

**MINUTES OF THE PARISH ASSEMBLY OF ROECLIFFE AND WESTWICK**  
**PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 14<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2016 AT ROECLIFFE SCHOOL**

**1. Present**

Cllr Bolland, Cllr Siswick, Cllr Reeve, Cllr Jarvis, Cllr Ogden, Cllr Green, District Cllr Brown, Janet Entwistle and 24 members of the public.

**2. Apologies**

John Mitchell

**3. Minutes of Last Meeting (20/04/2014)**

These were agreed as correct after Cllr Ogden pointed out that he was at the previous meeting and the amendment made.

**4. Neighbourhood Plan Report**

Paul Say gave the report. He had intended to present via laptop but the technology had let him down! He detailed to the meeting what the Neighbourhood Plan consisted of: namely, what is important for the parish going forward. It is an opportunity to document and articulate the views of the parish in conjunction with the HBC Plan.

The approach that had been decided upon by the Steering Group was as follows:

- Listen and seek people's views. This had been done via the survey which had been distributed both electronically and in paper form for 6 weeks commencing 6<sup>th</sup> February.
- The feedback is then to be reviewed with comments and observations allocated to appropriate groups
- Document: The Neighbourhood Plan is then to be documented based on the feedback received.

The survey had resulted in excellent engagement from the community. There had been 120+ responses out of a potential 190. &5% of these had asked to be kept informed of progress, via website, email or other forms of communication. Around 30% of those who had responded offered their help.

Paul then proceeded to summarise the feedback from the survey. People not only love the beauty of the parish; there was also a sense of enjoyment of the community as a whole. There were a number of challenges identified of which traffic issues, such as speeding and parking were specifically mentioned. Other areas of concern included the use of a central meeting place: The School and Church were specifically mentioned. There was nigh on a 50:50 split on the need for further housing. Those who wished for further housing were mainly focussed on affordable or owner/occupied properties. Security was not a major issue apart for a potential need for traffic calming measures (not necessarily Sleeping Policemen). There was also a desire to improve accessibility, both improving footpaths for walking and those used for recreational purposes. Concerns were also raised regarding the Environment, specifically noise and litter (especially around the business park). There was no appetite for additional lighting.

The next steps had been identified and it had been agreed that the feedback be communicated in full to the village. Then prioritisation of requirements could commence. Another meeting

would be arranged for August/ September to more thoroughly share the results with parishioners.

In response to a question from the floor regarding timescales, Janet Entwistle from HBC updated the meeting on progress with HBC's development plan. Our Neighbourhood Plan would become part of HBC's Statutory Development Plan. The next consultation was in October which would lead to a draft plan being published. HBC would look to share evidence with the Steering Group and provide guidance and advice going forward. Our plans fit well with HBC's plans: they intend to have their plan finalised by Autumn 2018; we need to have our plan completed by the end of 2017.

A question from the floor was raised regarding previous HBC plans and what had become of them. Janet responded that, due to changes in legislation and policy these had become outdated. In addition, the idea of the new plan was to incorporate both a strategic and specific approach in one document.

District Cllr Brown informed the meeting that, of the 7 parishes he represented, Roecliffe & Westwick showed the most community spirit and was the only one looking to compile a Neighbourhood Plan. He also detailed the proposed changes by the Boundary Commission for the Newby Ward: there was no affect to Roecliffe although it was proposed that Newby ward would lose the parishes of Sharow, Copt Hewick and Bridge Hewick. The ward would gain Bishop Monkton, Cundall and Norton-le-Clay.

Cllr Bolland gave his thanks to all and informed the meeting that District Cllr Brown would be the new Mayor of the Borough of Harrogate from 23<sup>rd</sup> May. District Cllr Brown added the proviso of "if elected" on May 5<sup>th</sup>!

#### **5. Chairman's Report**

Cllr Bolland gave the Chairman's report. This is incorporated under Appendix 1 of the minutes.

