

## TOPCLIFFE PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held on Monday January 17th, in the village hall

Councillors present: G Key (Chair), H Wilson, V Rawlings, R Smith, T Brown

Apologies: none

Also present: County Cllr W Barton, District Cllr Neville Huxtable, Padre Roy Burley, Ray Parker

### MINUTES

350 It was resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on December 20th, be accepted as a true record and be signed by the Chairman.

### MATTERS ARISING AND OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC QUESTIONS

351 The Council wished to offer its condolences to the family, friends and regiment of Brian Russell. GK has written to the Colonel and had received a reply of thanks. Padre Roy Burley also offered his thanks on behalf of the regiment.

352 Shelter at cemetery In reference to Minute 347, Padre Roy Burley asked to know what the proposed shelter would look like. GK agreed to share the plans with him so that they can be passed to the regiment. GK

353 County boundaries County Cllr W Barton informed the meeting of changes to the county electoral boundaries from the next council election and District Cllr N Huxtable explained changes to the Parliamentary boundary to come into effect at the next-but-one general election

354 Use of Bungalow, Station Rd District Cllr N Huxtable has received a complaint about the bungalow on Station Rd being used to store JCBs. GK informed the Council that the owners operate a plant hire company and store a JCB there from time-to-time but saw no cause for real complaint. He agreed to notify Cllr Huxtable if there were any changes to this.

### ITEMS FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS - none

### 355 PLANNING

- i) 3 Back Lane – Two storey extension and porch extension No objections were noted
- ii) The following planning decisions were noted:
  - a) Columba Cottage, Church St - Works to acacia and apple trees – approved
  - b) 5&6 East Lea – demolition of two dwellings and construction of four replacement dwellings approved
  - c) Hagg House, Thorpefield – renewal of planning consent for alterations to stable buildings and double garage - approved

### OPEN SPACES MAINTENANCE

356 Long St tarmac GK has met with the British Telecom customer manager who admitted BT's mistake. They have agreed to resurface 60square metres of tarmac at the west end of the village, and have also agreed to work with NEDL to do the work jointly. BT are sending compensation forms to GK who is hoping for compensation at a similar level to that agreed with NEDL.

357 Mole control at Sheepwash The Council agreed to renew the contract with Nick Fletcher at £70.50 including VAT

### VILLAGE PROJECTS

358 Tollbooth / Youth Engagement Project GK informed the Council that the electrics will be completed this week. Stephen Halliday has done a very good job converting the office, and will also build the windows which have been approved by the Planning Authority. Second hand carpet has been found for the flooring.

GK has spoken to Sgt Ben Frank of Thirsk police, who will look at making the Tollbooth a part time police station.

There are five keys, to be held by the youth worker, police and Parish Council. John Mulley has agreed to keep a key and register at the Post Office.

GK will make enquiries about getting a water cooler and dispensing machine.

GK

359 Sheepwash Development Project and Butler Memorial bench GK has met Tracey Butler during the weekend of 8<sup>th</sup> / 9<sup>th</sup> January 2005, whilst the Sheepwash was flooded. She has taken advice and will use non-rot wood to make the bench, although questions remain about how to hold it down. TB agreed to come up with some ideas about tying in

the possible landing stage, memorial bench, area clearance, etc. GK to speak to **Ray Parker**.

**GK, TB**

360 Topcliffe Emergency Plan It was agreed that it would be beneficial to have a plan whereby in an emergency (power cuts, gas cuts, serious road accidents, flooding, etc), a meeting point, gas burner for hot water and meals, could be organised, particularly in the light of recent power failures. Both the Tollbooth, Methodist Church Hall and Village Hall were cited as possible venues, with the Village Hall perhaps the most suitable because it is the biggest. Camping gas equipment could perhaps be used. It was recalled that HDC had issued guidelines for emergency plans some 3-4 years ago and it was agreed that GK would contact the Emergency Planning Officer to request guidance. **GK**

361 Village benches It was noted that the licence for the seat in Church Lane in memory of Tom Brown has been received. VR agreed to investigate styles of bench for the seat in East Lea in time for the next meeting. **VR**

### 362 **FINANCES, CHEQUES AND COUNCIL ADMINISTRATION**

i) Budget The current budget position was noted

ii) Income The following income was noted:

- £1,300 grant from NYCC for the Tollbooth

- £500 from NEDL for Tollbooth / by way of compensation

- £40 via John Graham for two Millennium books

- £302.50 from St Columba's representing 50% of burial fees for 2003 and 2004

iii) Payments The following payments were approved:

- £240 to Kall Kwick for printing 12 copies of the Millennium book

- £253.09 to the Clerk for salary and expenses

a) A payment of £1,966.95 to NYCC for grass cutting and hedge trimming was not approved. GK noticed that a sum for trimming the cemetery hedges, which should have been gratis due to damage, had been included on the invoice. In addition some councillors stated that they felt the grasscutting had been of very poor quality, either not cutting back enough grass, or cutting it right down to the mud. It was agreed that GK would follow up with NYCC regarding the sum on the invoice, and RS would contact Steve Gibbs of NYCC to discuss the quality and provide photographs. **GK, RS**

iv) Annual Parish Meeting and Council meeting dates It was agreed that the Annual Parish Meeting would take place on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> May, with the venue to be confirmed. Monthly Council meetings would take place as normal on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of each month. HW agreed to publish the dates in Tattler. CC to contact Linda Nuttall to book the Village Hall. **HW, CC**

### 363 **CORRESPONDENCE**

i) John Graham – Report of Topcliffe Feoffees. GK summarised the letter including the request that the council should discuss whether the money can be distributed to better effect. The Councillors agreed to think about ideas to be discussed at a later meeting. HW to discuss with John Graham and to publish in the Tattler. The letter was circulated. **HW**

ii) HDC questionnaire for Preliminary Statement of Community Involvement – GK to fill in **GK**

iii) YLCA White Rose Update including discussion of parochial fees – circulated. CC to get table of parochial fees from NYCC. **CC**

iv) HDC – email regarding councils' donations to overseas charities – circulated

v) HDC register of electors 2005 – CC to request additional copies from NYCC **CC**

364 **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – 21<sup>st</sup> February 2005