

MINUTES OF THE PARISH ASSEMBLY OF ROECLIFFE AND WESTWICK
PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 20th MARCH 2017 AT ROECLIFFE SCHOOL

1. Present

Cllr Bolland (Chair), Cllr Siswick, Cllr Reeve, Cllr Green, Cllr Bishop, Cllr Varley, Cllr Newberry, Mr K Pettitt and 8 members of the public.

2. Apologies

District Cllr Brown, Stephen Jarvis, John and Sue Fieldhouse and Peter and Cynthia Benson.

3. Minutes of Last Meeting (14/04/2016)

These were agreed as correct and were signed by the Chairman.

4. Neighbourhood Plan Report

Cllr Green gave the report as follows:

The decision to investigate the possibility of writing a Neighbourhood Plan for Roecliffe and Westwick was taken at a PC meeting in Sept 2014. A year later HBC formally designated us as a Neighbourhood Plan Area. Following a Village meeting a Steering Group consisting of interested residents, Parish Councillors and Andrew Baldwin from RB was set up and has met eleven times.

Since June 2016 the main task has been interpreting and acting on the results and the suggestions made in the returns from the Village Survey. Thanks to all who took part and, in particular, thanks to Reed Bordall for free printing and to Paul Say for collating the information.

We enjoy the attractiveness of the Village and the community spirit and were almost equally divided about further housing development both within and outside the Conservation area. Major concerns are traffic and parking, particularly related to the School and the Crown Inn, and also speeding vehicles.

We have explored with landowners the possibility of establishing a parking area but no suitable land is available. Various meetings have taken place with interested parties and we are now able to begin to write a Draft Plan to present to the village. Richard Booth has done a huge amount of work utilising his computer skills and we are most grateful. Rather than trying to reinvent the wheel, with their agreement, we are utilising the Neighbourhood Plan for Linton as our template and hope to have the draft ready for approval by HBC by Summer and then we can call a village meeting by Autumn.

Following the report there was a question from the floor regarding the use of the community room at the Caravan Club site on Bar Lane as a meeting place for the village. Cllr Green reported that this had been investigated but had been turned down by the Caravan Club.

5. Chairman's Report

Cllr Bolland gave the Chairman's report. This is incorporated under Appendix 1 of the minutes. Following the report, it was agreed by the meeting that Roecliffe and Westwick should participate in the "Battles Over" celebrations in 2018.

6. Finance Report

The Clerk gave the financial report for the Parish Council. He reported that the Parish Council finances were in a healthy state and detailed the main areas of expenditure and income. In conclusion, he noted that the anticipated closing balance for the year would be in the region of £6,821. This was a decrease of £200 from the year's opening balance, but could be explained by the un-budgeted allocation of a similar amount towards the installation of HGV signage.

7. Planning Report

Cllr Siswick gave the Planning Report for the year. He noted that there had been nine planning applications for the year. Of these, the Parish Council had no objection to seven; conditionally supported one and objected to one. The application that was objected to, the erection of an agricultural workers dwelling by Johnson of Whixley at Roecliffe Nurseries has gone to appeal and we await the outcome.

8. Headteacher's Report

Kerry Dalton gave the Headteacher's Report. This is incorporated under Appendix 2 of the minutes. Following the report there was discussion regarding the issue of parking in the layby outside the school. Mrs Dalton reported that she had been in contact with HBC regarding the issue with a view to the layby being a designated drop off zone between 8:00 – 17:00 and zig-zag lines being put on the area to enforce this. HBC had said that they would not consider this as there had yet to be any accidents. Mrs Dalton would continue to pursue this with HBC. There was also a suggestion by Cllr Green that the "Nurture Project" described by Mrs Dalton in her report could also incorporate a village meeting place.

9. Village Fund Report

Carolyn Collin gave the Village Fund Report. The Village Fund is responsible for raising enough money to maintain, care and nurture the thirty-nine trees around the village green and for of maintaining other areas of the village such as notice boards, benches, maintaining the pathway to the pond. 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 would like to thank Heather Lawson who organised and coordinated a super community event, The Big Lunch, which was a great success. The Village Fund paid £204 in expenditure for this day. A big thank you to Karl Mainey for his generosity and to all the volunteers.

This year has been quiet from a fund-raising perspective. The Village Fund currently has a balance of £4,001 and a meeting will be taking place soon to assess the trees.

