



The Rooster

Roos Village Newsletter

No. 90

August 2002

Roos Parish Council

Because of the two vacancies and three absences the meeting on 12th August was attended by only four members : Councillors Cheeseman, Cook, Priest (Chair) and Winter.

Councillors Grant and Kirk had sent their apologies.

Minutes

After approval of the July Minutes the following matters arising were noted.

North End crossroads. Cllr Priest reported that there had been a site meeting but Highways could not contemplate the staggering of the junction of the two key roads (to Aldbrough and to Burton Pidsea) until work to realign them could be included in a schedule. There was some consideration of the possibility of creating a "noise barrier" - presumably by ribbing the surface.

Yorkshire Water. The Clerk had contacted Yorkshire Water about the broken concrete markers on the grass at the corner of Pilmar Lane. It had been assumed that the markers indicated the location of points at which hydrants could be connected to the mains but the matter was not clear. It would be pursued further.

Co-option of two persons to fill the vacancies

Two persons had written offering themselves for possible co-option : Mr D.J.Craggs and former councillor Mr L. Helliwell. It was agreed to co-opt both.

(Mr Craggs has lived at Sand-le-Mere for some three years and is a governor at Roos School.)

Correspondence

Hidden Holderness. A letter had been received describing the work of the group. Two pieces of research had been completed. The current project concerned military history. Members were invited to attend a meeting on 12th August (the same evening as the Parish Council's). It was agreed to invite someone from Hidden Holderness to be a guest speaker at the next meeting.

Highways Services. East Riding Highways had sent a booklet outlining current service provision and giving contact numbers for various departments. Further copies would be available on request.

Royal National Theatre at Beverley Westwood. A notice had been sent advertising an innovative production of "The Birds", a comedy by Aristophanes. It was agreed to display the notice in the village.

Council Services. Phil Back had sent an East Riding questionnaire designed to assess the effectiveness of the council's services in relation to its policy objectives.

Emergency Planning. The E.R. Emergency Planning Officer had written stressing the need for local authorities in the Humber area to collaborate on plans to meet emergencies. He had sent a booklet full of current data. In addition he had sent a two-page document : "Major emergency arrangements". (The Parish Clerk intends to make copies so that each member may have one.)

Accounts

Cllr Winter, Treasurer, had no accounts to present. A fee due to the East Riding was still not known. He would report on this and introduce an item on the Clerk's salary at the next meeting.

Planning

West of Rectory Rd : ponds for fish-rearing. (M.G.Grant). In July members had been told that a previous application had been withdrawn. They could see no difference in the present application, which they supported.

Erection of a farmhouse after demolition of an existing one at The Elms, Owstwick. (Mr Paul Kitchen). Members considered that the new building would be a significant improvement and supported the application.

Erection of shed to store agricultural machinery - Aldbrough Rd, Hilston (M.V.Makey). Members recalled a previous application for the site, which they had opposed and which had been rejected by the Planning Committee. Mrs Makey was present and answered several questions. The new application was for a smaller shed in a different location on the plot. Safe access would be no problem and the building would be screened by trees. The application was supported.

Plots 9 - 14, east of Main Street. (GA Construction). (Access north of Hansa House.) Drawings were supplied for each property. Members discussed them (inaudibly) among themselves. No objections were raised.

Notices of decision

The Planning Committee had approved the following.

2 South Park : Conservatory.

Forge House, Rectory Road : first-floor extension.

Glebe Farm, Hilston : demolition of a general store and its replacement with a new one.

Roos Parish Council

Next meeting

Monday 9th September

7.30 p.m. in The Memorial Institute

Mrs E.Dearing : a fine tribute

In glorious weather, the Tea & Coffee Afternoon on 10th August in memory of Mrs Edna Dearing was very well supported. It raised £600 - to be shared (as she wished) between The Candlelighters and Roos Church.

Jane Richardson, Mrs Dearing's daughter, was deeply touched by the attendance and by the generosity of those who made donations - testimony to the affection and respect in which Edna was held by all who knew her.

