



THE ROOSTER

Roos Village Newsletter

No. 73

March 2001

Roos Parish Council

At the meeting on 12th March all councillors were present except Cllr Jackson. East Riding Councillor Stewart Willie had sent his apologies.

Minutes

The February Minutes were approved. There were no matters arising that were not dealt with later on the Agenda.

Millennium monument

At the previous meeting members had been asked to give some thought to the form and wording of an inscription.

Cllr Quarmby had enquired about the cost of a plaque of the type used for the signs at the entries to the village. A plaque carrying the de Ros coat of arms and the word "Roos" would cost about £50. The addition of a message - e.g. "Roos welcomes careful drivers" - would cost about £60.

Cllr Grant had earlier argued against just another road sign. The plaque should be a worthwhile one and capable of lasting for a long time. He favoured an inscribed stone. The cost could be afforded since there had been expense to the Council neither for the granite stones already in place nor for their installation. This proved the majority view.

It was agreed that it was unnecessary to include the name of the village since the de Ros shield would be sufficient.

Cllr Priest reminded members of the suggestion of Rev Philip Moate reported at an earlier meeting : he thought that the plaque might carry a Christian emblem since the site was at the entry to a church school; a star recalling the Star of Bethlehem would be appropriate. This was agreed.

Members also agreed with Cllr Kirk that the date and an indication of the population of the village should be added.

Philip Moate was present and was asked if he had any other comments. He said that a plaque of black marble with gold letters would look too much like a gravestone. He had been impressed by the colourful signs in some other villages, for instance Atwick. He was asked to enquire about the source of these signs.

There was some discussion of the technique of adding colour, possibly by using enamel on metal, though enamel might be chipped by vandals. Meanwhile the Chairman undertook to consult Mr Everingham at Hedon who had

suggested a black marble slab. He would be asked if he himself could produce a more colourful inscribed plaque.

To assist further consideration, Cllr Cook offered to obtain a computer-generated design incorporating the agreed features.

Correspondence

Grass cutting. An East Riding questionnaire sought views on the adequacy of the grass-cutting programme. Members agreed with the Chairman that, overall, the operation of the programme was satisfactory.

Gardeners' Question Time, featuring Douglas Stewart. Hedon Town Council invited residents to the event on 30th March.

Withernsea & South Holderness Regeneration Partnership. Members were invited to a meeting and buffet lunch at Withernsea Golf Club on 19th March.

Withernsea & South Holderness Regeneration Partnership. The Partnership invited involvement in a Study Group to set up a Credit Union. The Management Committee would have 21 members. To support its launch the Union would need 250 initial pledges.

Waste water treatment. James Cran MP was concerned about provision in rural areas. He had sent a press release.

Sewerage treatment. The Roos installation was to be upgraded in 2002 to meet statutory requirements.

Schools' Industry Day. A scheme funded by the Single Regeneration Budget would enable representatives of industry to visit schools to advise pupils and help promote life-long learning.

Planning

Area Planning Committee decisions

Sand-le-Mere Caravan & Chalet Park. A previous application to extend the site and allow access via Kilnhouse Lane had been refused and an appeal against refusal had been withdrawn. It was now reported that a re-submitted application had also been refused as far as access was concerned : no application would be approved unless it included a scheme to upgrade Kilnhouse Lane.

Manor Farm. Carport at rear - Approved.

The Sycamores. Granny-flat extension - Approved.

New application

Plot 6, Cherry Hill Park. Application by Mr F.Cook to erect a detached four-bedroom house and attached garage. The Parish Council raised no objection.

Accounts

Two payments were approved : the Parish Clerk's salary and expenses and the insurance premium renewal (£147).

Cllr D.E.Winter, Treasurer, said that the agreed precept for 2001 - 2002 was £1000. To this would be added a balance of £2949.57 carried forward from the current year.

Any other business

Roos Beck

In answer to a question from Cllr Cheeseman, the Chairman said that there had been no developments since the letter from the Drainage Officer offering to meet members "during the working day."

He added that the officer had already made one visit and had met some councillors. There would be no point in asking him to come again unless there was a new issue to discuss.