The Committee are hoping to have a concert in the Church with the Yorkshire Decibelles in June, date to be confirmed.

In the Summer or Autumn, the Committee will be thinking about another fund raiser in the form of party with dancing or some entertainment - so if anyone has any ideas please do let them know.

The Committee 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 Carolyn.

Thank you to Joyce Reeves and Sue Parnell from Roecliffe Park, who have planted up and

maintained some flower tubs in the village at various vantage points. The Committee would like to thank Joyce and Sue for their generosity and are looking forward to enjoying the visual displays they will be creating.

Expected expenditure:

- Dependant on outcome of meeting re trees.
- Strimming of the pond three times a year.

Volunteering:

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

10. Parochial Church Council Report

Jim Bolland gave the PCC Report. This is incorporated under Appendix 3 of the minutes.

11. WI Report

Helen Davison gave the W.I. report. This year has seen several changes of personnel and role on the Roecliffe WI committee. Susan Fieldhouse continues as Secretary, and Helen as president but we now have a new treasurer in Cynthia Benson and Jackie Wilson has taken on the role of programme secretary. We have also welcomed Judith Newberry to our committee. After many years of service to Roecliffe WI, and as a former president, Ann Green has stepped down from the committee. Her contribution and influence has been greatly appreciated, and I'm sure she will continue to be a valuable WI member. 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 remained steady at 28, with an average attendance of 18. We have welcomed two new members but would really like to see more new faces. After last year's centenary year, this year has not been quite so frantic but nevertheless there has been a full programme.

In March, there was the Federation Spring Council at Pavilions Harrogate at which Ann Green was our delegate.

In June, it was the national AGM, this year held in Brighton. The delegate from our group was Eileen Chester from Skelton-on-Ure WI, who came to our July meeting to give us her report. This year 2 resolutions were passed - 'Appropriate care for dementia sufferers in hospital' and 'Avoid food waste, address food poverty'.

July was also the Great Yorkshire Show. Roecliffe WI entered all the individual classes and once again took first place, a mighty thing to live up to this year! We did not enter the collaborative class, which asked for a display depicting a Shakespeare play but this year we will be entering every class.

September was Federation quiz time. Our team won our heat and were invited to the final. We decided against this since the final was on our October meeting night and a long ride away at Cracoe. In doing so we avoided the inevitable contention over the marking scheme- always an amusing if frustrating sight.

In November, we held our first Murder Mystery evening at the Crown Coach house. 8 intrepid members spent several months muttering lines to themselves and agonizing over costumes, but it was all worth it- 'Murder at the Pyramids' was a hugely enjoyable evening raising a massive £616 for our funds.

As usual our meetings this year saw a wide variety of speakers and entertainers including topics such as Maria Glot on 'Saltaire after Sir Titus Salt', a musical quiz, demonstrations of flower arrangement and Japanese kimonos, a fascinating talk about one urban family's pursuit of 'The Good Life' in the North Yorks Moors, Masham hand-bell ringers and a start to our blanket of knitted squares for next year's MacMillan appeal. At the Boroughbridge Group WI meetings we have had a visit to a herb farm, talks on Classical rogues (Greek and Roman Gods and Goddesses), Mind Fodder and Clarice Cliffe and of course the Carol service which last December was at St James' in 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. Roecliffe WI is full of happy, friendly ladies who enjoy being part of a vibrant national organization.

12. Neighbourhood Watch Report

Jim Bolland gave the Neighbourhood Watch report. This is incorporated under Appendix 4 of the minutes. Stuart Varley also reported on the activities of The Roecliffe Park Neighbourhood Watch Group: there had been one incident of fraud early in 2016. However North Yorkshire Trading Standards were contacted and the culprits were arrested. They will be sentenced later this month after pleading guilty to 27 offences.

One benefit from this incident was that there is now a notice at the entrance to Roecliffe Clerk warning people that they are entering a "No Cold Calling" zone.

Cllr Bolland thanked everyone for their time in attending the meeting.

The meeting closed at 20:25.

