir were looking for a purpose and it was agreed that the Secretary contact Nicole Wigley and suggest that they could entertain diners at the Senior Citizens Christmas Dinner.
2. Parish Plan – an update of the plan so far was given. It was agreed that the Chair of the group would be a rolling 3 monthly appointment and Maureen Lloyd-Williams was elected to take the Chair for the first 3 months. Maggie Layton was elected as Minutes Secretary. One of the suggestions received for the plan was a Community Market and fliers were being distributed to all residents asking that they contact Elizabeth Marriott if they were interested in taking part. It was also reported that a Cycling group was being formed and that the Village Hall Committee were having discussions on the refurbishing of the Hall.
3. Gardening Group – as reported at the last meeting Peter Shaw, the Parish Clerk, Barry Leathwood, Parish Council Chair, Elaine Last, Gardening Group organiser and Robert Palmer, Chair of OPRA, walked round the village to discuss improvements that the group could make. It was noticed that certain parts ‘tidied up’ by the group were a big improvement and thanks to all concerned.
4. Summer Ball – Discussion took place and it was agreed to hold the Ball on 18th June. Tina agreed to check to see if the Casino tables would be available to hire on that date. Agree that we use Matt’s music and equipment for the disco – Sue’s neighbour to be asked to be DJ. Lyn and Robert agreed to order tickets as last time and it was agreed that the price remain the same i.e. £10 if bought before the Ball but £15 at the door on the night.
5. Royal Wedding – posters and tickets were now available at the Post Office and Friday Coffee mornings, cost £1. There would be a large screen at the Anchor and Coffee and Cakes would be served.

**11/28 TREASURER’S REPORT including 100 Club**

The treasurer gave an up-to-date report as follows: -

OPRA account £ 544.73 Cash in hand £ 220.87

Savings account £2727.34 100 Club £ 718.19

**11/29 CORRESPONDENCE**

Letter received from St John Ambulance to say that Barry and Sandie Wilkes first aid certificates are due to expire in June. It was agreed that Barry would renew his training next year when others are due to be renewed. The Secretary to write to St John Ambulance to inform them of this decision and also to report that Sandie Wilkes is no longer with OPRA.

**11/30 AGM**

The AGM took place on 11th March and Robert was re-elected Chair and all other members were re-elected for another year. After the meeting closed a friendly game of skittles was enjoyed by all attending.

**11/31 EASTER ACTIVITIES**

Amy and David Gardener have agreed to write the questions for the Easter Egg Hunt on Good Friday morning. Lyn and Robert to organise Easter Eggs from Rob at the Post Office and the Hunt will take place at 10.30 am. Raffle prizes are required.

The Quiz will be held on Easter Sunday evening and Shaun and Mary have agreed to arrange the questions. Prizes are required for this and it was agreed to ask Matt to donate a prize as usual. Lyn agreed to purchase 4 bottles of wine for the winning team. Sue will organise a float for both these events. After discussion it was agreed to give Shaun and Mary a voucher for 2 Sunday roast lunches to say ‘thank you’ for their help and support. (OPRA will arrange this with Matt).

**11/32 WALKS AND TALKS**

The next walk is planned for Saturday, 16th April. Brian Hutchings will organise and the usual emails and posters will be displayed.

A very successful talk on ‘Combwich Bees’ was given on 31st March by Robert and Lyn Palmer.

It was very well attended and everyone enjoyed it and asked questions and looked at the displays they had brought along.

**11/33 ANY OTHER RELEVANT BUSINESS**

1. The tractor is now working and the Common has been cut for the first time this year. A tyre has been located and will be replaced. It was reported that Mike has spent many hours over the years keeping the tractor in working order (in spite of its age!). After much discussion it was agreed to give Mike a Golf Club Shop voucher to say thank you for all his time and effort.
2. It was also reported the pavilion was in need of cleaning out and organising.
3. Robert agreed to see Helen Jowett re Chat and Chill as regards the future of the group
4. The Village Hall will hold its AGM in May in the form of an ‘Open House’ and it was agreed that OPRA will print fliers and help distribute them. It is hoped people will attend and share ideas etc. as to how we make it more welcoming and encourage bookings.
5. It was reported that basketball net has disappeared from the Common and that the wood has rotted away and ended up on the beacon last year. No plans to replace it.
6. Robert reported that he had been asked if he required a fee for his recent talk and it was agreed that he should request the ‘usual’ fee for such talks – i.e. £30.

**DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Monday, 26th April 2011 at the Anchor at 8 pm with just the Summer Ball and OPRA plan on the Agenda.

There being no further business and the meeting closed at 9.45pm