Negotiations were in progress between the East Riding and Yorkshire Water. The hope was to establish clearly who was responsible for keeping Roos Beck clear of debris.

Members accepted that a visit at present would be pointless but asked the Clerk to write seeking a report on the state of the East Riding's dialogue with Yorkshire Water.

Foot and mouth disease

Cllr Quarmby said that there had been no East Riding notices in Roos advising that footpaths were closed. Cllr Grant disagreed : notices *had* been posted on all official public footpaths. People seen walking across unposted fields must have been using unauthorised footpaths.

Roos Parish Council

Next meeting : Monday 9th April

7.30 p.m. in The Memorial Institute

ALL WELCOME

Don't lose it - Use it!

Long before us in Roos, Burton Pidsea residents were able to dispose of waste paper and bottles in the containers sited in the village. However, Roos has for some time had a waste paper skip in the Roos Arms car park but it appears that too few people use it.

An officer from the East Riding rang The Rooster to ask for a warning to be passed on. The company providing the skip have stated that the paper deposited does not justify their

expense in collecting it.

Unless the skip is used more, they may take it away.

Rob Smalley at The Roos Arms is keen to have a bottle bank on site as well. It seems that the East Riding is hoping to arrange for this facility.

The paper bank and the proposed bottle bank are intended for use by everyone - not just The Roos Arms and its clientele.

It is good environmental policy to recycle materials. It also helps to cut down household waste and the high cost of disposing of it - otherwise paid for by Council Tax. At the very least it is convenient to have recycling facilities close at hand in our own village.

Let's use the facility we have and hope for more.

The Rooster

Donations

Grateful thanks are recorded to :

Mr & Mrs A.J.Adams, Mr & Mrs F.Burn, Mr & Mrs K.E.Franks, Mrs B.Maddison, Mr A.Markham, Mr & Mrs D.Miller, Mr P.G.Mullett, Miss S.Mullett, Mr & Mrs I.Spikings, Mr R.Wingham, Mr & Mrs B.Williams, Mrs J. Woodhouse.

Further donations will be very welcome.

Accounts

I am very aware that people who support The Rooster trust me with their money. I keep a record of all donations and pay them into a National Savings account at Roos Post Office. From the account I withdraw amounts to reimburse each month's printing costs and my personal expenses.

I first appealed for further donations last April. Next month I shall print a statement showing the newsletter's income and expenditure for the year to the end of March 2001.

Roos News

I depend on local people to supply material for inclusion. So far my recent requests for news and reports have had only slight response. For this reason (and because I have been occupied with family matters) the present issue is rather light.

I should welcome : information, illustrations, letters, views on village matters - and especially frequent reports from clubs and societies giving details of their activities and their forthcoming events. Please help.

L.H.

Rooster deadline

Please supply materials for the next issue by

Saturday 7th April

to Leslie Helliwell, Canwick, Lamb Lane (670291)

The History of Roos - 24

The Farms of Roos - 1

Background

The most recent summaries of Mr Wilbraham's History have dealt with the ancient enclosures - plots of land that were already enclosed before the Roos Award of 1784.

The account of local farms deals mainly with land enclosed as a direct result of the Award - i.e. plots allocated at the time according to people's rights to farm strips in the two huge unenclosed fields, West Field and East Field. These rights could have been acquired in a number of ways - mainly by custom and inheritance but also by purchase.

The Roos Award stimulated a flurry of buying and selling.

The better-off saw the advantage of buying up plots adjoining their own, either to farm themselves or as a profitable investment to rent out or to sell later at a profit. Poorer people who had never hoped for wealth saw the chance of a quick windfall and sold their plots for ready cash.

Those who could afford it built up the farms we know today by buying up neighbouring enclosures. In spite of the initial burst of activity this did not happen overnight. The process went on well into the 20th century - and continues, of course, today. The larger holdings get bigger. The smaller ones are swallowed up by their neighbours.

Mr Wilbraham traces the process in great detail and his account is hard for the modern reader to follow. This summary aims to clarify what is often confusing in the original. However, simplification may have led to errors.

