

- **ORAC Meeting Thursday 3rd August 2017 @ 19:45**

Present: Dave Cox, Neil Flack, Di Noller, Alison Davenport Jones, Sandra Cox, Julia Pointer, Nigel Woodhouse, Anne Stainsby, Neil Sizer,

Apologies:

Absent: Debbie Phillips, Gordon Erhorn

Dave opened the meeting at 19:47

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed.

Future pop up pubs, improvements, advertising

It was confirmed that the Pop Up Pub will be 18.30 - 11 pm every Friday until the end of August.

Success of the pop up was discussed and it was agreed to continue putting flyers around the village. Redlingfield have their own PUP once a month: it was agreed that we will advertise there too. NF will visit the new Beaconsfield Arms landlords at The Magpie in Stowmarket to find out what's happening with the pub, and invite them to our event on Friday so they can get to know their potential clientele.

Julia will ask Terry to produce flyers and the committee ladies will deliver them as before. Flyers will be dropped off at Dave and Sandra's on Saturday 5th August

Future main events

Ideas agreed upon:

Harvest Quiz night Saturday 23rd September. Trophy and bottle of fizz for winners, wooden spoon for last place. Ploughman's supper. £7.50 per ticket. Max 8 in a team.

Alison and Steve are setting the questions. The committee will do the catering.

October 28th Race night - to be discussed in more detail at the next meeting.

Christmas Dinner booked 2nd December

Hall maintenance

Sandra has vastly improved the standard of cleanliness so now it is easier to maintain the hall.

No need for a rota at the moment but SC will co-ordinate the cleaning.

Key for outside bins: Di will get the key from Andrew Crisp and also look into getting an extra recycling bin.

Treasurer's report

Di passed around copies of the statement since the last report.

Balance: £14,211.86

Petty cash £754.48

No 2 Account (Lunch club) £1,135.07

A copy of the report is on file

Invoice expected from the engineer re his visit to look at the old dishwasher

A total of £609.43 profit is showing from recent events. There is a good amount of stock for the bar.

Di is working on a grant from the National Lottery. No successful grant applications so far.

Dave thanked Di for her report.

Hall extension

The committee agreed to spend £150 on the redrawing of plans. Dave explained how the new plans will afford more space (loft) and better fire safety / exits.

Village green

Steve Jones has made a good start on tidying the green. Dave would like to identify the trees that need cutting down. A wildlife area is being created for hedgehogs, and flower seeds and bulbs will be planted. BT will be informed they must pay £10 a week storage fee for their defunct phone box if they don't remove it. We hope to install a bench in the near future, and the monument is being cleaned up.

Dave extended thanks to Steve for his voluntary work.

Oracle

Debbie and Julia are meeting to discuss the new edition of Oracle. New articles to include upcoming events, recipes, interviews, puzzles etc.

Dave suggested using a better quality paper as advertisers might be more interested. Football reports, Martial arts, W.I and other clubs will be invited to submit reports for inclusion.

NS pointed out that content doesn't need to be restricted to Occold and it would be good to include areas outside as well.

Playground

ROSPA is due to visit in September. There is an £84 fee for the inspection.

Members suggested asking local businesses e.g. Aspalls and Plinth for financial assistance. Brandon's may be able to help with bark for the playground: NS will find contact details. Dave will appeal for help on the Facebook page, Residents of Occold.

AOB

It was agreed that the ORAC section on the village website needs updating and improving. We may be able to secure more bookings for the hall if it is better presented online. NF will speak to Barry Woods.

NS asked if there is any way a barrier can be installed to stop the boy racers speeding around the hall car park as it is a nightly occurrence.

The police will be informed and given the registration number of the worst offender's vehicle.

Next meeting Thursday 31st August 19:45

Dave closed the meeting at 21.47