



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

Notes of the meeting held on Thursday 30 September 2010

The meeting opened at 7.30pm.

Present: Ruth Amos, Peter Savage, David Mitchell, Angela Taylor, Caron Ryalls, Richard Taylor, Janet Jones, Lynn Ross, Peter Walker, Simone Bunney, Elizabeth Knowles, Peter Wood, Margaret Wilby, Ann Metcalfe, David Walmsley, Chris Walmsley, Roger Thornton, Ian Bunney, Tony Sargeant, David Smith, Alyson Ripley, Alec Metcalfe

Apologies: Rachael Winstanley, Ian Day

1. Introduction & Welcome from the Chair

The Chair welcomed members to the meeting. Members of the Civic Trust recently enjoyed a night out at the Royal Oak and the winners of the quiz were given their prize. Thanks were given to Angela and Richard for organising this.

2. Approval of minutes from the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting on 26 August 2010 were approved subject to a change of date on item 3 to 26 August:

Approved: Angela Taylor
Seconded: Lynn Ross

3. Matters Arising

The damage done in Green Park has been reported to WMDC and the Chair is pressing for the flooring to be repaired before the frost and the two swings returned. Concern was expressed that the longer it remained in the state it is in at the moment, the worse it will get. WMDC has said that they will improve the flooring. Concern was also expressed about the state of Illingworth Park

The Heritage Day was a success and the organist was present on the day to demonstrate the playing of the organ. It was reported that four times a year, practice can be carried out with no hire charge for the room.

We decided not to go ahead with the Pickering trip in November in view of the low numbers at the last trip but we will go ahead with the Newcastle trip on 8 December.

480 signatures for the on line petition of the objection of the closure of the trip had been registered plus the 3168 signatures on paper. The council has not yet acknowledged the paper signatures. Our understanding is that these are being checked and counted by the Council after which the Council should respond to each of the objections. Discussion took place as to how the Council could do this.

On the LDF we had 2020 names on the petition and 467 letters of objection which Angela delivered yesterday. This is still open for consultation. Strong concern was expressed about the lack of consultation by the Council on the future plans on the site of the tip. The LDF document was put together originally in 2004. In 2008 there was a consultation on the waste management, at which point, we were not aware of the proposals regarding the travellers site.

Councillor Bunney, a new councillor expressed his view that it was known that that tip was going to close for 3 years. In response it was reported that the Lib/Dem party newsletter, Focus, in 2009, stated that the tip was going to close. Following some heated debate, Elizabeth Knowles left the meeting.

The Chair stressed that OCT had to work together to do the best for Ossett.

Angela read out a statement regarding the public meeting which she had organised in her own right, offering her perspective about the issues around the organisation of the meeting. It was acknowledged by a number of members present that they were unaware of some of the issues expressed in the statement .

It was agreed that any actions done in the name of the OCT must be first cleared by Ruth as Chair of the Trust or Peter Savage as Media Liaison.

4. Ossett Events – See social calendar

It was agreed that OCT would have a stall this year, for £15, at the Ossett Christmas lights switch on. Notelets and bags would be sold on the stall. We also agreed to have a tombola. **PLEASE REMEMBER** to bring prizes for the tombola to the next meeting. Janet and Lynn agreed to organise this.

5. Newsletter and website

Thanks to Ian Day for updating the website, which continues to attract interest. Anyone who thinks they have an idea for a feature or material of interest should speak to Ruth.

6. Secretary's report

The planning decision had been made that Owl Lane will stay open to 2013. Babcocks has now bought out VT environmental engineering who were the waste management company and the preferred bidder to take on the next stage of waste management. The tip on Denby Dale will take two years to be reconditioned during which time Owl Lane will take the brunt of the waste for the west of the district. Our objections should continue on the basis that the Denby Dale may not be able to cope with the demand if Owl Lane closes. It was agreed that one of our most compelling reasons for objection would be the concern that severe queues on the main road for the Denby Dale tip will continue if Owl Lane closed.

OCT had been asked for a nomination to go on Dewsbury Civic Trust Award panel. It was agreed that Ruth would be the nomination.

A roll call of those people from Horbury who died during the war, is read out on Armistice Day. The roll of names of people from Ossett who died during the first and second world wars is framed and has been found. We considered that the roll should be on display and read out on Armistice Day in Ossett. The Town Hall has some archive material which needs to be renovated but we haven't any resources to do this. There is also the magistrates' chair which needs to be reupholstered. The decoration in the Town Hall needs improvement. Peter Savage is working with WMDC to see if we can get any repairs/improvements made. We will also obtain a quote for the re-upholstering and consider if we can fund this from OCT.

The question was asked about the history of the war memorial as it was noted that it does not specifically mention Ossett. Anyone with any information about the memorial should contact the Chair. Full roll of all the names of Ossett are thought to be in the in Trinity church.

7. Treasurer's report

The Treasurer reported the current balances and there was a reminder to anyone who has not yet paid to pay their annual subs to Lynn.

8. Planning Report

The planning report was run through by Peter Walker. The only point of note was the change of use following the closing down of the concrete site at Flushdyke. The company who was getting this site has another site in Dewsbury and the Flushdyke site is likely to be for scrap metal. Concern was expressed about the volume and type of traffic between Dewsbury and Flushdyke given the current state of repair of the road.

9. Roads & Parks

Concern was expressed about the litter within the parks and the town.

It was noted that some of the stone from the walls around Ossett parks has been stolen because it has been lying on the ground for so long awaiting repair.

19 February 2011 is a date to note for the Road Safety dinner in the community Centre.

We would consider Millers down Healey Road for our next meal out, depending on the price.

It was pointed out that anti social powers were probably unlawful. An article was read out which included the rationale for travellers sites.

10. Social Calendar

Date	Event
Ideas for future events that can be arranged	
	Trip to Ossett Brewery; Ian Clayton Evening; Theatre Trip; Ossett Open Gardens
Past Events during 2010	
3 April	Eggstravaganza at Green Park, 10am to 12noon.
15 April	Members night out at Ghandi Spice, Ossett
17 April	Crazy golf night at Primrose Hall, Horbury
24 April	Trip to Liverpool
1 May	Gawthorpe May Day
10 July	Ossett Gala
24 July	Barbeque in the Jones' garden
8 August	Trip to see the Tall Ships at Hartlepool
4 September	Elizabethans dinner – a formal 'do'
Planned Events	
27 November	Ossett Lights switch on. Christmas Fayre. OCT to have a stall – selling notelets,
8 December	Trip to Newcastle, special visits arranged to various places courtesy of Mark being a freeman of Newcastle
19 February 2011	Road Safety dinner

11. Any Other Business

The LDF contains the green infrastructure, to include all the woodlands in the district. Key development site is round Flushdike/Dewsbury Road/Holiday Inn.

Little Monsters site – It was understood that Weatherspoons have put in a bid. Churches in Ossett are working together to try and raise sufficient money to keep it as it is.

14 October – there will be a funding fayre in the Town Hall.

Angela confirmed that there would be a protest march on Saturday afternoon starting from the Town Hall. The march would walk through to Dewsbury Rams, passed the tip and meet up with a march from Dewsbury.

We were reminded that there is a waste pit under site of the tip. This was used at a time when we were less careful about what was tipped there. A risk assessment will be needed before any houses or travellers site is built.

Concern was expressed about the look of Ossett. Again, the issue of the lack of accessible toilet facilities in Ossett was raised.

12. Next meeting Thursday 28 October 2010 at 7.30pm at Ossett Community Centre.

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