#### **6. Finance Report**

The Clerk gave the financial report for the Parish Council. This is incorporated under Appendix 7 of the minutes.

#### **7. Planning Report**

Cllr Siswick gave the Planning Report for the year. Among the applications that had been discussed by the Parish Council he noted the following:

- The Reed Boardall application for extension of their cold store had been passed and was now awaiting agreement of the conditions imposed
- The erection of three buildings (reduced to 2) on the land to the north of Holmside Farm had been passed
- Aaztec Associates application for a root barrier on a 150-year-old oak tree affecting their premises had been passed.
- A kitchen extension for Roecliffe School had been passed.
- An extension for River Cottage had been passed
- The Camping and Caravan site's application for 22 grass pitches to hard standings had been passed
- An application by Paynes Dairies for the conversion of a site to a wagon park had been passed subject to conditions.

- An application for the conversion of a garage to living accommodation for Morton House had been passed.
- Crown lifting at Tithe House had been approved
- An application for the erection of accommodation for agricultural workers at Roecliffe Nursery had been strongly opposed by the Parish Council and subsequently denied.
- Formation of a concrete footing and crown thinning at The Old Vicarage was pending
- An alteration to a previous application for Kirby Joinery was approved

#### **8. Headteacher's Report**

Kerry Dalton gave the Headteacher's Report. This is incorporated under Appendix 2 of the minutes.

#### **9. Village Fund Report**

Carolyn Collin gave the Village Fund Report. This is incorporated under Appendix 3 of the minutes.

#### **10. Parochial Church Council Report**

Jim Bolland gave the PCC Report. This is incorporated under Appendix 4 of the minutes.

#### **11. WI Report**

Helen Davison gave the W.I. report. This is incorporated under Appendix 5 of the minutes.

#### **12. Neighbourhood Watch Report**

Jim Bolland gave the Neighbourhood Watch report. This is incorporated under Appendix 6 of the minutes. Stuart Varley also reported on the activities of The Roecliffe Park Neighbourhood Watch Group: there had been no issues this year apart from a sighting of a car parked near Johnson's Gate. This had disappeared before anyone could ascertain the reason for it being there.

The meeting closed at 20:27.

## APPENDIX 1

### CHAIRMAN'S REPORT.

I would like to start by thanking my fellow Cllrs and Parish Clerk for all their help over the past year. With this year being an election year for new Parish Councillors we now have to say farewell to three who are resigning and will not stand in May. These are Peter Hutchinson, who has been a Councillor for Westwick for many years and who has now moved home, Stephen Jarvis, who already has many responsibilities in Roecliffe, especially being a Roecliffe Primary School Governor, a member of Roecliffe P.C.C. and a Church Warden, and by no means least having four children to look after, and finally Glen Ogden who has been a Councillor for some forty years, and now feels that some new blood is needed. I would like to thank these three Councillors for all the time and effort they have put in over the years, and wish them well. Luckily we have had Nominations from others who will become Councillors on May 5th, just sufficient to exclude the need for an election.

I think you will agree that the village has been looking beautiful these past few months with snowdrops, crocus and daffodils abounding, and even overlapping in late March! Our aim as a Parish Council is to ensure that along with a beautiful environment in which to live we also ensure that it is a safe and healthy environment.

I will not dwell long on the Neighbourhood Plan since we have just spent quite some time bringing you up to speed on what it is and what has been achieved so far. As you can appreciate this has been a major focus of the Parish Council and the Neighbourhood Plan Team over the past year. In particular, I would like to thank Paul Say for all the time he has spent with the survey itself, and in the design of the presentation that he has just given. Our major aim when deciding to go ahead with a Neighbourhood Plan was to try and be in charge of our own decisions on housing needs and where any should be built and so be able to put forward plans that would be acceptable to HBC and which could be included in their Local Development Plan. With the survey results we will now have to see if the main focus is still housing, or some other aspect of Neighbourhood Planning.