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. This year we have welcomed three new Cllrs following elections in May 2016. These are Diane Bishop, John Newberry and Stuart Varley. It is always good to have new blood on the Parish Council, which blends with those who have been Cllrs for much longer. However, calm does not last for long and recently our Clerk, Keith Pettitt, has said that he wishes to stand down in March 2018 since he has been elected President Nominee of Ripon Rotary Club. Applications for his replacement have just closed and we have three candidates to consider. In case this is Keith's last Parish Assembly I would like to thank him on behalf of all the Cllrs for all his hard work and the efficient running behind the scenes of the P.C. We have benefited from him being Clerk to Littlethorpe and Bishop Monkton as well, for example we now have adopted a Job Description and Contract of Employment for a Parish Clerk from Littlethorpe P.C. He has looked after the Financial side of the Parish Council and as you will hear we are in a healthy state. So, we wish Keith success in the future and especially in his next years with Ripon Rotary.

I think you will agree that the village has been looking beautiful these past weeks with snowdrops, crocus and daffodils giving a continuous, attractive display around the village.

Unfortunately, the same cannot be said about the state of the village green with several kerb stones displaced at the west apex of the green, caused by some heavy vehicles clipping the green as they take the corner, and also bad parking, in particular by customers at The Crown at busy times. In spite of the village signs, some cars continue to park on the green, causing damage to the verges. This is an urgent problem where action needs to be taken, and now that Highways have repaired the kerb, the Parish Council now needs to consider how to protect the most vulnerable verges. You will also have noticed that part of the east end of the green has been roped off. This is because heavy rain has made parts of the green very wet and muddy. As a result, in those areas where children play after school, this has resulted in bare patches appearing which are now being given time to recover.

We have just had all the trees on the village green inspected by a local arboralist, since it is some four years since this was done. A major part of the responsibility of your Parish Council is to ensure that it is a safe and healthy environment and so this work is vital.

Whilst talking about the beauty of Roecliffe I would like to thank all those who took part in the litter pick earlier this month. Hopefully you all saw an improvement in the amount of litter this year over last, since, besides Reed Boardall doing a monthly litter pick, Paynes Dairies now do a litter pick every week. I would also like to make a special mention to those in Roecliffe Park who have taken it upon themselves to have beautifully planted flower boxes on the entry to the village from Boroughbridge and Bishop Monkton, as well as under the village notice board. These boxes and their planting have been well appreciated by villagers.

As you have just heard from Scott much time has been spent during the past year by residents and Parish Council members on developing our Neighbourhood Plan. As you can appreciate this has been a major focus of the Parish Council and the Neighbourhood Plan Team over the past year. 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 also take in the major concerns of residents, and so be able to formulate plans that would be acceptable to HBC, and which could be included in their Local Development Plan.

For the past four or five years, we have been asking Highways for action in two areas; the repair and white lining of Bar Lane and the road to Bishop Monkton, and new HGV signage to stop the overnight parking of HGVs in Bar Lane and roads leading off it. Progress has, and is being made on each front. In the last financial year Bar Lane has been repaired, pot holes repaired on the Bishop Monkton road, and white lining along the whole length to Westwick Farm. In past years, a previous Cllr, Peter Hutchinson has been pleading for white lines up to his farm in Westwick, and it happens so soon after he has left the village!

Again, your Parish Council have been working hard to try and speed up the introduction of new HGV Restriction signs to be placed at the entrance to Roecliffe from the A168. Our need for this new signage has been lumped in with the Boroughbridge Traffic Management Project for similar new signage for Wetherby Road and Horsfair in Boroughbridge, and new signage through Langthorpe and Skelton. Highways said the cost of the project would be £35000 which they didn't have. Robert Windass, our North Yorkshire County Cllr. said NYCC needed help in raising this money if we wanted the project completing in this financial year. With 106 money from Reed Boardall, contributions from NYCC and the Locality budget it was left for Boroughbridge and Roecliffe to find £8000 between them. We took on £4000 of this and persuaded Langthorpe to contribute £1000. With appeals and a lot of effort, Reed Boardall put in £1000, Paynes Dairies £750, Absolute Fitness Gym £300, Hydes of Boroughbridge £200 and Kirby Joinery £50. The Parish Council had voted to support the HGV scheme to a maximum of £2000, but at the end of the day contributed £200, which was about right since only about 20 of the population of Roecliffe really benefit.

The new signage should be in place within the next month, which will mean that HGVs will not be allowed to park overnight on roads within the Industrial Zone Policing will then be critical and the police have agreed to enforce it. This matter was discussed at a Boroughbridge Safer Neighbourhood Group meeting last December. Paynes Dairies have said they will be very active if parked vehicles prevent them getting to their new parking area at the end of Brickyard Road.

