

OXENHOPE MILLENNIUM GREEN TRUST

Registered Charity 1076941

Chair's Report to the Annual General Meeting, 2016

This is my second report as Chair of the Trust and I'm pleased to be able to reflect on another largely positive year.

The village fête was held on Saturday 18 July 2015. The weather was kind and the village turned out in good number to enjoy activities on the Green.

This year this was not without a sigh of collective relief by the Trustees, as the organisational lynchpin, Celia Holmes, had sadly suffered ill health the preceding week and was in hospital over in Liverpool. I am of course delighted to observe that Celia made a full recovery and I think we are looking forward to a less frantic run up to the 2016 fête!

Despite our nervousness, everything fell into place and as usual everyone involved worked tirelessly to make the day a success.

This year we also benefitted from a fantastic selection of raffle prizes, thanks to Parish Councillor Joyce Harrop and the generosity of an anonymous benefactor. Thanks also to the hard work of the ticket sellers, the raffle made a substantial contribution to the surplus generated by the fête, which will make a much needed contribution to the upkeep of the Green for the ongoing enjoyment of the village.

On Boxing Day, Storm Eva caused havoc across the country and we were all reminded of the power of nature as several tonnes of riverbed stone and gravel was displaced from below the weir in the Green, creating a deep pool and damaging paths and fencing. Repair and restoration will also erode our finances and serves as a stark reminder of the importance of fund raising, sponsorship and donation. Maintained entirely from the proceeds of these activities, the sustainability of The Green depends on our collective efforts in these regards.

As usual, I would ask all involved to give careful consideration to other fund raising opportunities and to activities that could be undertaken on the Green, both during the fête and at other times.

I would also welcome suggestions over wider engagement with the community. Support of a few more volunteers would I think be very helpful.

I would like once again to thank present Trustees, members of the Fête Committee and volunteers, for freely giving their time to ensure that Oxenhope continues to benefit from a village Green.

Thanks also to all those who support and help and attend at the fête and those who use and care for the Green.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Ken Eastwood". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending from the end of the name.

Chair, Oxenhope Millennium Green Trust

2015/16 Trustees

Ken Eastwood (Chair)

Chris Coupland (Secretary)

Andrew Collinson (Treasurer)

Tony Jones

Celia Holmes

Jeremy Mackrell MBE

Richard Berry