I mentioned earlier that it is the Parish Council's duty to ensure that we live in a safe and healthy environment. As the initial results of the Neighbourhood Plan survey are showing there is major concern on traffic and speed of traffic on Bar Lane and around the village. We have had a case of trucks speeding so fast down Bar Lane that they have put the safety of pedestrians at risk. Whatever we do as a result of the Neighbourhood Plan to slow down business vehicles and cars, especially parents taking their children to and from school, one thing I can assure you, and please take this as advanced warning, I am going to arrange for speed checks along Bar Lane. Next week at the Boroughbridge Safer Neighbourhood Meeting I, as the secretary, have put speeding along Bar Lane on the agenda, and hopefully we will have a police green van monitoring speeds soon. So be warned!

On the same tack, your Parish Council feel they are banging their head against a brick wall in trying to get the new HGV Restriction signs placed at the entrance to Roecliffe as you enter from the A168. Perhaps our situation hasn't been improved by the fact that now this project is included in The Boroughbridge Traffic Management Project, since they have a similar issue with HGV's on Horsfair. Within Roecliffe these signs would make it illegal for the overnight parking of HGVs on such roads as Becklands Close, Brickyard Road, and Clay Pit Lane. What we will need then is police enforcement! For the sake of £30,000 N.Y.C.C. say they can't afford to put these new signs up! Again this is an issue to fight since at the recent Litter Pick in the village, we had to stop at the top end of Brickyard Road, since it wasn't safe for any of us, especially children getting any closer to the disgusting urine filled bottles and excrement. Only the exclusion of overnight parking can stop this happening.

The flooding that occurred on Bar Lane for a three-day period from Boxing Day onwards has been followed up with The Environmental Agency. They confirmed that their two pumps on Bar Lane were working but had been inundated by the amount of water. They have agreed to do a study of the drainage system of the area since there are gaps in their knowledge at present, and to get back to us when this work is complete.

Each year there are complaints about potholes on our roads and they remain a constant curse. We all know how long the patches last when potholes are filled. N.Y. Highways now have a new hot filling technique, which apparently is showing enhanced results. There is a limited amount of new money from the government for N.Y.C.C. and a new work programme has just been issued by Highways for the new financial year which shows that there will be work done on Bar Lane, through the village and out along the Bishop Monkton road. In November 2014 we were promised that the road markings along Bar Lane would be refreshed before the end of that financial year, well the work was finally carried out in the last couple of months.

Noise issues from Paynes Dairies continue although it is only residents from the east of the village who are affected. The issue has been reported to HBC's Environmental Health Department, resulting in sound measuring devices being placed in the complainant's bedroom! It is to be hoped that when Paynes Dairies locate their HGVs to a new parking area at the end of Brickyard Road that this might help the situation.

I have briefly mentioned the March 4th litter pick. I would like to thank everyone who took part and thank Karl Mainey for providing bacon sandwiches and a hot drink afterwards.

Defibrillator training has been carried out, and refresher courses will be periodically held as without constant renewal, it is easy to forget the essentials. For new residents the defibrillator is housed between the Crown Inn and the Coach House.

Finally, I would like to thank our Harrogate Borough Councillor Nick Brown and County Councillor Robert Windass for the input, and help they provide at our Parish Council meetings. Sadly, Robert lost his wife this last year and has not been able to attend as often as previously.

Details of Parish Meetings are posted on the village notice board 7 day prior to the next meeting so do keep a look out for them and do attend meetings, so you can see and hear what is going on. If you have questions for the Parish Council, please put them on paper seven days in advance of the meeting and hand to the Parish Clerk, or other Cllrs. The Council doesn't take new issues at the meetings themselves.

The next Parish Council AGM and Meeting will be on Thursday, May 12th at 7.00pm here in the school, so we look forward to seeing you then. Thank you.

