

MINUTES OF THE PARISH ASSEMBLY OF ROECLIFFE AND WESTWICK
PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 20th APRIL 2015 AT ROECLIFFE SCHOOL

1. Present

Cllr Bolland, Cllr Siswick, Cllr Reeve, Cllr Jarvis, Cllr Green and 28 members of the public.

2. Apologies

District Cllr Brown, Richard Booth, Sam Dale

3. Minutes of Last Meeting (31/03/2014)

These were agreed as correct.

4. Chairman's Report

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

5. Finance Report

The Clerk gave the financial report for the Parish Council. Funds were in a good state with a balance of £6,285 being carried forward in FY 15/16. Major expenses incurred during the year included the Clerk's honorarium of £1,624, the cost of the defibrillator and ancillary costs of £2,032, grass cutting of £684 and various subscriptions to societies of £292

Major sources of income for the year included HBC's precept of £3,445, £2,032 received from the Village Fund, £387 from HBC for Grounds Maintenance. £385 of VAT was claimed back during the financial year.

The accounts had been audited internally and had been sent off to the external auditors for sign-off.

6. 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:

- Change of Use for Thompson Commercials had been agreed
- An application for the erection of three buildings on the land to the north of Holmside Farm had been received: this had since been reduced to two buildings.
- A small extension at Pasture Close had been approved
- An application to sever roots of an oak tree for Aaztec Associates had been withdrawn.
- An application for an extension to the cold store for Reed Boardall was under consideration.

7. Headteacher's Report

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

8. Village Fund Report

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

9. Parochial Church Council Report

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

10. WI Report

Helen Davison gave the W.I. report. This is incorporated under Appendix 6 of the minutes.

11. Neighbourhood Watch Report

Jim Bolland gave the Neighbourhood Watch report. The Safer Neighbourhood Group is based in Boroughbridge and meets twice a year. He reported that there had been one garage broken into during the year in the parish. Unfortunately, it was a different story in Boroughbridge. There had been reports of alleged bullying and intimidation which were being looked into. In addition, crime figures had been reported as follows: damage to buildings – 6 cases: theft – 18 cases and assault with injury – 16 cases

12. Neighbourhood Plan Report

Cllr Siswick gave the Neighbourhood Plan Report. This is incorporated under Appendix 5 of the minutes.

13. New Plans for Old Brickyard Ponds

Cllr Green updated the meeting on the proposed plans for the ponds near Thornes Lane and Paynes Dairies. There were new owners of the area, Carp Vale, who were active in the carp fishing industry. Sam Dale had intended to attend the meeting tonight but had had to give his apologies.

The intention is that the whole area would become a fishery. There would be limited numbers of anglers who could access the ponds. Carp would be sold to other fisheries. The intention was to erect a 4.5-foot fence around the lake to restrict otters; this would be locked. The entrance would be from Claypit Lane. There was no intention to erect any buildings.

People who liked to walk in that area can approach Mr Dale for access. He wants to work with the village in order to make the project a success.

The Environment Officer at HBC, Colin Slater has been involved although Cllr Green understood that he had been surprised to discover that the area had been sold without his knowledge: it seemed that HBC Planning had failed to notify him.

The meeting closed at 20:55.

APPENDIX 1

PARISH COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S REPORT.

I would like to start by thanking my fellow Cllrs and Parish Clerk for all their help over the past year. In particular Dave Siswick, who besides Planning has now taken over the Chairmanship for our Neighbourhood Plan Team, of which more later. I think you will agree that the village has been looking beautiful these past few months with the snowdrops in January and February followed by the crocus and daffodils. 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.

A major decision was taken by your Parish Council last September to write a Neighbourhood Plan for the parishes of Roecliffe & Westwick. This followed meetings with HBC's Jill Ritchie, who heads a team helping Town & Parish Councils develop their Plans. A team of 11 people have volunteered to work on this, the majority villagers who are not Parish Cllrs, so it is your plan and not one handed down by the Parish Council. I am not going to say too much here on this topic since Dave Siswick will tell us more later. But just to say that the local community will be able to play a major role in shaping our Parishes and how we want the community to develop over the next 20 years. A properly constructed and approved plan will be included in HBC's Local Plan and will mean that we have a much greater say in what new properties are needed in our Parish and where they should be sited. This is a key issue presently with the government asking for more and more homes, and HBC's allocation having been increased dramatically.

