

## **Meeting Places within Roecliffe**

The survey of residents showed that 71% of them would like to see a Village Meeting Place built. Presently there is no land to build such a place, and meetings with land owners within Roecliffe & Westwick clarified that none of them were prepared to, or thinking of releasing any land for sale.

Until this situation changes we are left with three options for meetings and get togethers; Roecliffe C of E Primary School, the Church of St. Mary in Roecliffe, or The Crown Inn.

Meetings have taken place with each of the stakeholders involved with the following results.

Roecliffe C of E Primary School: The headmistress has told us that she is very open to the school being used for Parish activities outside of teaching hours- it is just a question of planning and scheduling. It is already used for Parish Council meetings and the Womans Institute. There is also a class room set up with lap tops which villages could use for evening computer training.

Church of St. Mary, Roecliffe: The church is owned by the Churches Conservation Trust so any changes to the fabric of the building would have to be approved by them. At present the church is not set up as a meeting place but as a place of worship. There is only limited heating, no running water and so no kitchen or toilet facilities. In order to accommodate people comfortably the pews would have to be removed and chairs purchased.

A meeting with The Churches Conservation Trust determined that they would have no objection to changes being made to the fabric of the church, but the money would have to be raised within the community. This is estimated to be £140,000. Heating is a major problem since the church has a barrel roof making it a major issue to heat the church economically to acceptable temperatures, especially in the winter months. In order to incorporate a kitchenette and toilet in the vestry of the church, running water would have to be brought to the church, and an extension put onto the vestry. If money was raised in stages, this would enable work to be planned and scheduled accordingly.

The Crown Inn: The landlord is most accommodating with villagers when they have events which require food and drink, and helps out as and when he can so long as it doesn't affect his business. By planning ahead we have used The Coach house situated behind the restaurant for major village events, but for smaller events like Quiz Nights it is more cosy in the main restaurant of the Crown Inn.