There is still a major concern on traffic and speed of traffic on Bar Lane and around the village. We know there are lots of trucks, and cars (especially parents delivering, and picking up from school) which speed down Bar Lane and on occasions have put the safety of pedestrians at risk. Recently there has been an initiative put together by Julie Mulligan, our NY Police Commissioner, which allows residents to work together with the police, to use radar guns to check vehicle speeds. Residents work in groups noting car number plates, car colour and car make. The police then write letters to offenders warning them against further offences. A pilot run has been carried out in Pannal where initially there were many offenders, and in a short time speeding has been reduced to a trickle. Is this the answer to Bar Lane speeding?

Parking continues to dominate discussions within the Neighbourhood Plan team. I have already spoken about bad parking associated with people eating at The Crown. The Parish Council have also spoken with Kerry Dalton, about how to ease the parking problem at school time in the morning and afternoon of each school term. Karl Mainey has given permission for parents to park in The Crown car park when dropping off and picking up children. What we would like to see introduced in the morning is for cars to enter the lay by outside the school on the south side, drop off their children and then drive off. If properly managed this would really ease the parking problem. However, for this to happen residents would not have to use this lay by during the week in school term times. How to enforce this? Something we will discuss after Kerry's presentation on the school. Parking in the afternoon is a different matter since parents have to enter school and have their children handed over to them,

There have been complaints about the state of the Roecliffe Ramble due to Giant Hogweed overgrowing the walk, styles being in poor repair and the walk being very wet in places. NYCC are responsible for spraying the Hogweed twice a year and have repaired one style. Normally it is the land owner's responsibility to repair styles on their land. However, spraying of Hogweed is one thing, but it needs cutting down as well before it seeds. Cllr John Newberry has taken photographs of the Ramble and produced a folder on the walk. As he often walks his dog, he seems to have taken on the responsibility of inspecting walks and bridleways and signalling when there are issues.

The Parish Council have been asked if we would like to take part in a country wide initiative titled "Battle's Over – A Nation's Tribute on the 11th November 2018". In commemoration and remembrance of the end of the war and the many millions who were killed or came home dreadfully wounded, a chain of 1000 beacons will be lit throughout the UK, Channel Islands, Isle of Man and UK Overseas Territories at 7.00pm on Sunday the 11th November 2018-a century after the guns fell silent. The event will also commemorate the huge army of men and women on the home front who, often in dangerous and exhausting conditions, underpinned the war effort-keeping the wheels of industry turning, bringing the harvests home and ensuring the nation didn't starve. Detailed coordination begins in April 2017, but we need to confirm our involvement by the end of this month if we wish to participate, and to be included in the plans. Many of you will remember that we lit a beacon on the occasion of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee, and many in the village took part.

Finally, I would like to thank our Harrogate Borough Councillor Nick Brown and County Councillor Robert Windass for the iNeighbourhood Plan, and help they provide at our Parish Council meetings.

Details of Parish Meetings are posted on the village notice board 7 days 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 Monday, 8th May 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

Overview of Summer Term 2016, Autumn Term 2016 & Spring Term 2017

Through positive relationships with the wider community, the school continues to thrive. With outcomes and progress at all key phases good or better; we have a happy school community that is built on Christian Values, which values parents, governors and beyond as playing a vital role in shaping the future for our pupils. My sincere thanks, on behalf of the pupils, staff and governors are extended to our wider community too.

Summer Term 2016

Mrs Dalton continues to be seconded to North Star Teaching School Alliance approx. 1 day per week with responsibility for CPD and maths across 70+ schools in North Star Teaching School Alliance, also sitting on the Executive Board.

Mr Bailey resigned from his post as key Stage 1 teacher. Miss Grimwood joined the team and is already proving herself as an inspirational teacher for our six and seven year olds.

The school has been successful in its application for the School Games award 2016 – Gold! □ Our comprehensive School Development Plan incorporates milestones for reviewing progress towards targets set, providing a clear pathway for continued school improvement.

Each teacher, each half term attends a teacher development session at another school, one in literacy and one in maths, referred to as 'PPA Support'. Each session either focusses on assessment or moderation. These will continue throughout the year to continue to triangulate and moderate teacher assessment judgements.

