

Annual General Meeting of OGRA – Wednesday 5 July 2023 - at Queens Arms

Present: Andrea Heathcote (Vice Chair), Janet Bingham (Secretary) Stella Jones (Treasurer) Tony Bingham, Louise Hughes, Alison Muir, Sheila Wilkinson
High Peak Borough Councillors – Paul Hardy & Adie Hopkinson + approx. 25 residents
Apologies: Clare Lawrence, Sue Welch, Jean Wharmby (Derbyshire County Councillor)

1. Welcome from the Vice Chair & apologies: The Vice Chair welcomed all attendees and gave apologies received from Committee members & from Jean Wharmby.

2. Previous AGM & EGM minutes – these were distributed for all to review and were accepted as an accurate reflection of the meetings.

3. Matters Arising - There were no matters arising as all had been addressed through committee meetings throughout the year and had been reported on in the minutes of these meetings

4. Vice Chair's Annual Report

The Vice Chair gave a brief overview of community activities over the year – Stream clean, Christmas Fair, Senior Citizens Lunch, and other areas where OGRA had been asked to become involved – Be Well Man Shed, Jack Badger Autumn Festival. She reminded everyone that OGRA is not a pressure group but it exists to protect and - where appropriate - enhance residents' quality of life; to protect the physical, natural and cultural heritage of the village; and to help build a strong and caring community, as per our Constitution, which is on OGRA's website.

5. Secretary's Annual Report

The Secretary gave an update on community action, support and advice OGRA had provided over the year around: the overflow channel on the Hawkshead Grange development; providing leaflets and press releases for the stream clean; putting up posters for the Christmas Fair; inviting residents to the Senior Citizens Christmas lunch; providing the community with a Spring Newsletter; alerting residents to the review of the Local Plan and putting forward an OGRA response bearing in mind the situation in Old Glossop; informing residents how to report the potholes & general poor state of roads in the village and generally posting useful information on the Facebook page, and also placing hard copies on the village Noticeboard.

6. Treasurer's report

The treasurer reported that the bank balance in June 2022 was £4,975.32. At 15th June 2023 the balance in the bank was £5883.05 – an increase of just over £900 – with some outstanding invoices of approximately £300 to settle. OGRA funds are obtained through the main fundraiser of the Christmas Fair and from donations from local businesses, organisations and councillors, for which thanks were given. (Howmet Aerospace, Shepley's, the Queens, the Bulls Head, the Scouts, local and county councillors). Over the year OGRA has spent funds on: a village Noticeboard, providing a Christmas dinner & raffle prizes for our Senior Citizens, a skip for the village stream clean, replacing a broken planter, providing new planters and a continuous flow of plants. OGRA also donates 50% of the stall holders' donations made at the Christmas Fair to Glossop Mountain Rescue and this year that was £510. We have also supported a Ukrainian family in the locality. The balance is currently healthy and the Committee is open to suggestions of what else we can do in the village to improve the environment.

7. Election of Officers to Committee

All current officers and Committee Members are willing to continue in their positions and were appropriately nominated, seconded and voted in. No-one came forward to be Chair so the current Vice Chair will continue carrying out that role in the interim. One resident expressed an interest in being on the Committee, which will be discussed further with him.

It was noted that there were several residents willing to become involved in practical ways for particular events but who didn't necessarily want to be part of the Committee.

8. Update on Planning applications

OGRA monitors the planning portal and advises residents of any significant applications, gives advice if requested on how to comment and on which material planning considerations you can comment. There are 4 live planning applications and OGRA has made representations on each:

- **52 dwellings on the Shire Hill Hospital site** – permission has been granted to build & the site has been bought by Cube homes who invited comments from residents on the development & OGRA responded. They will now seek planning consent for their proposals.
- **56 dwellings on land east of Bute Street** – no action but the application remains live

- **10 houses on land north east of Highstones on Bute Street** – further details & reports from the applicant are required
- **6 houses on land off Blackshaw Clough** – no action but the application remains live

9. Updates from local and/or county councillors on issues affecting Old Glossop

Concerns had been raised by residents about: the building of more houses, in spite of the infrastructure not able to support more development; the amount of 'rat run' traffic; speeding, and, on the state of the roads. Both local councillors advised about ensuring any comments on planning applications make reference to material considerations and that infrastructure is an important consideration for planners. There was discussion about a previously suggested one way system but this had been rejected by residents in the past due to fears of speeding and inconvenience for residents. Whilst many issues regarding roads and traffic are the responsibility of Derbyshire CC, the two councillors present said they would take local concerns forward. Committee thanked the councillors for ensuring that DCC replaced the broken wooden bollards on the parking area on Shepley/Wesley Street.

It was disappointing that the County Councillor could not be present but we had received an email advising that infrastructure questions related to planning needed to go to HPBC. In relation to the traffic issues, DCC had previously put in place physical traffic calming measures, a weight limit & more recently widened the footpath for pedestrian safety and to help to manage traffic. Road safety records show only one injury collision over the past 3 years which is a key factor in determining any further interventions & so no further interventions are planned.

The local councillors recommended that any and all incidences are reported to the police as this would be the only way anything further would be actioned. Also report any small mammal deaths too.

10. Updates on and suggestions for Community Events and Initiatives

- **Christmas Market** – this will take place on Sunday 3rd December 2023
- **Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch** – this will take place on Tuesday 12th December 2023, subject to agreement by The Queens
- **Stream Clean** – sometime in the autumn Oct/Nov 2023
- **Planters/Bulb planting** – sometime in the autumn Oct/Nov 2023 Also to consider other areas of the village that would benefit from plants/planting
- **Noticeboard** – the Noticeboard is in operation and is to inform and advise local residents about: community events, well-being activities and regular activities taking place in Old Glossop. There will be information on who to contact about various issues and general phone numbers/email addresses.
- **Shelf Moor Memorial Race and Autumn Festival organised by Glossopdale Harriers and Jack Badger** – this will take place on Saturday 23rd Sept 2023. Ben from Jack Badger spoke about the plans for this event, with regard to road closures, music, food, activities & an open invitation to residents. They had consulted with nearby residents. OGRA to support by looking at activities for children.
- **Man Shed project organised by Be Well CIC Glossop** – Mick Owen outlined this project & that it was going forward with the support of the church. There would be more information once concrete plans had been made.
- **Suggestions on initiatives for the year ahead** – the Committee is open to residents coming forward with any other ideas and they can either speak directly to us or email us with ideas on ograplanning@gmail.com There was a suggestion that we look at the street furniture in Old Glossop as it does not seem to be in keeping with the Conservation Area status.

11. Any Other Business

A suggestion of organising a Warm Hub in the Scout Hut was put forward, with the aim of providing support for people who might be struggling - with OGRA paying for the hire and electricity costs. The Committee had been asked to look at this last year and had discussed this at the Committee Meeting in September 2022 but decided that the scout hut was not an appropriate venue as a Warm Hub. Investigations had shown that whilst the Parish Church might be a better venue, it was not intending to provide this facility. Also, that it would be better to look at the many activities that are already available in Glossop and encourage OG residents to take part. Information about these activities & existing Warm Hubs could be posted on the noticeboard. There was also a comment made that there was someone struggling in Old Glossop. If this information is passed on to the Committee it will consider how best to support.

The Meeting closed at 9.30pm