

OXSPRING PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Assembly On Monday 9th May 2011, at 6.30pm in Saint Aidans Church.

Present

Councillor I. Goldthorpe.	(IG)	(Chair.)
Councillor Shaw	(FS)	
Councillor W. Taylor.	(BT)	
Councillor Stanley.	(IS)	(Vice Chair.)

In Attendance

Mrs S Tolson (Clerk), Borough Councillor Robert Barnard, Peter Riley and Arthur Wood.

Apologies.

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor Mills. (BT, FS).

Councillor Goldthorpe in the Chair as retiring Chairperson of Oxspring Parish Council read the Notice of the Annual Assembly.

Minutes of the Annual Assembly held on Monday 11th May 2010, and Matters Arising from them.

The Clerk read through the minutes of the previous assembly and allowed comments and progress on items from the assembly as this was done.

There were no matters arising.

The minutes were agreed to be signed by the Chair as a true record following a proposal from Councillor Taylor, supported by Councillor Stanley.

The Parish Council Accounts for the year ending 31 March 2010

These together with the Internal and External Auditors' reports and certification of accounts were circulated for examination and comment or questions.

There were no questions from the Public or Councillors present.

Reports of the Parish Council Representatives and Associated Bodies.

Oxspring Brownies.

A verbal report given to the Clerk was read out. Oxspring Brownies are thriving with 28 girls now. However more leaders are needed.

Penistone Rural Road Safety Committee.

Councillor Taylor. No report as there were no meetings.

Oxspring United Football Club.

Councillor Stanley gave a verbal report on Football Clubs 2010/2011 season. He reported that the Saturday side adult team had folded mid season, and therefore incurred penalties. The Sunday side finished mid table. The Under 13's had done well, with several new players and finished mid table. The under 9's had done well and Andy had worked well with them, they also finished mid table. The

OXSPRING PARISH COUNCIL

under 11's were the star team and won their league. He reported that the juniors had achieved Charter standard which is a great achievement for the club.

Oxspring Truncheon Runners.

A verbal report to the Clerk by **Andy Plummer** had been received. The Truncheon is going from strength to strength, with record numbers in the 1st and 2nd races. The first race had 290 seniors and 65 juniors, whilst the 2nd race saw 278 seniors and 45 juniors. He reported that runners come from miles around to take part.

Oxspring Primary School PTA.

The PTA sent a written report as follows:

Another busy time for Oxspring PTA this year, we have held our annual Christmas Fayre and once again rose over £1200 from which we were able to fund an extension for our school stage. As the extension of the school hall is complete, we have a wonderful space now in which to hold our concerts and events, the stage making the Christmas play all the more enjoyable!

We have also held the Valentines disco on February, which was a great success and the children had a fabulous time with all the extra room to dance...and the teachers! Other fundraising schemes included "Back to Front" dressing up day and from the monies raised the school was able to twin two of its toilets with latrines in war-affected villages in Burundi, via a charity.

With our money raising efforts and also school funding, we will be purchasing some new PC's and laptops for the school, which will be of tremendous benefit to the children.

This year we held the annual school sports day at EIS (English Institute of Sport) in Sheffield, this was a really great day and enjoyed by all the children (and parents!) it meant the weather could not spoil the day and the facilities at EIS are fantastic. We will hopefully be booking this again for next year.

The annual Duck Race has been booked for Friday 8th July this year at Bower Dell and hopefully the weather will stay dry!! We hope you will be able to come along and support the day, where you will enjoy a fantastic day out and maybe even win a prize!

Oxspring Gala Fund

The Clerk had received a written report from **Councillor Booth**. The report was as follows:

The two Trustees Ian Stanley and Chris Booth hold the balance of this fund in a bank account and it is available to any individual or community group as start up funding who wish to put on a village community event/gala on the condition that from proceeds the money is returned to the account. These funds can be accessed via the trustees by contact with the Clerk to the Parish Council.

Oxspring Heritage Group.