Potholes on our roads remain a constant curse. From time to time NYCC Highways have filled in pot holes in Bar Lane and in the village but such is the standard of the work that the pot holes soon reappear. Contractors do most of this work since NYCC have laid off some of their work gangs. One only has to look at the road from Roecliffe to Bishop Monkton to see how the new road surface has broken up again especially on the verges. NYCC appreciate that to bring the road network up to an acceptable level of repair will cost some £50MM, and they don't have this money to spend. Last November we were promised that the road markings along Bar Lane would be refreshed before the end of the financial year, but now we are told that the project has been delayed as there are more urgent cases.

Thornes Lane at last is looking tidier than for a long time, and a further area should be cleared soon. Mr Sam Webb has bought the old Brickyard works ponds and he is here tonight to tell us his plans and answer any questions. There is a lot of scrap metal dumped in part of his new purchase near Mr Cambage's work place and we do know that Sam is not going to tolerate this for too long.

The village Green was well maintained last year by Mr Downie. Not only does he cut the grass but strims around the trees so hopefully it always looks tidy. Twice a year he strims around Roecliffe Pond as well.

Our trees on the village green were inspected last year by Alan Gilleard, a well-recognised HBC arborist who gave a clean bill of health. He was impressed with the variety of trees we have and the blend of old and new trees. Three trees were identified that need help due to lack of water, a white beam and two rowan trees.

Regular meetings continue to take place between ourselves and Reed Boardall. Andrew Baldwin is now the MD, and has agreed to be part of our Neighbourhood Plan team. Dave Siswick, Steve Jarvis and myself visited at the time that they wished to extend their new cold store. It is the last obvious place for them to expand without encroaching further into the countryside, but they are hopeful that this new expansion will be sufficient for the short to medium term. Paynes Dairies have been contacted over a noise emanating from one of their manifolds which broke on a blower. This was repaired and on request Paynes Dairies have also

agreed to do regular litter picks around their property. So together with Reed Boardall's litter pick this should help keep Bar Lane tidier.

Reed Boardall also check for refrigerated trucks parking in Becklands Close and Brickyard Road twice a day. Their job will be made much easier if the proposed move by Highways of the 7.5-ton limit from its present position outside Paynes Dairies back to the A168 round-a-bout takes place. This would prevent access of HGVs taking place unless they were undertaking legitimate business with overnight parking not being deemed as such. There have been one or two objections to this move but the biggest motivation to this not happening yet is the cost of the new signage required, and lack of funding.

Thanks to everyone who took part in the Litter Picking last month. Again the weather was kind to us. A big thank you to Richard and Lisa Daniell for hosting the helpers to bacon butties and cakes after the event.

Funds for the defibrillator were raised and the defibrillator is now installed between the Crown Inn and the Coach House. Training of 15 people took place last October, and further training will be announced.

Dog fouling rears its head from time to time and we try to nip it in the bud when we are aware of it. Letters have been sent to possible culprits, but the onus has to be on villagers to report dogs who are seen misbehaving on the village green or pavements especially at the entrance to Roecliffe Primary School, and on the green where the children play. It has been noticed that several overnight visitors who stay at The Crown Inn have dogs who are exercised before they leave for their next journey. So please be vigilant and report any guilty dog to a member of the P.C.

I won't say anything about Planning Applications since Dave Siswick will be presenting Planning shortly.

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. Although the news is not what we always want to hear, we are kept abreast with projects which are going on.

I will finish with a reminder. 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 Monday, May 18th 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

HEADTEACHER'S REPORT

1. Overview of Summer Term 2014, Autumn Term 2014 & Spring Term 2015

- **Thank you**
- I would like to begin by expressing my sincere thanks to the parents, pupils, staff, governors and wider community for their role in continuing to shape and drive the future of our school. We all feel extremely proud to be part of the opportunities and high standards of education we are able to continue to offer our pupils.

- **Summer Term 2014**
 - Le Grand Camp was a huge success, with all Key Stage 2 pupils camping overnight, and lots of positive feedback from parents on their children's experience.
 - Mrs Dalton & Miss Harker successfully conducted first educational visit to Le Touquet with Year 4 pupils 21-23 May 2014.
 - Year 5 & 6 pupils took part in the Fiver Challenge, making over £800 profit in just two weeks, and with over £630 pledged to charities.
 - Year 5 & 6 performed Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' 8-9th July 2014.
 - We successfully applied for a Cultural Arts grant from North Yorkshire Sport following our dance performance at the opening ceremony of the Youth Games on Sunday 29th June.