Jim Bolland

Chairman,

Roecliffe and Westwick Parish Council

## APPENDIX 2

### HEAD TEACHERS REPORT

- **Thank you**
- Our school community continues to thrive, with a happy school community that is built on Christian Values, ultimately resulting in constantly-improving outcomes for our pupils; attainment and progress increases year-after-year. My sincere thanks, on behalf of the pupils, staff and governors are extended to our wider community too. Support of the wider school community continues to shape and drive the future of our school.
- **Summer Term 2015**
- An 'Ofsted-style' Parent View survey was conducted – findings attached. All responses showed a clear, and sometimes significant improvement since the same questions were asked in November 2013.
- Mrs Dalton completed a bursary project with *Yorkshire and the Ridings Maths* enabling Mrs Dalton to lead the Singapore/China/Shanghai teaching approaches in school, across the Cluster and North Star. As a result, all teaching staff at Roecliffe have completed 'Fundamentals of Singapore Maths' CPD The project title was:  
*An investigation into the impact of the use of the Singapore Bar Method in mathematics to develop understanding in calculating and applying knowledge; specifically in the areas of fractions, decimals and percentages.*
- The science subject leader submitted an application for the Primary Science Quality Mark and was subsequently awarded 'Silver' with just a few actions to achieve 'Gold'
- **End of Year Data July 2015 for Key Stage, showing year-on-year progress:**

Percentage achieving Level 4 or above in reading, writing and maths	2012	2013	2014	2015
<b>School</b>	<b>86%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>100%</b>
LA	75%	73%	77%	79%
England - All Schools	75%	75%	78%	80%

- **Ranked in top 20 schools in North Yorkshire County Council of 352 schools.**
- 100% in made at least expected progress in reading, writing and mathematics at end of Key Stage 2.
- Letter received from Nick Gibb congratulating us on being in the top 2% of schools **nationally** in our phonics screening results in Year 1. 100% pass rate.
- Letter received from NYCC congratulating our 100% attainment and progress at Key Stage 2.
- **Autumn term 2015**
- Mrs Harker-Jones commenced her maternity leave in November 2015.
- The kitchen extension programme commenced.
- The head teacher was appointed as a strategic lead at North Star Teaching School Alliance, seconded for one day per week, involved in strategic planning, and CPD delivery.
- We were delighted to welcome Joe Roebuck, Olympic swimmer, to Roecliffe on 18th November, thanks to the hard work of the Sports Council.
- Two x Open Days ran for prospective parents – Admission September 2016. Good feedback received, and admissions confirmed w/c 18 April 2016.

- Chitty Chitty Bang Bang at West Yorkshire Playhouse was enjoyed by the whole school on January 6th 2016. Thanks to the generosity and support of the whole school. We all had an amazing time and all classes focussed literacy work around the story in the following weeks.
- The PE subject leader organised a Dance Festival for our local schools to take part in, whilst learning through the unique, diverse, and enjoyable global dance opportunities. Over 550 pupils from across the Cluster joined us at the Galtres Centre for this Grand Finale!
- Sporting success! Following qualifying rounds in Autumn 2015, we reached level 2 sports competitions in hockey, tennis, dodgeball, gymnastics and cross country. We also achieved success at Level 3 (County Level) in gymnastics (Silver Overall), and Cross Country.
- Class 4 visit to Marrick Priory (14-18 Mar 2016).
- A group of 11 pupils attended the Fairtrade Conference in March, as Ambassadors for Fairtrade. The school were awarded two Fairtrade Awards.
- **Teaching Staff**
  - Class 1 Mrs Leyland, Class 2 Mr Bailey, Class 3 Miss Clarke, Class 4 Mrs Holloway
  - The following services were held at St Mary's Church; Harvest Festival (Oct 2015), Bible Presentation (Oct 2015), Christmas Carol Concert (Dec 2015) and Easter Service (Mar 2016).