Corrections from knowledgeable readers will be welcome.

N.B. Areas are usually given in acres, roods and perches :
1.2.24 = 1 acre, 2 roods, 24 perches.

Mr Wilbraham tends to use terms such as "recently" and "eighty years ago". Remember that he was writing in the mid-1960s.

Lord's Demesne, now Elm Farm (and others)

Demesne : 789.2.4. Also No. 21 - 1.2.24 - sold off.

New enclosures : 326.3.8, of which 20.0.16 was farmed by the tenant of Church Farm, Hilston.

Farmed previously by tenants of the lord of the Manor.

Purchased by the sitting tenant, George Dickinson, in 1867. He carved out of it another farm, North Farm.

Bought by George Grant, the sitting tenant, in the 1920s.

There were three separate farms all owned by the trustees but tenanted as follows :

The Elms	Johnson.
North Farm	Varley, Tuton, Bray.
Sunderland Farm	Rafton and Thompson.

The ancient fields into which this farm had been divided were only slightly modified. Originally there were 21 fields.

North Farm

About 220 acres.

Tuton and Fewson were there when Dickinson split it off. When the estates were sold the farm was bought by Ann Watson's Charity.

Subsequent tenants have been the Mace brothers, the Bay brothers, and Jack Winter (and Ted Ogram to 2001.)

Originally the house accommodated the foreman and farm-workers. It was later extended as can be seen from the road.

The Dickinsons

For nearly a century the large farm - Elm Farm and North Farm - was worked by the Dickinson family.

In the 1837 rate assessment William Dickinson was farming 928 acres, 1 rood, 23 perches, valued at £1060.10.9d. He died in 1842 at the age of 69 and his two sons carried on as tenants. John Taylor Dickinson lived at Elsternwick Hall - he was agent for Sykes land in this area. George Dickinson moved into The Elms from Lamb Lane bungalow.

George Dickinson

Born in 1818, a little time before his father came to Roos, George bought the farm in 1867. He died in 1890, having just before bought the old Rectory (site of the modern house at Elm Farm). His son William had come to live there with his wife, daughter of Canon Machell, the Rector.

In George's days great changes were taking place in agriculture, including the advent of new machinery, though motorised 20th century machines were still far in the future.

Old village people used to recall his fourteen pairs of horses. The stables still stand but are now piggeries. Along the wall side can be seen the nooks in which each horse's brush and other cleaning utensils were kept.

He used eight to ten Irish stockmen to manage his large herd of Aberdeen Angus cattle. He also employed many villagers, including Peter Smales, Tom Pickering, J.Wright, Joe Ellarby, and Sam Nicholson.

He had six weeks threshing out in the fields, in addition to eight or more in the stackyards. He converted sheds at Sunderlands into buildings and rebuilt the house for his shepherd to live in. Blenkin's threshing sets were hired after the days of hand-flails were over. The old horse mill in the yard was only recently dismantled.

Towards the end of his days George was a familiar figure as he went daily round the farm in a one-horse carriage. The line ended with the death of his son at Lausanne in 1914. It took three days to auction the contents of the house.

Mr Wilbraham himself acquired a large number of bound copies of the London News of the 1850s and 1860s, very useful in researching the history of that period.

Manor Farm

Ancient enclosures : 42, 43, and 46, between Lamb Lane and Ivy Row, confirmed to Edward Wallis.

New enclosure : 9.0.32, in East Field, behind the village shop built in the 19th century.

Glebe : 3 roods, enclosure No. 47.

The farm belonged to the Wallis family until recently. It seems to have been always let because the owner preferred his life in the shop (*site of our Roos Supermarket*).

A field (0.1.16) to the west of his own No. 46 was given to him by a relative.