- **Summer Data for Year 2013-14** (*Source: Department for Education League tables*)
 - % achieving level 4 or above in reading, writing and maths
 - **Ranked in top 25 schools of 352 schools – 1 of 25 schools achieving 100%**
 - achieving level 4b or above in reading and maths tests and level 4 or above in writing TA
 - Ranked 17th of 352 schools – achieving 92%
 - % making expected progress
 - 100% in Reading, 100% in Writing and 100% in Mathematics

- **Autumn term 2014**
 - 2014 National Curriculum implemented for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2.
 - Artsmark Gold achieved October 2014.
 - Arts Committee formed.
 - School Council & Collective Worship Committees – roles enhanced with regular meetings and links between committees.
 - Gifted and Talented Readers (Key Stage 2 – Year 4+) Book Group with Boroughbridge High School – Termly meetings. First meeting held 11 November 2014.
 - Roecliffe joined the North Star Teaching School Alliance.
 - Roecliffe conducting a research project into Shanghai/Chinese methods in teaching maths, to raise standards across the school.

- **Spring Term 2015**
 - Gifted and Talented Mathematicians (Key Stage 2 – Year 4+) event in school with Kjartan Poskit, Roecliffe invited local cluster to attend. In total 63 mathematicians from across 9 school joined us. Fantastic feedback.
 - Whole-school visit from Kjartan Poskit (Murderous Maths) – Jan 2015.
 - Global Dance Festival with local Cluster of schools – February 2015. Led by Roecliffe.
 - Half termly Reading / Book Club at Boroughbridge High School.
 - Class 1 & 2 visiting Eureka linked to Class themes.
 - Class 4 visit to London (overnight residential).

- School plans to submit an application for the Primary Science Quality Mark (Gold) in Summer Term 2015.

- **Teaching Staff**
 - Class 1 – Mrs Leyland
 - Class 2 – Mr Bailey
 - Class 3 – Mrs Harker-Jones
 - Class 4 – Mrs Holloway and Mrs Dalton
 - The school led the following services at St Mary’s Church; Harvest Festival (October 2014), Bible Presentation (October 2014), Christmas carol Concert (December 2014) and Easter Service (March 2015).

2. Newsletters – Mrs Dalton presented the half-termly newsletter with full updates on all aspects of the curriculum and community links.

Signed: *Mrs K L Dalton*

Date: 20th March 2015

Mrs Kerry Dalton, Headteacher

APPENDIX 3

VILLAGE FUND COMMITTEE REPORT

Village Fund Committee

Chair - Carolyn Collin

Treasurer - Lisa Daniels

Secretary - Rachael Say

Scott Green

Jim Bolland

John Feildhouse

Mary Jane Ogden

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 a/so 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

This year-

- Scott Green has been working at gleaning support, raising money, coordinating training, liaising and organising for a defibrillator machine to be housed at the back of the Crown Inn. He has managed to raise a substantial amount of money from fundraising, residents and local businesses - thank you Scott for all your hard work and for the new defibrillator we now have.
- Roecliffe Le Grand depart - Tour De France - On Sunday 22nd June we had a happy village day of fund raising and a chance to get together as a community with stalls and games and picnics/BBQ - thank you to Rachael Say for organising a lovely day.
- In January we held a Candlelit Concert in the church with the all female choir the Yorkshire Decibelles. The church was full and it was a very special evening thank you to all those who attended and supported this event.
- We wish to thank all those who were involved with this year's litter picking and maintenance day which took part on the th March.
- The telephone box has been painted and had shelves fitted. Thank you to all the volunteers who helped with the painting and to Sectt Green for fixing in the shelving. The telephone box is being used as a book swap, games, cd and DVD and can also be a place where local villagers can put notices for items to sell or for things needed.