<p><b>2. Newsletters – Mrs Dalton presented the half-termly newsletters for 2015-16</b></p>
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**Mrs Kerry Dalton, Headteacher**



<b>Year / Group</b>	<b>Subject / Standard</b>	<b>2014-15 % Achievements Roecliffe</b>	<b>Comparison North Yorkshire (2014)</b>	<b>Comparison National (2014)</b>
<b>EYFS</b>	<b>% of pupils achieving a Good Level of Development</b>	<b>83%</b>	<b>61%</b>	<b>60%</b>
<b>Year 1</b>	<b>% of pupils achieving a PASS in Phonics Screening</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>72%</b>	<b>74%</b>
<b>Key Stage 1</b> <i>Level 2+ is the expected level of achievement for pupils at end of KS1</i>	<b>Reading – Level 2+</b>	<b>94%</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>90%</b>
	<b>Writing – Level 2+</b>	<b>94%</b>	<b>87%</b>	<b>86%</b>
	<b>Mathematics – Level 2+</b>	<b>94%</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>92%</b>
<b>Key Stage 2</b> <i>Level 4+ is the expected level of achievement for pupils at the end of Key Stage 2</i>	<b>Reading – Level 4+</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>88%</b>	<b>88%</b>
	<b>Grammar, Punctuation &amp; Spelling Level 4+</b>	<b>91%</b>	<b>76%</b>	<b>74%</b>
	<b>Writing (TA) – Level 4+</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>85%</b>	<b>85%</b>
	<b>Mathematics – Level 4+</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>85%</b>	<b>85%</b>
	<b>Combined Level 4+ English (R/W) &amp; Mathematics</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>77%</b>	<b>78%</b>
<b>Progress in Key Stage 2</b> <i>2 levels progress is expected</i>	<b>Reading - 2 levels progress</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>91%</b>
	<b>Writing - 2 levels progress</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>93%</b>	<b>93%</b>
	<b>Mathematics- 2 levels progress</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>88%</b>	<b>89%</b>



### **APPENDIX 3**

#### **Village Fund Committee**

Chair - Carolyn Collin  
Treasurer - Lisa Daniels  
Secretary - Rachael Say  
Scott Green

John Fieldhouse  
Mary Jane Ogden  
Judith Newbury

The Village Fund Committee is responsible for raising enough money to maintain, care and nurture the 39 trees around the village green for the safety of the children of the school and the general public. Whilst we have plan of projected costs there will always be unexpected expenditure due to the trees being damaged by rot or bad weather.

The Village Fund also takes on the responsibility of maintaining other areas of the village such as notice boards, benches, maintaining the pathway to the pond and the pond itself. I would like to thank the Village Fund Committee members and volunteers for all their hard work and commitment to improving and maintaining our beautiful village and we are always encouraging newcomers to get involved.

This year we were very sad to say farewell to Jim Bolland who has been on the committee for many years and he is still chairing the Church Council and the Parish Council. Jim contributes so much to this Village for which I am sure we are all truly grateful. As a small token of our gratitude for all his work and with knowledge of his love of excellent red wine we would like to present this as token of our thanks and affection from the Village Fund Committee.

We would also like to welcome Judith Newbury who has joined our committee - and we will always welcome more villagers to do the same.

This year has been fairly quiet from a fund raising perspective. The Village Fund currently has a balance of £4,118 and all the trees have been given a dean bill of health for the next 18 months.

The Village Fund will be working in conjunction with the Church Council for the celebrations of the Queen's 90th for the Big Lunch on Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> June.

In January we will hold another Candlelit Concert in the church with the all-female choir the Yorkshire Decibelles, the last one a year ago was a sell out and raised £784.

In the Summer or Autumn of next year will be think about another fund raiser in the form of party with dancing or some entertainment - so if you have any ideas please do let us know.

We are also considering as a way of raising money to create some notelets or postcards of the village and also offer personalised ones of people's houses. If there are any budding artists or photographers who wish to get involved, please do

contact me.