The old house stood on No.43. The present one was built about 80 years ago to the north. Part of the old house forms some of the outbuildings. (*These were demolished to allow the erection of Manor Farm Cottages.*)

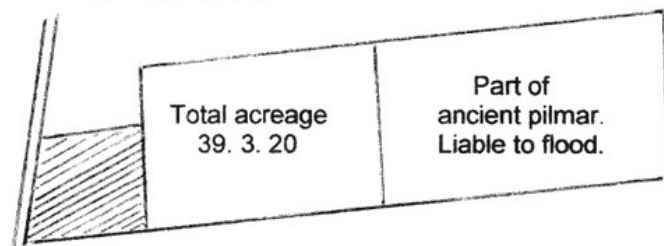
For many years the farmhouse was the local butcher's shop. Parnell Atkinson lived there, followed by his son, Bland Atkinson, who also farmed Dent's farm before Morris Metcalf. At this time the present house superseded the long low building.

They were followed by Joe Thompson of Burton Pidsea and then by two other members of his family, the last of whom married into the Wallis family. The Thompsons were well-known breeders of hackneys and greyhounds.

Then came John Kirkwood, who for a time had a butcher business. Then he bought Dent's farm, previously owned by Morris and William Metcalf. Since the war he has erected piggeries and fold yards on the west and has recently bought land at Burton Pidsea.

Two sketches show the plots enclosed from East Field : 9.0.32 behind the village shop and Dent's farm, 39.3.20, south of Pilmar Lane.

DENT'S FARM



The note, "ancient pilmar, liable to flood," suggests the origin of Pilmar (or Pilmoor) Lane - a track to or past low-lying swampy land. The Oxford English Dictionary gives :

Pill tributary creek or estuarial pool; drainage channel.

Moor (obsolete) pool or swamp.

(*Because the sketch-map does not show neighbouring plots, the precise location is not clear. However, the "piggeries and fold yards on the west" are clearly the ones south of Outlands. It looks as if Dent's farm was the land south again, stretching east and then north behind Elm Garth.*)

(*The Roos Award map shows a field in this position but oddly gives no indication of its ownership after the 1784 Award.*)

Eastfield Farm

In East Field on the north side of Pilmar Lane - 39.1.0.

Well before the enclosures Robert Dunn, who became one of the Award Commissioners, had the foresight to acquire the rights in East Field of John Clappison. John died in 1759 and Francis Clappison became tenant.

In 1809 Dunn sold the farm to a relative, W.Iveson of Hedon.

Three ancient enclosures, grass paddocks north of Lamb Lane, were also part of the farm : 44, 45, and 48. The total acreage was 2.3.17.

A farmhouse and buildings were erected. In 1833 Francis Clappison was succeeded as tenant by Robert Kemp, then Thomas Kemp in 1843 and John Robinson 1853 - 5.

In 1837 the owner was Iveson, 43.3.37. The acreage included four ancient enclosures owned by Dunn.

The owner in 1853 was Samuel Woodhouse. For most of the century the land belonged to the Woodhouse family, who built "a country house" - Eastfield House (*since extended and modernised*).



Eastfield House today

The farmhouse itself, however, was "a mean one", part of a range of farm buildings. Its front door looked out on to the back garden of the Woodhouses' impressive dwelling.

Thomas Stephenson was tenant in 1863. During his tenancy an acre at the village end was sold to David Ion, "as already noted under Garden Cottage". The Primitive Methodists, who had worshipped since 1836 across the road, erected the present chapel. (*Now demolished, of course.*)

Little Walker on the south side of the lane was bought and added to the farm.

Thomas Stephenson died in October 1889. For a few years before his death he had also been tenant of Glebe Farm but it was still without a house and he may have run both farms.

James Banks was the next tenant, followed in 1894 by the brothers Smales.

In 1932 Woodhouse bought Fred Webster's house on the south side of the lane and added it to the Smales farm.

Eastfield Farm was auctioned just before the Second World War and knocked down to W.H.Johnson. He at once sold it - bar the ancient enclosures - to the tenant, Jack Smales. The farm is now owned by Jack's nephew, who lives at Halsham.

The last field on the north side of the lane is owned by the church and is tenanted by Charles Smales.

There is no sketch to show where the additional properties south of Pilmar Lane were situated : i.e. "Little Walker" and "Fred Webster's house".

Does anyone know where they were?