From G.W.Wilbraham's "History of Roos" Roos words for animals and birds

| | | | |
|--------------|-------------------|-----------|-----------------|
| billy bitter | blackcap | gimmer | young female |
| black-nebbed | | | sheep |
| crow | carrion crow | herrinsew | heron |
| bull spink | chaffinch | hog | year-old sheep |
| bumble bee | humming bee | lairack | skylark |
| cauf | calf | mawks | maggots |
| cleg | grey horse-fly | midge | gnat |
| clocks | beetles | neb | a bird's beak |
| clubstart | stoat | steg | gander |
| cuddy | hedge sparrow | sturks | yearling cattle |
| foulmart | polecat | tufit | pewit |
| galloway | pony | tup | ram |
| gilts | young female pigs | why | heifer |

The Rooster

Donations, 1st April to December 31st 2002

Many thanks for further donations : from Anon 8 (Elm Garth), Mrs M.Blenkin Mr A.Coyne and Ms L.Wood.

Further donations will be most welcome. Please supply your name and address and remember that the bank requires any cheques to be made out to "L.Helliwell".

Lightweight

Because of other commitments I have been unable to include in this issue as much material as usual. I shall try to make the September issue more substantial. L.H.

Advertisements

No charge is made for events run by local groups.

Personal and business advertisements :

Small ads 5p a word. Minimum charge 30p.

Display £2.00 / column inch. (2 cols / page).

This display ad (1.25 inches) would cost £2.50.

DEADLINE

Please supply materials for the next issue by

Friday 6th September

to L.Helliwell, Canwick, Lamb Lane (670291)

Roos Open Gardens Day

On the afternoon of Sunday 28th July - "a lovely hot day" - 145 to 150 people visited village gardens opened to the public. The gardens generously (and bravely) made available for neighbourly scrutiny were at :

The Folly Main St (Richard Hardy & Pat Kirby)

Owl Tree Cottage, Rectory Rd (Ben & Joyce Pawson)

The Old Surgery, Rectory Rd (Linda Bleasby)

2 Cherry Hill Park (Alan & Joan Bowden)

Fleur-de-Lys Lodge, Cherry Hill Pk (Richard & Gill Dennis)

The Sycamores, South End (Lucy Hampton & family)

The event raised £535.00 for the R.N.L.I. It was organised locally by Joan Bowden and Lucy Hampton, members of the Withernsea Ladies Lifeboat Guild.

Joan and Lucy thank those who opened their gardens and all who attended. The day was a great success socially as well as financially : "Roos was a-buzz" while people chatted in groups in the gardens, on their way round the village and over cups of tea at The Sycamores.

(The Scarecrow Trail and Fun Day also showed that we enjoy informal socialising. It's good for the community. We need more of such occasions.)

Ian Woollin, CAE, MIMI, ADI.

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Scarecrow Trail - omission

Last month, of two photographs reproduced by courtesy of *The Holderness Herald* only one was identified. The photograph of "The Simpsons" should also have been attributed. Apologies to *The Herald* for this omission.

Coming events

August

? *(Something must be happening!)*

September

- 4 Roos WI. Memorial Insititute. 7.30. Guest Speaker : Sue Hickson , first female cox of the Humber Pilots.
- 6 "The Rooster" : deadline - material for September issue.
- 9 Roos Parish Council. Memorial Institute. 7.30.

(Please supply the dates of your coming events.)

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G.W.Wilbraham : The History of Roos - 36

Church bells - in general

Mr Wilbraham quotes from Godfrey Richard Park :

"During the Middle Ages bells became the object of veneration; they were blessed, anointed and named, with a special office for the same.

"At the time of the Reformation many bells were destroyed and during the Civil War many were melted down and cast into cannon by fanatical Puritans, who, judging from their ruthless removal of ornaments, appear to have been influenced by motives of plunder rather than by a spirit of patriotism or piety.

A few pre-Reformation bells, however, are still to be found, e.g. Easington, Elstronwick, Halsham, Sproatley, Catwick and Leven.

There are, too, a few bells which bear a saint's name, evidently after the Reformation, e.g. Atwick, Aldbrough, Riston and Winestead, but the greater number appear to have been placed in the several churches during the latter part of the 17th century."

Bells in the Roos Tower

Two of the present bells were hung in John Shore's time.

An inventory of 1552 records : "three belles to steppill."

The one now called number two has the inscription :

"1665. Venite exultimus Domino. SS. P.K. A.P. Churchwardens."

The translation is :

"O come, let us heartily rejoice in the Lord."

S.S. was Samuel Smith, the bell-founder. P.K. & A.R. were Paul Kitchin and Anthony Richardson.

Another bell was hung in 1676. Its inscription is :

"Pacio Cruentes. Andreas Gurney me fecit. NL. Ha. Thet. WM. CU. 1676."