Autumn Term 2016

Mrs Dalton wrote, and had published, a '6-Week Maths Teaching Challenge' – adopted by schools across the teaching school alliance, across Maths Hubs across the UK, and has had international interest too. There is a deep-rooted determination that Roecliffe is seen as a 'beacon school' for high-quality teaching, and specifically maths teaching and leadership in North Yorkshire.

The school featured in 'The Tatler Guide To The Best State Primary Schools 2017' "Because the best education is not always the most expensive one...". 4th JANUARY 2017

'Imagine a village primary school and chances are it will look like Roecliffe: a Victorian schoolhouse on a village green that doubles as an extended playground (there's also a tarmac one), sports pitch and, once a year, the site of Roecliffe's Big Camp. Head Kerry Dalton is extraordinarily committed: 'Rarely do you come across such a force of nature who displays such determination for her school to excel,' says an insider. Roecliffe holds a coveted gold award in the Primary Science Quality Mark scheme, and pupils rave about Miss Atkinson's science lessons. IT is cutting edge, and there are chickens in the outdoor classroom. School trips are, says a mother, 'exceptional' - there's a biannual three-day trip to France for croissant-making and a snail-farm visit. We love the sound of the Bible Story in a Shoebox competition and of the Fiver Challenge, dreamed up by the local bank manager, in which each child is given £5 and a month to invest it - last year, one junior tycoon made £300 from mowing lawns. 'A little school that packs a big punch,' we hear. '

Mrs Harker-Jones returned from maternity leave Nov 2016.

Mrs Dalton provides school improvement support to schools beyond the local area, helping schools to secure 'good' judgements in Ofsted criteria.

Open days and 'tours' of the school run throughout Autumn for prospective parents for admissions Sept 2017. Good feedback received, and admissions confirmed 18th April 2017.

Spring Term 2016

The Collective Worship Committee plan to work closely with 'Rev Diane' to continue to develop the school's distinctive, Christian ethos.

Roecliffe planned the third annual Global Dance Festival at the Galtres Centre. This year the theme was 'West End Shows', with confident, unique and professional performance from all four classes at Roecliffe, and with participation from 490 pupils from across the cluster. Huge thanks also go to Mr Sadler for organising Mr Bill Kazmaier to open the show with a motivational talk on the benefits of hard work, determination and success. Take a look at some of the photos in the Spring 2 Newsletter (copies available). A great achievement to lead this each year, and with the positive impact being noted in a couple of Ofsted Reports, Roecliffe has also been nominated for a Yorkshire PE Premium Award through North Yorkshire Sport to recognize the school's commitment to providing quality outcomes for pupils.

Numbers on Roll were confirmed as 96 in Spring Census, with potential for 103 in 2017-18.

The Summary Class sizes and pupil numbers as at 14th March 2017 were as follows:

Class 1 (Reception) 14

Class 2 (Years 1 and 2) 16 and 14 respectively: Mrs Leyland

Class 3 (Years 3 and 4) 11 and 17 respectively: Miss Grimwood and Miss Clarke

Class 4 (Years 5 and 6) 15 and 9 respectively: Mrs Holloway and Mrs Harker-Jones

Newsletters – Mrs Dalton presented the half-termly newsletters for 2016-17

Nurture Centre proposal – Mrs Dalton presented the Nurture Centre proposal

To continue to improve our school provision further, we would like to be able to provide additional support of emotional, social and wellbeing support at Roecliffe.

The need to support children's emotions, social skills and wellbeing has never been greater than it is in today's busy and demanding world and Roecliffe Primary School take very seriously its responsibility to continue to provide additional support whenever it is needed. Our challenge is that the school building is so busy all day, every day, so we would like to raise the funds to replace and re-vamp the PE shed area to provide that quiet space where we can support children who we know will benefit immensely from a quiet space each day.

Every single square metre of our beautiful Grade II listed building for teaching and learning spaces. We would like to build a simple, outdoor space which we can dedicate to providing emotional, wellbeing and mental health support to our pupils. If successful in applying for planning application, the Nurture Centre could also provide many other opportunities:

Quiet classroom for children, additional learning space, opportunity for regular science, technology, engineering and maths (STEM) activities, supporting the school curriculum, breakfast / after school club or perhaps a community meeting place (e.g. WI group, church groups, Roecliffe Neighbourhood Plan facility / planning area.

