**OTTERHAMPTON PARISH RECREATION ASSOCIATION**

**Minutes of the OPRA Committee Meeting held on 6th September at 7.30pm**

**Social club, Village Hall**

**PRESENT**

Jacqui Sparks (Chair) Barry Leathwood (Vice Chair)

Ann Leathwood (Secretary) Mary Cornish

Sue Francis (Treasurer) Di Davie

Felicity Ashworth Tina Gardener

Bev Smith Melvyn Fooks (Observer)

**17/16 APOLOGIES** - None

**17/17 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

Minutes of the meeting held on 7th February 2017, were approved and signed by the Chair.

**17/18 MATTERS ARISING**

It was reported that the Easter Activities were successful and financially the overall cost turned out to be minimal. We ordered 80 Easter eggs which was about right.

**17/19 CORRESPONDENCE**

* + - 9 May – OPC Entrance to Combwich
    - 10 May – Barn Rent paid 1st June
    - July – Friends of Otterhampton Primary School Grant application (£150 agreed by email and sent 11 July – no acknowledgement)
    - 28July – Aon Insurance – will not be offering renewal terms. BHIB will take over and offer us insurance coverage

**17/20 TREASURER’S REPORT**

Sue reported that the following amounts were held:

Cash £189.43 Bank £224.87

100 Club £1658.55 Savings £3659.22

The treasurer reported that she will be transferring money from the !00 Club to the bank to meet the expected costs of our autumn and winter activities.

The 100 Club now has 99 members from 1st July 2017.

**17/21** **FIREWORK DISPLAY**

Sunday 5th November and will be preceded by a lantern procession which OPRA has agreed to fund. The lantern making sessions will be in the village hall during half term, admission by ticket only, with 20 places at each session. Children under 11 must be accompanied by an adult. Dates and times to be confirmed. Tina & Jacqui will coordinate with Sarah Webb. Details will be sent to Barry for insertion into Otter Tales by Tuesday morning 12th September

**17/22** **CHRISTMAS DINNER**

Saturday 2nd December. People not already on the invite list will need to be 65 to be eligible and the cost for partners will be £10. Agreed that the entertainment will a sing-a-long. Ann will circulate the invite list for members to check for accuracy. The 100 Club Christmas draw will take place during the evening. Final details at the next meeting.

**17/23 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS**

Sunday 3rd December. Mary agreed to contact Bob Withers to order 2 Christmas trees. Details to be discussed at the next meeting.

**17/24** **OPRA PAVILION**

**The Pavilion** urgently needs a new door and other woodwork repairs. Bev agreed to contact Derek Selway for a quote for replacement door and other repairs to the woodwork. Tina reported that the barn doors also needed a fresh coat of varnish. Agreed to clarify whether OPRA or the parish council were responsible for this work.

**17/25** **CIM FUND**

Tina pointed out that due to the Parrett Flood Barrier there was a likelihood of the common flooding to a greater extent, the Pavilion which has already been damaged by flood water will need to be raised further. She proposed that we consider replacing this structure with a suitably clad shipping container. She pointed out that we already had full planning permission for the existing building and will contact the Sedgemoor Planning Department for advice on whether fresh planning permission would be required. She also said that we need to consider the replacement of the mower with a bigger model.

Barry pointed out that the parish council would need some convincing that a shipping container would be acceptable considering their recent experience with the one put opposite the village hall. He also pointed out that the proposal for a new construction and a new mower would be a very expensive proposition and we would have to meet the strict criteria required by the Somerset Community Foundation who administer the fund and the parish council who own the land. This to be an agenda item at the next meeting.

**17/26** **OTTER TALES**

Closing date for copy is Sunday 10th September to advertise OPRA events.

**17/27 CHARITY COMMISSION RETURN**

Tina advised that it would soon be necessary to submit the Charity Commission return and offered to assist Jacqui with this – agreed.

**17/28 ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Several members reported the safety surface in the play area had areas which were thought to be dangerous with deep indentations which were water logged. Barry pointed out that the parish council was in touch with the contractors at the moment and added that he would raise the issue at the council meeting.

There was no further business and the meeting closed at 9.20 pm.

**DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING** – 7.30 pm 18th October at 3 The Towers.

Signed…………………………………… Date………………………..