The translation is :

"I pacify the cruel. Andrew Gurney made me."

Gurnet was a bell-founder at Thetford. The following year he made three bells for Burton Pidsea, recast 1891. WM and CU are not known - not the churchwardens' initials.

Entries in the churchwardens' book suggest that this bell was made from two of the pre-Reformation bells :

| | |
|---|------------|
| Bell-founder for casting the bell | 00. 05. 00 |
| Arranging and re-arranging the bells | 00. 08. 00 |
| bell & carried & fetched home | 01. 11. 06 |
| Attending three times with bell-founder | 00. 09. 07 |

This bell is the present No. 4. In 1683 a middle bell is mentioned - so there must have been one of the pre-Reformation bells left.

It is feasible to believe that the bell cast in 1676 cost so little because it was originally cast for some other church.

The bell now No. 3 was cast in 1700. It certainly replaced the old one, as we find from the account books :

| | |
|--|------------|
| Paid to bell-founder | 00. 02. 06 |
| Spent with the bell-founder | 00. 02. 00 |
| For taking down bell | 00. 01. 00 |
| For weighing bell | 00.03. 06 |
| For bell casting | 07. 12. 00 |
| Spent with Thos. Dixon when we bargained for carrying bell to Hull | 00. 02. 00 |

Its inscription is :

"Gloria in altissimis Deo. 1700. S.S. Ebor."

The translation is :

"Glory to God in the Highest."

S.S. is Samuel Smith of York, an eminent bell-founder. He also made a bell for Hedon and another for Preston.

Refurbished and augmented

On June 3rd 1897 Taylors of Loughborough reported on the condition of the existing three bells and gave an estimate for their overhaul and for the supply of two more.

The three bells appear to be sound but are becoming much worn where the clappers strike and need tuning. They form a peal of three in the minor key, though rather out of tune. The fittings are in a most dilapidated condition and thoroughly worn out. The framework is very much decayed and all must be entirely new before the bells can be rung in a safe and good ringing order again.

"Estimate for the complete restoration of the three bells and the cost of a larger and smaller bell :

| | £ | s | d |
|--------------------------------------|------|-----|---|
| New framework, wheels and headstocks | 87. | 0. | 0 |
| Tuning | 13. | 0. | 0 |
| Large bell and framework | 111. | 15. | 0 |
| Smaller bells, etc. | 54. | 1. | 3 |

The churchwardens acted on the report.

In 1899 a chiming apparatus was fixed to enable one person to chime all the bells. It cost £6.

The Sanctus Bell

Another bell of great interest is the Sanctus Bell. Before the Reformation it was rung during Mass to tell people, both inside and outside, that the Host was being elevated and the Sanctus was sung ("Holy, Holy, Holy, ...").

In 1552 it could have been overlooked (*i.e. not destroyed by Puritans*). It was certainly removed and was returned only in 1897 when it was housed in the bell-cote above the chancel arch to commemorate Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee.

The old churchwardens' book

This account book dates from the early 1660s.

Income and expenditure

Today's church budget makes income and expenditure figures of former times seem trifling.

The only regular income was from property rents, which amounted to between two and three pounds per annum.

There were no collections as we know them, though often a church tax was laid. In 1673 a tax of 4d in the £ realised £5 and was used for church repairs. In the following year expenditure reached £10.14.4, whereas it was normally about £5.

Holy Communion

The book shows that there were normally only five Holy Communion services in a year : Whitsuntide, Michaelmas, Christmas, Palm Sunday and Easter Day, though in 1674 there was one on All Hallows Day (appropriately, since the Church is dedicated to All Hallows). In 1676 there was one on November 5th.

The apparitor

There used to be a church official called an apparitor. Four entries between 1667 and 1690 show that for trifling payment - sixpence or a few shillings - he kept records or made copies of them. On one occasion he was paid two shillings to take a copy to York.

Briefs

Briefs were Royal Letters to clergy requiring collections for specific needs. They were read in church and entered in the church register.

Collections from 1706 to 1721 helped pay for such causes as the rebuilding St Paul's Cathedral after the Fire of London, rebuilding churches and the redemption of English slaves taken by pirates. Each year the churchwardens handed over at the Archdeacon's Visitation the total amount collected - usually about one pound.

