

## **Oliver's Battery Countryside Group Minutes of Annual General Meeting 19 May 2008**

### **Present**

Clare Shorter, Martin Keys, Norma Goodwin, Alison Hull, Gordon Gunn, Peter Land and Brain Shorter. Celia arrived towards the end of the meeting.

### **Apologies**

Angela Housden and Helen Short

### **Minutes of Last Meeting**

Were agreed to be correct. Proposed by Martin and seconded by Alison

### **Matters Arising**

At some time the Parish Council to be approached to pay the annual BTCV fees as our income does not cover these which currently come from the remaining money from the grants.

### **Chairman's Report**

**Phase 1** was successful as the conservation area is flourishing. Clare expressed thanks to Mr Coney for rabbit control and Ben Spraggens for mowing the meadow which he does without charge. Clare sent them both a Christmas card.

**Phase 2** Peter has produced a wonderful website. This needs publicity and we our aim is to get more people involved with the group which covers the whole of Oliver's Battery Countryside, not just the conservation area.

Clare and Norma were involved in the early meetings of the Greening Campaign and Alison and Gordon had gone to the open meeting.

**Future** We need to monitor and record, maintain and improve and increase the number of people to come here and appreciate the area. Create links with the local school and encourage them to use area for their studies.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Martin produced a draft balance sheet which has an error that he will correct before presenting it for auditing. Balance currently in bank £1832.20. Assets include equipment used for practical conservation. Membership fees are now due and we need more members. Income needs to be generated to cover the annual costs of £240-£250 pa. See balance sheet.

### **Election of Officers**

Chair – Clare Shorter prop. by Alison & seconded by Martin

Treasurer – Martin prop. by Clare & seconded by Norma

Secretary – Norma prop. by Clare & seconded by Brian

Alison. Peter and Gordon agreed to remain on the committee.

### **Any Other Business**

The wording of the signs at either end of the CA are user unfriendly and it was proposed that the Parish Council be approached for the wording to be modified. Norma will draft a letter to the PC with the proposed re-wording which was discussed at length. Clare to sign the letter.

Peter is soon to change our web provider which will be cheaper and allow more space. We will have a new website name.

Norma is to ask the local Post Office if they will hold some of our small website cards & she will produce a poster for the parish notice board advertising these and the CA.

Norma to put a small write up in Community News about the group and its website once the new website is launched and we know its name. (NB the deadline for the next Community News was passed a week before our AGM so article will go in the autumn issue)

Norma to contact Darren at Banyards- 07799 061879 to spray the brambles, nettles (not those at the near entrance), burdock plants and a circle around all the trees. (NB we are owed a free bramble spray as that of last September was unsuccessful.)

Norma is to contact Ben Spraggens to mow the grassy area around the seat as soon as is convenient for him so the public can enjoy using it. He will need 2 helpers to rake the cuttings as he goes so Norma will ask for some dates so that these can be organised.

We need some future events and another moth evening was muted as well as a camp-fire evening. These are still to be planned.

Norma Goodwin  
May 2008