

Oswaldkirk Parish Annual General Meeting

Minutes of Meeting held on Tuesday 1st May 2007

PRESENT: 18

APOLOGIES: John and Ursula Webb, Jacky Young, David and Flora Daly, Shirley Mclean, Eric Dunstone, Eric and Jean Beadle, Peter Stone and Philip and Wendy Entwistle.

MINUTES OF LAST MEETING:

The Minutes of the last meeting were not available and therefore the 2006 minutes were compiled from previous notes.

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman gave the following report

This has been my second year as Chairman to the Parish Meeting and generally it has been most enjoyable. My report inevitably contains many votes of thanks but that reflects the activity within the Parish and the commitment shown by many of you to producing a vibrant community.

I did say in last years report that not all is sweetness and light in our community and that we faced a number of issues. I highlighted the nuisance caused by dogs and I now feel that this is becoming a more significant problem, it is certainly becoming a divisive problem and I believe that we must address it.

A major disappointment has been the fact that NYCC reneged on the promise to install a speed limit and traffic calming measures and after a brief survey placed us 78th on their list of priorities. We are still fighting this one, we may not win but we will not go quietly to our slot at No. 78!!! We did however achieve some success over the tree planting at Birch Farm, not what we would have wanted or indeed what was promised in the planning application but we did push as far as I believe we could and we did get a result of sorts.

So moving on to the positive aspects of life in our community I would firstly like to thank Mark, Andy and Ian for their support and Mark particularly for the hours he puts in to running things. They all backed the initiative to significantly increase the Parish precept, a move which I believe will strengthen the Parish, Village Hall and Playground finances over the years.

The Village Hall and Playground are significant assets within our community and I think a vote of thanks to those who run the two organisations is due –

thanks for a job very well done. The Thursday club goes from strength to strength and again sponsored a free Christmas Party for children of all ages as well as organising other functions. Well done and thank you ladies for your work – I have to admit that I do have some concerns over the finances as I am sure that the main Thursday Club activity is printing five pound notes!

A major contributor to the village hall funding is the pantomime group. To those involved we thank you for the entertainment and the money!

The Oswaldkirk walking group has been very successful and thanks are due to all those who have organised a day out. I think it would be a nice idea if someone could take on the job of “archivist” and make up a scrapbook, of the walks, watering hole, attendees etc. so if we have any volunteers please have a word.

During the year we managed to consult with residents and we now have a management plan for Chestnut Bank. A small working group has been set up with Rhona in charge to execute the plan and we will be having occasional working parties to maintain the area. We have applied for a grant to renew the footpath and await the outcome. In the meantime the “Chestnut Bank Environmental Group” has been created and we have extended the remit. As a result we succeeded in getting a grant to install the compost bins and bird boxes in St Oswald’s churchyard and have liaised with the NYMNP CANDO team over wider projects. We are hopeful that they will include a proposal put forward by a number of folk but crystallised by Jill Stone to link the churches in the Parish with a footpath. Thanks though to Rhona for her work on Chestnut Bank

There are many others who should be mentioned. For now I would simply ask how many Parishes with less than 200 adults can claim to have all the above plus firework displays, at least three different styles of dancing in the village hall, keep fit group, a first responder team [note the order!] and two active churches?

I think that because of all your efforts we do very for ourselves, we will try to sort out problems as they arise and to build on what we have. Thank you for your support.

The Chairman was given a vote of thanks by the Meeting.

TREASURER'S REPORT

The Treasurer presented the following:

Income	Nationwide Building Society	Yorkshire Bank
Brought forward	550.53	393.52
Parish precept		575.00
National Park		460.95
Interest		0.22
Total	550.53	1429.69

Expenditure	Nationwide Building Society	Yorkshire Bank
Village Hall		245.00
A Mennel		720.00
YLCA		26.00
Mazars		58.75
Playing Field		120.00
Balance carried forward		259.94
Total	550.53	1429.69

The accounts were accepted by the Meeting, subject to formal auditing.

PARISH MEETING ELECTIONS

The Chairman – Roger Dexter-Smith, the Parish Secretary – Mark Clook and the Treasurer – Andy Watt all stood for re-election and were accepted by the Meeting.

AoB

Village Hall Trustees: The Chairman informed the meeting that the Village Hall operates via a group of Trustees; he went on to highlight that the list of Trustees should include a representative from the Parish Meeting. It was agreed that the representative should be the Chairman.

Proposed changes to Ryedale District Council and North Yorkshire County Council: David Goodman highlighted his concern regarding the proposed formation of a single unitary body to replace both North Yorkshire County Council and Ryedale District Council. Due to the concern, it was agreed that the

Chairman and Secretary would organise a meeting where the pros and cons of all proposals could be aired and a 'village position' determined.

First Responder: The Chairman highlighted that the First Responders needs new volunteers and that there was a new training course starting in Kirkbymoorside.

Neighbourhood Watch: The Secretary informed the meeting that Oswaldkirk Neighbourhood Watch had organised a meeting for the village. The local Community Policeman – Ray Thwaites – had been invited and it was hoped to cover such items as cold calling, speeding traffic etc. The meeting was planned for Friday 25th May at 8 pm and will be held in the Village Hall. Details will be delivered to all household shortly.

Meeting Point: The Meeting noted that Eric Beadle had retired as the editor of Meeting Point – the meeting felt that the magazine was very important and wished to see it continue and hence encouraged people to volunteer to take over from Eric. The Meeting also wished to thank Eric for all his hard work over the years.

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 9.45 pm.