Finally, Joyce Reeves and Sue Parnell from Roecliffe Park have very kindly offered to provide, plant up and maintain some flower tubs in the village at various vantage points. We would like to thank Joyce and Sue for their generosity and we are looking forward to enjoying the visual displays they will be creating.

Expected expenditure:

- We anticipate little work to be done on the trees this year.
- Strimming of the pond three times a year.

Volunteering:

- Strimming/clearance of pond and path in May & September
- Litter Picking March
- Adopting a bench or sign
- Joining or helping the Committee raising money.

## **APPENDIX 4**

### **CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – Church of St. Mary, Rocliffe.**

#### **CHURCH FABRIC**

Although the Churches Conservation Trust own and look after the fabric of our church, they are so short of cash, due to Government funding cuts that most of the work we would like to see done are way down their wish list. We would like to see the East and West windows cleaned, as well as some fine carvings stuck back on the vestry wall.

We try and support the Churches Conservation Trust where we can. They have a donation box in church which is emptied each month and the contents sent to the CCT. Last year this amounted to £107.32p slightly down on the previous year. We also gave the CCT the proceeds of one of our Quiz Nights. We are also one of a small number of CCT churches that pays for its own heating before services.

We spent £4157 improving the churchyard during the past year. New lighting was fitted down the church path, a car parking area was created near the church and the whole length of the drive was resurfaced. The end result is very pleasing. Many thanks for getting this work done are due to Heather Lawson for organising the resurfacing of the church path and John Mitchell for the lighting.

#### **SERVICES**

Our Adult Worshipping Community (AWC) for 2015 has been 18. This means that we have 18 people who attend church regularly and are over 18 years old.

Including young children, we have averaged 26 at each of our monthly services. We are very pleased to have young people and we do what we can to encourage them to continue coming to church by giving them responsible jobs such as taking collections, reading some lessons and helping on the door. All these events are done with much enthusiasm, and at our recent AGM we have recognised this help by appointing Henrietta Jarvis as a Sidesman, subject to the Rural Dean giving his permission for someone so young.

For the majority of this past year we have been in a period of Interregnum with Philip Smith moving to Bedford in the south of England last August. However, we have been well served by visiting preachers especially Wilf Going and Canon Wendy Wilby from Ripon Cathedral. As from May we will now have a new vicar for the Parish. This is a Yorkshire lady, Dr Diane Westmoreland, who will be Installed at a special service in Boroughbridge at 7.30pm on Monday, May 23rd.

Our services are held on the second Sunday of every month, except August. When a major festival falls in a month then this replaces our normal service.

If one lumps together our Harvest Festival, Easter Day, Christmas Carol Concert and Christmas Day services, these have been attended by 274 in 2014, as against 266 in 2014. Very encouraging to see these figures edging up year on year.

We also have many visitors to the church and the CCT ask us to report these figures to them since the more visitors the more funding they receive. These figures also include people who attend our regular services, and the three school services in the church really

boost the figures!

In the last 12 months we have had 1 baptism, 2 couples who have had a service of prayer and dedication and 1 funeral.

### **FINANCES**

Financially the church is in good shape. Our various Funds have increased in 2015 by almost 3% We made a small loss of £2288 on our Income/Expenditure statement due to our spending in the church yard, but we are still owed tax relief on gift aid due to us. Our Parish Share which we had to pay the Diocese was £9519.

### **ACTIVITIES**

During 2015 we organised various activities. We had a wine tasting evening where we were told how to wine taste, and then proceeded to taste 6 wines. We had a Safari evening with a record turnout which was, well organised by Stephen Jarvis, and a couple of Quiz Nights. Thanks here to Dave Siswick and Laurence Bishop for setting the questions and The Crown for the half time refreshments. The Racket Club has had a good year with 120 numbers being sold each month.

