



c/o: Ossett Community Centre,
Prospect Road, Ossett, WF5 8AN.

Notes of the meeting held on Thursday 26 March 2009

The meeting opened at 7.30pm.

Present: Ruth Amos, Peter Savage, David Mitchell, Janet Jones, Lynn Ross, Caron Ryalls, Emily Ryalls, Peter Walker.

Apologies: Mark Ryalls, Alec Metcalfe, Hartley Matthews, Counsellor Alison Ripley, Ian Day

1. Introduction & Welcome from the Chair

2. Approval of minutes from the last meeting

With the amendment to the heading of the Ossett Switch On for 28 November 2009, the minutes were approved:

Approved: David Mitchell

Seconded: Peter Savage

3. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising

4. Ossett Events – See social calendar

The visit to Ossett brewery to be arranged for mid May.

We agreed to look out for a good theatre trip to arrange, perhaps with a meal as well. There was some concern about the fairly low number of people who have bought a ticket for the 'History of Gawthorpe Maypole and the World Coal Carrying Championships' event on Saturday.

5. Newsletter and website

We have had over 8,500 hits on our website.

Edition 4 of the Newsletter was circulated and members expressed their thanks to Ian for producing a high quality, excellent March/April edition. The Newsletter will be made available at the event on Saturday and on the Chester trip. We need to think of what might be included in the next edition for the Summer. It was suggested that we have a 'junior section' and include an article for younger readers and perhaps a competition.

6. Secretary's report

Concern was expressed at the news that the archive in Wakefield Art Gallery was to be moved and paintings of Ossett's previous mayors were stored there. These paintings were very large, approximately 5 foot square. It was agreed that Peter would find out just where the painting were and what was being planned for their future storage and report back to the meeting.

We considered what we should do for the 10 -13 September Heritage Open Day scheme. Saturday, 12 September would be the best day to do something and we considered arranging trips round the Town Hall, Trinity Church and perhaps the old police station.

Peter had been successful in his bid for funding from Grassroots for sustainable shopping bags for Ossett. He had been awarded £680. A completion among the OCT members for the design for the bag would be arranged and entries to be submitted at the April meeting of the OCT. Profits made from the bags would be ploughed back into awards for future events.

Following the attendance of the Chair at the Wakefield Civic Society AGM, which was also attended by Blackpool CT members, an invite to the OCT members had been made to visit Blackpool. Progress will be reported at a future meeting.

7. Treasurer's report

Chris Jones had audited the year end accounts and a signed copy was with the Treasurer. The Treasurer reported the current balances and there was a reminder to all to pay their annual subs to Lynne.

8. Planning Report

The planning report was run through by David Mitchell. It was agreed that OCT will support the development proposals at Sowood, subject to improvements to road safety. The current state of that area was a cause for concern and it was considered that the proposed development would considerably improve the environment and the general safety in the area. The Planning Officer has been invited to attend the fortnightly Wakefield Civic Trust Planning Group meetings. This group meets with a planning officer from Wakefield and will include Ossett planning as part of their remit. This was considered by the group to be an excellent opportunity to influence thinking about planning in Ossett.

9. Roads & Parks

The siting of the road bumps that are currently being put in on the Green caused some concern to some members. Alison Ripley was trying to get an Illingworth Park Friends Group together. If she was successful, it was agreed that there would be some common issues to discuss with the Green Park Friends Group.

10. Social Calendar

Date
Event
To be arranged
Trip to Ossett Brewery
To be arranged
Ian Clayton evening
To be arranged
Theatre trip

28 March 2009

History of Gawthorpe Maypole and the World Coal Carrying Championships with pie and peas.

4 April 2009

Trip the Chester – FULLY BOOKED

11 April 2009

Eggstravaganza at Green Park, 10am to 12noon. Easter egg hunt, egg rolling and decorated egg competition. Everybody welcome.

11 July 2009

Ossett Gala

25th July 2009

Trip to Southport

12 September 2009

Heritage Open Day – Ossett events to be arranged

28th November 2009

Christmas in Ossett - Christmas switch on

5th December 2009 - tbc

The Lowry and Trafford Centre

11. Any Other Business

It was reported that Castleford had been successful in having the market and sports facilities under the Urban Renaissance heading. Ossett had benefitted to some extent and the area behind the Town Hall was to be refurbished. Castleford had had additional benefits due to it having a museum and members were asked to give consideration to developing a local museum in Ossett.

12. Next meeting Thursday 30 April 2009 at 7.30pm at Ossett Community Centre.

These minutes can be found on our website: **WWW.OSSETTCIVICTRUST.CO.UK**