Our current Village Fund balance is £4095.35 and here is a brief breakdown:

Our Expenditure:

- £1,850 - for the defibrillator.
- £92.50 Installation
- £182.60 - for a practice resuscitation manikin.
- £50 donated to Open Country who assisted with pond clearance
- £19.40 for shelving in the telephone box - by Scott Green

Funds raised or given were:

- Donations for the defibrillator £2,260 (Defibrillator)
- Grand Depart (net) £487.25 (Defibrillator)
- VAT refund £307 (Defibrillator)
- Candlelit Concert £784 - Village Fund

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

APPENDIX 4

PCC REPORT

CHURCH FABRIC

We are very lucky in as much as the Churches Conservation Trust look after the fabric of our church. Having said that no money has been spent on it these past two years due to the Government cutbacks on support for such organisations. Small things we have asked to be done have been put on the CCT “wish list” and there they remain. Urgent low cost work we have done ourselves such as replacing edging from the pew fronts, and reinforcing some steps.

The donation box in church is emptied each month and the contents sent to the CCT. Last year these amounted to £121.60p. We are also one of a small number of CCT churches that pays for its own heating before services.

We have plans to improve the churchyard, replacing the lighting and resurfacing the path. We are also creating three car parking spaces for people who need assistance in coming to church. We had big plans to put an arch over the entrance to the church with a light on it, but this plan has been shelved since the village are putting together a Neighbourhood Plan which will identify if more lighting is needed in the village. Also, although there has been a metal arch over the church gate, it has been impossible to find any photograph of what it looked like, and that was the purpose of trying to replace it. Also it would have entailed putting another cable down the entire length of the church path.

SERVICES

Our Adult Worshipping Community (AWC) for 2014 has been 19. This means that we have 19 people who attend church reasonably 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. We are also lucky in as much as Philip Smith and Wilf Going, who take the majority of our services, do make them very children friendly. We also invite the Junior Choir to some services. This is a choir run by Elizabeth Jarvis and includes several children from Roecliffe.

We continue to hold services the second Sunday of each month, since we are limited in the number of services we can hold. Obviously at Easter time and Christmas we hold services on those specific dates. In addition, there is a short communion service every other Monday of the month. This is for those who might not be able to make Parish Communion on a Sunday, and anyone else interested. These services are held at Angela’s where it is much more intimate and much warmer than in church.

If one lumps together our Harvest Festival, Easter Day, Christmas Carol Concert and Christmas Day services, these have been attended by 266 in 2014, as against 234 in 2013. Very encouraging to see this number creeping up.

The CCT ask us to enter the number of people who visit the church, which also includes church services. Apparently the more people, the more funding they receive. During 2014 1814 people have signed the visitor’s book in church, a 24% increase over 2013. Often this figure is influenced by the number of school services held since when this happens there are almost 200 children and parents in church.

Baptisms can be held during a church service or in a separate one. In the last 12 months we have had 2 baptisms, and 2 funerals.

In May 2014 it was 25 years since the church was reopened by the CCT following repairs made after the church was found to be collapsing inwards in the 1960s. The Archdeacon of Richmond, Paul Slater officiated along with Philip. There was a very good attendance but sadly no one from the CCT came along. A celebratory drink was offered after the service with lavish nibbles.

FINANCES

Financially the church is in good shape. Our various Funds have increased in 2014 by a further 5%. We made a small surplus of £636 on our Receipts and Expenditure Statement for the year, which was fine considering we only held one major event – A Murder Mystery evening, and had a Parish Share of £9500 to pay to the Diocese.

ACTIVITIES

During 2014 there was a Potato Weigh In competition for the children mainly, a Murder Mystery Evening run by the Ripon Rowells, two Quiz Nights, a concert by the Decibelles Choir in the church and of course our Racket Club.

The potato weigh in raised almost £140, and the Quiz Nights £460. The Murder Mystery evening was in The Coach House and we thank Karl and Amanda Mainey for allowing us to use it, and being so generous to the P.C.C. on the night. This event raised just over £1000. The Decibelles Concert was in aid of The Village Fund, but it filled the church which was excellent. The Racket Club has had a good year with 130 numbers being sold each month, and that has raised £980 during the year.

THANKS

John Mitchell continues as our Treasurer, and Pat Pratt, our secretary and I thank them for their dedicated services. Stephen Jarvis and myself continue as Church Wardens, and David Bellwood and Elizabeth Jarvis give us excellent support playing the organ. 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 not changed over the past 12 months. So I thank all the above 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 Philip Smith and Wilf Going who take our services and cater so well for the children during these services; Jill Bolland, Jo Mitchell and Ros Winn for their flower arranging and for the beautiful displays they provide for special services. Thanks now to Heather who has organised the cleaning rota for the church and encouraged so many new cleaners onto the rota; those who provide coffee and refreshments after services. And finally a big thank you to all those of you who support our events, sell tickets and collect money. Without you we would be lost.