We are now looking forward to a concert in our church on Saturday, May 7th when Instrumentalists and the Chapel Choir from Queen Mary's school, Topcliffe will give a concert. Also the Queen's 90th Birthday will be celebrated with an event on the village green on Sunday, June 12th. Do come to the organising meeting in The Crown next Tuesday, April 19th at 7.30pm

### **THANKS**

At last week's AGM Pat Pratt resigned as our P.C.C. secretary after 18 years of dedicated service. We owe her a great debt of gratitude and thank her for all her work. She has been replaced by Lisa Daniell, who at the same AGM was elected to the P.C.C. Committee. John Mitchell continues as our Treasurer, and again I thank him for his dedicated service. Stephen Jarvis and myself continue as Church Wardens, and David Bellwood and Elizabeth Jarvis give us excellent support playing the organ at our services. We are so lucky to have two such skilled musicians in our midst. Our UPCC Membership is made up of John Mitchell, Steve Jarvis, David Bellwood and myself. Our P.C.C. Committee has just had the one change that I have already mentioned. I thank all the committee for their support and hard work over the past year.

As Chairman of the P.C.C., besides the people I have already thanked, I would like to thank Jill Bolland, Jo Mitchell and Ros Winn for their flower arranging and for the beautiful displays they provide for special services. However, a flower rota has now been introduced for the church and a few more have started developing their skills in this line. Thanks also to Heather who has organised the cleaning rota for the church and encouraged many new cleaners onto the rota; also those who provide coffee and refreshments after services. And finally a big thank you to all those of you who support our events, provide raffle prizes, sell tickets and collect money. Without you we would be lost.

Many thanks!

**Jim Bolland:     Chairman, Rocliffe P.C.C.**

## APPENDIX 5

### WI REPORT

This year has seen only a small change of personnel on the Roeclyffe WI committee. At the AGM in November 2015 the current committee all agreed to remain as members, and we added Cynthia Benson whose particular role will be to assist our Treasurer. Susan Fieldhouse continues as Secretary, Pamela Hough as Treasurer, and myself as president. As in many organisations, it is difficult to find volunteers but all our committee members help enormously to make our WI meetings interesting, efficient and fun.

Our membership this year has dropped again to 28, with an average attendance of 21. We welcomed one new member and a past member rejoined but would really like to see more new faces.

2015, as I am sure you are aware, was the centenary of the WI in England and Wales and many of the year's events were linked to this, including a craft exhibition at Kiplin Hall, a tea-party at Coronation hall (in period costume), a sponsored walk round the Ripon Rowel, a centennial fair at the Harrogate Exhibition Centre, and our own celebration in September attended by many village residents, when we planted a commemorative tree on the village green.

Other events during the year included

- The AGM, held this year at the Royal Albert Hall and attended by HM the Queen. I was privileged to be a delegate this year and the occasion was truly magnificent- 5000 women singing 'Jerusalem' is spine-tinglingly awesome!
- In May we ran a stall at the Boroughbridge Plot to Plate event, selling home-made sweets and biscuits. Sadly, the weather was not kind but we nevertheless boosted our funds nicely.
- In July we submitted a resolution -Keep Britain Tidiier- for consideration at the 2016 AGM. We got as far as the local shortlist, but did not make the national choice. Happily, other initiatives have taken up this cause.
- At the Great Yorkshire Show we entered every class but one and this year we won first place. We have some very talented ladies among our members.
- In December we went to see 'The Girls', the musical based on The Calendar Girls and used this as inspiration for our entry in the Christmas Tree competition, where our entry was a 'bare' tree adorned with pearls and sunflowers.

Our meetings this year saw a wide variety of speakers and entertainers including topics Geographical (Yorkshire Dales and Antarctica), Historical (Roeclyffe in 1913 and Saltaire after Sir Titus Salt) Horticultural (the late Joe Maiden and flower demonstrations) and Crafty (basket making with member Rosemary and a hilarious DIY craft evening)- and of course good companionship and socializing.

The Boroughbridge Group of WIs meet 4 times a year and this year's speakers were arranged by us during our year as Chairman in 2014. They were greatly enjoyed, especially the cookery demonstration by Stephanie Moon of Ridding Park Hotel fame. The joint carol service was held in St James, Boroughbridge.