The Clerk had received a written report from **Councillor Booth**. The report was as follows:

The group held their AGM on 20 January 2011 and agreed to close down the group and wind up its activities

Its files are to be lodged with the Archive Section of Barnsley Central Library Shambles Street where they will be available all for research and information.

The last four executive committee members are to become Fund Trustees of the group's final account's balance as verified by OPC Clerk. These funds are to be available as grants to individuals or community groups from Oxspring who wish to have start up funds to carry out environmental or heritage projects with and to the benefit of Oxspring parish. The Parish Council has agreed to direct any applications to these trustees.

Christmas activities such as the carol singing events and walks will continue through the individuals' own actions. The Carol Books are available through the individuals as before

OXSPRING PARISH COUNCIL

The parish council has agreed to put onto its website information relating to the above grants and the booklet “Walks in the Parish of Oxspring” which they published and distributed some years ago.

CARE

The Clerk had received an email report from **Councillor Booth**. The report was as follows:

The 2009/10 accounts saw an opening figure of 1315.6, and insurance payment of 286.54 with a year end balance of 1029.68. Previous years have been similar. Group expenditure under a different account covers purchase of materials, trees, shrubs, wild flower seed, and replacement of some tools – a broken bow-saw in January will need replacing.

CARE Silkstone has seen a rise in volunteer numbers.

Oxspring Friends.

Councillor Shaw gave a verbal report. The report was as follows:

All is fine. The bonanza was a success, and the Senior's tea is next week. Not many tickets have been returned so far. The pop-in club is due to start next week and there are four organisers. It will be on Wednesdays from 2-4 and cake and tea/coffee will be served for a small donation. The Titivators gardening group did some planting at the front of the church recently. She reported also that the indoor bowling is doing well and is paying its way. More members would be very welcome.

OPSCC

The Clerk had received a written report from **Councillor Booth**. The report was as follows:

SECOND YEAR REVEIW- 2011

Following our first full year of spectacular progress, year two has not seen the same sort of movement despite a lot of hard tenacious work, mostly in raising funding.

In order to fund the cost of hiring in professional consultants to help us construct a robust business plan with which to approach the major grant providers for the detailed design and construction phases of the community facility, much time has been spent approaching charities, foundations and trusts nationally, local businesses and celebrities.

These have produced an income restricted for expenditure on the business plan from the Carbutt Trust (Cawthorne), John Lewis Partnership (Sheffield), and Mick McCarthy and his wife, with a further promise of funding from the Freshgate Foundation (Sheffield).

We have been guided and supported in this endeavour by Helen Goldsby-West through her pro-bono advice to us.

Further pro-bono support through Pro-Help has seen us develop our design brief and layout plan within the Michael Clynych outline which already had planning permission.

This brought us into contact with Chris Booth a Quantity Surveyor with Turner Townsend and Neil Ritchie of Enrich Design, an architect, who together have further contracted with us to produce professional reports on construction costs, design elements, contractual matters, and the tendering procedures of design and construction.

In addition local builder Martin White of White Build, Leeds has reported on implications should a phased delivery of the centre be required.

OXSPRING PARISH COUNCIL

All of these elements took care of the funds provided in year two of our SYCF Grassroots Grant.

At the same time negotiations with Oxspring Parish Council have continued to realise the identified site on the playingfield through a 65 year lease. Whilst our solicitor Alan Robinson from Voluntary Action Barnsley has been prompt and attentive, it appears the same cannot be said of OPC's team, and the final draft of the lease is only now being produced.

With welcome free help and advice from local resident Tim Rivett our own website went live at the beginning of 2011, giving background and design details of the facilities, together with invitations for support, community involvement, donations and publicity.

Recently the project has been highlighted on Penistone FM local radio and in the Barnsley Chronicle. Our local MP Angela Smith has taken an interest, and having met to get a detailed briefing has offered the community development her support. Similarly the Leader of Barnsley MBC Steve Houghton has invited his team to offer help and support where it can and this is currently being explored.