APPENDIX 3

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT – Church of St. Mary, Roecliffe.

Church Fabric

As a community, we appreciate how lucky we are that the Churches Conservation Trust own and look after the fabric of our church. We are also lucky that before government cut backs the CCT had spent considerable sums of money in restoring worn stones in the masonry, so that the fabric at this time is in good shape. Even small jobs we ask for now cannot be afforded and are put on the CCT's wish list, but on the whole, these are jobs that can wait.

At a recent meeting with the CCT they told us that it costs about £800 per year to maintain our church. We do support them and usually have one fund raising event a year on their behalf, and we support in other ways such as half our church collections go to them. Last year we paid out to them £806 plus £80.15 from the Church Donation Box, so they are pleased with the support that Roecliffe give. We are also one of a small number of CCT churches that pays for its own heating before services.

However, we are responsible for maintaining our church yard. In the past year, apart from grass cutting, we have had little to do. One issue we have is that we have visitors who are looking for family graves and cannot always find them. We have a very useful Graveyard survey that Roecliffe School put together in 2001, but there are gaps. It is obvious that people have been buried and no grave stone has been ordered and put in place. Checking with the Archdeacon there are no other burial records so to find where graves are the only way is to rod to see where coffins might be. This will have to be done if we are to put in place a meaningful churchyard plan for future burials.

Services

Our Adult Worshipping Community (AWC) for 2016 has dropped to 16. This means that we have 16 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 great enthusiasm.

After a period of Interregnum, the Revd Dr Diane Westmoreland joined us last May. She is now settling in with her husband Keith after a family tragedy set them back last July. A Parish Office has been set up in the Tourist Office in Boroughbridge enabling her to meet people in the centre of town rather than always at the Vicarage.

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 207 in 2016, as against 274 in 2015. This is the first time that we have seen such a drop in numbers for several years and in the main reflected who was around at Christmas.

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 2 baptism, and 1 funeral, sadly that of Angela Collin, such a stalwart of our church..

Finances

Financially the church is in good shape. Our various Funds have increased in 2016 by just over 7% on the previous year. We made a small loss of £1145 on our Income/Expenditure due to share transactions, selling some and purchasing others. Our Parish Share which we had to pay the Diocese was £10543 for the year. Imagine how we would fare if we had to pay for the fabric of the church as well!

Activities

During 2016 we organised two Quiz nights, the proceeds of one being donated to the CCT, and a coffee morning, very kindly hosted by Lisa Daniell. Thanks to Dave Siswick for acting as our Quiz Master and The Crown for the half time refreshments. The Chapel Choir of Queen Mary's school plus their leading instrumentalists gave a concert in the church which attracted over 100 people. The Racket Club has had a good year with 117 numbers being sold each month.

We are now looking forward to a Safari Supper on Saturday May 6th and a possible Decibel's concert in the church on Saturday, June 10th.

Thanks

At last week's AGM, we welcomed Rachael Say onto the Roecliffe Church Council. John Mitchell continues as our Treasurer, and Lisa Daniell as our secretary, and I thank them both for their 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. Our UPCC Membership is made up of John Mitchell, Steve Jarvis, David Bellwood and myself. I thank all the committee for their support over the past year.

As Chairman of the Church Council, besides the people I have already thanked, I would like to thank all those who arrange flowers in church. We now have a flower rota and several more people have come forward to try their hand at arranging flowers with some excellent results. 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, Roecliffe P.C.C.

APPENDIX 4

NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH REPORT

We are extremely lucky that North Yorkshire is still one of the safest places to live in the UK and little crime is reported in our area.

As secretary of the Safer Neighbourhood Group in Boroughbridge I am well aware as to changes that have come about in the past year. P.C. Neil Waite retired last summer and has been replaced by P.C. Jan Powell. Our new Inspector of Police, Simon Williamson has four top priorities.

- Protecting vulnerable people and keeping them safe.
- Cutting crime and intervention
- Preventing and early intervention
- Improving victim care.

Rural crime is included in the cutting crime priority.

The local crime picture, and this refers to the Boroughbridge area, shows robberies down from 5 to 3. Burglary of dwellings down 30% (in Boroughbridge area 6), sexual offences up 66% (a rise of 6), and here the Internet is the major issue. Bicycle thefts down 37% (8 to 5). Overall crime is down by 11% The police have good cooperation from the public.

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