So, all in all this has been a very busy 12 months with a great deal of hard work behind the scenes to make sure everything ran smoothly. The coming year, while possibly less crowded with events should be equally enjoyable. Roeclyffe WI is full of happy, friendly ladies who enjoy being part of a vibrant national organization.

## **APPENDIX 6**

### **NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REPORT**

One can never be too careful as the events of the past week have shown. Luckily the HGV that liberated 20 illegal immigrants on the A168 was seen by one of our residents and reported to the police. They have now all been captured. Without been spotted they could have ended up in Roecliffe looking for shelter. One feels sorry for such desperate people, but having said that we need to ensure that all our buildings and out buildings are secure.

However, Roecliffe and North Yorkshire is still one of the safest places to live in the UK and little crime is reported in our area. If we were to include the industrial area of Roecliffe then I am sure there is some petty crime, but we don't see to hear about that in the village.

As secretary of the Safer Neighbourhood Group in Boroughbridge I am well aware as to the latest figures on crime, although the figures I have relate to our last meeting in November. There is a further meeting next week in the Jubilee Room above the library. For the Boroughbridge area, burglaries are slightly higher, but only account for 5% of those in the District, all theft from shops and individuals is up, and account for 5% of the district total, and there are more violent crimes, but only represent 3% of the district's total. How the police sum up their activities, theft is their number one issue, number two is saving pets, three wild life and four mental health cases. CCTV cameras are to be switched off in Boroughbridge by HBC so there is interest as to whether this will affect crime rates.

So, although overall crime is under control we must continue to be vigilant and report any suspicious event to the police.

Bogus callers are on the increase and one must always be concerned with so called traders knocking on your door offering to do work at ridiculously low prices, or selling produce that has probably fallen from the back of a truck.

We are all aware of telephone scams especially those to do with our computers, when they tell you that there is a problem and they will help you sort it out by gaining control. What they want to do is get access to passwords and pins for bank accounts etc.

Neighbourhood Watch works by us all protecting our own, and keeping a vigilant eye on other's property. If problems call the 101 police number or 999 for urgent matters.

Jim Bolland

## **APPENDIX 7**

### **PARISH COUNCIL FINANCE REPORT**

The financial year 2015/16 has been a relatively stable year with very few out of the ordinary items of income and expenditure. We opened the year with a balance of £6,285 and closed the year with £7,060, a healthy surplus of £775. Mr Micawber would have been proud of us!

The major areas of income were as follows:

Precept from HBC	£3,555
VAT Reclaim	£ 192
Grounds Maintenance	£ 396
Annuity Redemption	£ 58

The Roecliffe and Westwick Parish Council Precept is received from Harrogate Borough Council in two instalments, April & September.

The precept budget for the following year is prepared by the clerk and presented to the PC for their approval; this was done at the November 2015 meeting. The budget is basically comprised of our “running costs”

The major areas of expenditure were as follows:

Staff Costs	£1,710
Grass Cutting	£ 932
Insurance	£ 370
Subscriptions	£ 298

The subscriptions total comprises of membership fees paid to RAY, Open Spaces, SLCC, CPRE and YLCA.

The accounts are currently being audited by John Mitchell before being put before the Parish Council on 12<sup>th</sup> May and thereon sent to the external auditors.

Some may ask why we are carrying such a healthy balance: a number of years ago we needed to pay a substantial amount for work on trees within the village: consequently, we must always ensure we have enough reserves to cover for a reoccurrence of any similar expense. In addition, we have guidance that, should our capital reserves be more than twice the precept from HBC, then we need to explain this to the external auditors. Currently we are within those guidelines.

Finally, it would be remiss of me not to thank John Mitchell for performing the internal audit this year. John stepped in at short notice and I am exceptionally grateful for his support.

**Keith Pettitt**

**Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer  
Roecliffe & Westwick Parish Council**