Although funding is not yet in place for the business plan costs, applications are still being sought and contacts made to develop income and expertise in this area. There is also a need to take stock, evaluate the project, and set out our requirements for the next few years in light of the current economic climate and facility developments in the area, thus making the next twelve months interesting in prospect.

Oxspring Parish Allotments Manager.

Mrs Steph Tolson. The Clerk presented the Council's Allotment register which would now be circulated amongst Council members as required by law for information. She then read out the following report:

There are currently no vacant allotments.

All allotments for the Year starting 1st April 11 have been fully paid for except one on West Crescent. Two reminders have been sent since the original invoice. This plot will be offered to the next person on the waiting list if payment is not received within the next couple of weeks.

All allotment holders have signed new contracts this year. The new contract was agreed by the Council in December 10 and is more comprehensive than before.

There are currently 26 names on the Waiting list. 7 of those on the list are Oxspring residents, and therefore priority will be given to these when a plot becomes vacant.

5 people joined the waiting list in the last year. 3 plots had tenant changes during the last financial year, all were at West Crescent, and given to Oxspring residents. At this rate of turnover, the wait is approximately 2 or 3 years for an Oxspring resident. As we have approximately two or three Oxspring residents joining the list each year, then non Oxspring residents have very little chance of being offered a plot in the foreseeable future.

Oxspring Parish Council Chair's Report.

Councillor Goldthorpe submitted a written report which he read out. The report was as follows:

At long last after years of argument and discussion, our Parish Council provided funding to replace the old water culvert which goes across the playing field on Sheffield Road. Now that this major project has been completed I hope that

OXSPRING PARISH COUNCIL

further projects to improve the playing field will be completed. With regard to funding for these projects, may I suggest that we ask Oxspring Heritage Group if they would be willing to contribute.

I would now like to mention our parish allotments. Over the last two years we have spent a lot of money disposing of rubbish and asbestos that tenants have left behind. Clays Green allotments are now looking like a rubbish tip just inside the gate and I think this needs some action from the Council before we are landed with another rubbish removal bill.

Finally I would like to thank all members for their help, particularly Steph for all her good work.

Observations from Members of the Parish.

Peter Riley from Penistone Friends of the Earth asked if they could do some Bee Friendly planting in Bower Dell. They have applied for some match funding from Oxspring Heritage Group. It is a project that they intend to do with Oxspring Primary School and expect that each child will be able to plant a flower. The plan would be to do it on an un-mown area. The existing shrubs would be cut back and then planting done a few weeks later. This was agreed. (BT,IS). Councillors Taylor and Stanley gave Mr Riley their contact details with a view to meeting at Bower Dell.

Councillor Robert Barnard spoke to the Council about the budget cuts at BMBC and that there had not been any increase in the Council Tax. This year's budget has been cut by £26million, and therefore we may see some reductions in some services. There will be further reductions in budgets next year. Litter and fly tipping were discussed. Roadside café's were discussed and Councillor Barnard will find out if they get inspected in the same way that permanent eating places do. Councillor Barnard also spoke about the Windmill situation at Sheephouse Heights. No planning applications have been submitted although scoping reports have been done for three turbines of varying heights, 125 – 145m.

Arthur Wood approached the subject of speeding in the village in Particular on the section of Roughbitchworth Lane near the Village Green. Councillor Barnard will look at putting a SID on this stretch so that some speed data can be obtained. He will look into passing on data obtained from SIDS that have been previously placed in the village. Councillor Shaw stated that speeding on this road had been investigated in the past, as had blocking off the road at one end, making it one-way and putting in speed bumps. All investigations had been unsuccessful with BMBC.

The accumulation of rubbish inside the gate at Clays Green was discussed, as per the Chairman's report. It was agreed for the Clerk to write to the allotment holders requesting that they remove their rubbish from the pile and dispose of it safely elsewhere. If it doesn't get cleared the Council will have to get it removed and recharge the tenants for the removal. (IS,IG).

There was no further business.

This meeting was closed at 8pm.

Signed this day **2011**