No doubt briefs were unpopular. Samuel Pepys wrote on June 30th 1661 : "To church, where we observe the trade of briefs is come now up to so constant a course every Sunday that we resolve to give no more to them." Our church in Roos last paid in 1823 when the sum was 5/3d.

Dog-whippers

From 1684 to 1828 the Roos churchwardens' book records payments to a dog-whipper. At Chislet in Kent a piece of land known as Dogwhipper's Marsh provided income of 10/- a year to pay such a man. In Baslow Church near Bakewell the dog-whip is still preserved.

Sluggard-wakers

In some parishes the job was combined with that of sluggard-waker, who went about during church services keeping the congregation awake and dogs under control. In one church the sluggard-waker walked quietly round carrying a long staff with a fox's brush at one end and a knob at the other. He woke sleeping women by tickling their faces with the brush. Men found napping were tapped with the knob.

The dog-whipper's job

Not all dogs were strays. A farmer might go to church with his dog in order to see to his flocks and herds on the way. If so, the dog went with him into church and had to lie under the seat. Other dogs were a distraction. Two or three would slink off to sniff around and there might be a fight. The dog-whipper then had to restore order.

Between 1684 and 1698 Roos accounts record payments to the dog-whipper, Jeremiah Westerdale. He seems to have been paid annually, usually five shillings a year. In 1695 he was paid an additional and separate twopence ("To Jere. for going to Tunstall"), presumably to take a stray dog home.

In 1705 five shillings was paid to the "ostiary", the door-keeper, probably the dog-whipper as well. In 1828 a new officer was named : "Robt. Suddaby for whipping dogs."

Church interior

When John Bower was Rector (1694 - 1726) the churchyard was enlarged and the galleries were built at the west end of the church.

The chancel was used only at Christmas, Easter and Whitsuntide.

Chancel and nave were on the same level and services were conducted from a high reading desk in front of the screen. The altar was barely visible to the congregation.

There was neither organ nor choir. The absence of fuel costs in the accounts indicates that there was no heating. No artificial light was needed since the two Sunday services were held in the late morning and the afternoon.

The church was entered by porches to the south and north. The font was under the south belfry wall.

Debasement of the currency

150 years earlier, Henry VIII had financial problems. He had sold the monastic properties at much below their value. When he had spent the money, not least on defence, he resorted to debasing the coinage.

The English coinage had had a high reputation. The Mint formerly mixed only $\frac{3}{4}$ oz of alloy with every 12 ozs of silver but in 1543 the proportion was changed to 8 ozs of alloy to 12 ozs of silver.

The effect on the commercial prosperity of the country was disastrous. Soon bad coins were the only ones in circulation. Prices went up but wages didn't. By John Bower's time the need for a new coinage was urgent.

Hitherto, coins had been made by cutting them from a sheet of metal and shaping them with a hammer. They were crude, easy to imitate and easy to clip. Good coins were rare. No one knew the true value of a coin. Merchants weighed them before parting with goods. It was imperative to withdraw the bad ones from circulation and replace them with good ones.

It was decided to make this exchange. May 2nd 1696 was the last day for bringing in old coins but it was the end of August before a reasonable amount of the new currency was in circulation. For four months people lived on credit.

The Archdeacon's Visitation

Every year the Visitation was in effect a church audit. From every parish the priest and churchwardens were summoned to Beverley, Hedon or Hull and interrogated about buildings and finances. Sometimes the Archdeacon or deputy visited the church beforehand.

After the Visitation in July 1720 the Roos churchwardens were ordered to spruce up the church and its furnishings. The requirements were very specific :

- That the outside walls of the Church be painted where wanting with cement mortar.
- That the Screen at ye East end of the body of the church be taken down and removed to the West end and placed over the arch there.
- That a new Bible in folio be provided.
- That a new surplice & a new tablecloth of fine linen be provided to cover the Communion Table.

There was also a stern deadline :

"All which were to be taken care for by the Churchwardens then in being & certified by them & the Minister & three or more Parishioners on or before the feast of St Martin in the above-said year 1720."

There was a slight respite for the churchwardens when the deadline for cementing the walls was postponed from St Martin's Day (November 11th) in 1720 to Spring 1721, a better time of year for such work.

The work was done. Cementing cost £17.4.0. Pointing was paid for by a 6d rate (which raised £12.05.00) and by selling the old surplice, flagon, etc., for £4.19.00.

The new Bible cost £1.19.0, the new flagon 8/-, and the holland for the new surplice and table linen £1.16.0.