APPENDIX 5

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN REPORT

In September last year, Roecliffe PC took the decision to produce a Neighbourhood Plan. By this means, our community will be given a way to influence future decisions taken by the district and county authorities on the many aspects of planning.

In our case, the area chosen is the whole of the Roecliffe and Westwick Parish.

A working party has been formed consisting of a wide range of local people who have shown an interest in coming together to contribute to this project. However, it is stressed that the content, and the shape of the proposed plan will be determined by the views of the whole population of approximately 200 people, as far as is possible.

We have divided up the population so that each working party member has a responsibility of communicating with his allocated “constituents”, such that their views and opinions on the wide variety of topics associated can be sought. This gathering of opinion will, and the corresponding publication of progress reports will be continuous for the length of the project.

It is hoped to complete this in about one year, although there are no formal deadlines.

We are determined to involve as many people from the Parish as possible.

The final acceptance, or of course rejection, will be by referendum of the whole Roecliffe and Westwick population. We are also going to canvass the opinions of the children of the village.

Once the Neighbourhood Plan has been produced, it will be submitted to HBC. When they have accepted the plan, it will sit within their Local Plan. It will be obligatory for the Planners, and other decision makers to take full account of the plan contents when making their own decisions regarding the Parish. It is intended, of course, that our plan will not be confrontational with the greater obligations and wishes of the wider area, and it is therefore important that we give responsible consideration to these requirements also, as well as local views.

Every person within the Parish will soon be contacted in the first poll of their opinion on a variety of topics. I hope that people will be able to enter into the spirit of what we are trying to achieve, The results will be far reaching.

APPENDIX 6

WI REPORT

This year has seen only a small change of personnel on the Roecliffe WI committee. At the AGM in November 2014 the current committee all agreed to remain as members, and we added Jacqueline Wilson as new blood! 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 do sterling work to make sure all our meetings and events run smoothly.

Our membership this year has dropped slightly to 30, with an average attendance of 21. We welcomed 2 new members, ladies new to the village. Sadly 2 of our members, Mavis Clarke and Linda Warrington, passed away this year. Both Mavis and Linda had been enthusiastic and inspirational WI members and will be sorely missed.

During 2014

- We entered every available WI class in both the Great Yorkshire Show and were placed third overall.
- We helped to run the WI tea tent at the Aldborough & Boroughbridge Show. The tea tent has made its last appearance, this year the WI presence at the show will be reduced to a single stall.
- We entered a Christmas tree in the annual Boroughbridge competition, our entry was based on a poppy theme in view of the WW1 centenary. We gained second place.
- 5 members attended the National AGM at Leeds, had a splendid day out with inspirational speakers and great companionship.
- Members attended courses at Alma House in Ripon, the Federation Spring Council Meeting, and outings arranged by our North Yorkshire West Federation.
- We entered art, craft and cookery items in the 'Women Inspired' Exhibition at Alma House in Ripon, and came second (only beaten by a WI with 60 members).
- We contributed to a collection by our Federation to help WI members in the Somerset floods- this help was sent in the form of DIY store vouchers.

Our meetings this year saw a wide variety of speakers and entertainers including talks about York Minster, Sailing to Greece, Making a Will and Sir Titus Salt of Saltaire: demonstrations by the Bedale community Bakery, Georgia Wilkinson design and the York Minster Borderers: Music Hall entertainment (when we all took part in the 'kangaroo hop') and a summer garden party and village discovery quiz. This quiz has since been used successfully to entertain many visiting grandchildren!!

This year it was Roecliffe WI's turn to act as Chairman of the Boroughbridge Group WIs, and we hosted 4 joint meetings and a very successful Carol Service at Roecliffe Church.

2015, as I am sure you have seen from the increased media presence, is the Centenary Year of the WI in England and Wales. There are many events still to come including the National AGM at the Royal Albert Hall, a mammoth 5-day walking event round the Ripon Rowel walk, and an exhibition at Kiplin Hall entitled '100 Shades of Green'. Roecliffe WI, as always, is fully involved in these events, continuing the long tradition of being an active, involved and interesting organisation for women of all ages.