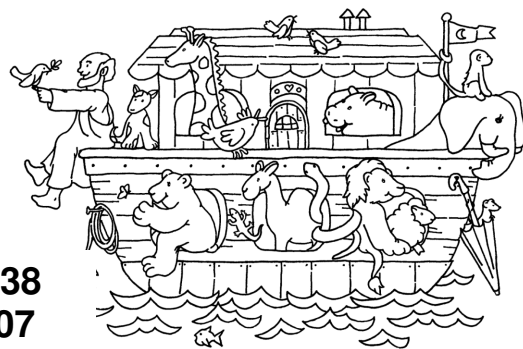


Ellerker NEWS

Issue No. 38
Spring 2007



A roundup of news from around the parish

A Denial of Democracy?

In September 2004 a survey of the households of the village was carried out by several members of the Playing Field Committee. I was one of them.

The Survey was to determine the level of support in the village for funding of Playing Field running costs from the Parish Precept. This topic had been mentioned in a number of issues of Ellerker News (EN29, EN30, EN31) prior to that date. Those who read EN would have no doubt already made up their minds about this subject.

The result of the survey was conclusively in favour and was summarised by a well respected member of the community; somebody who works with figures as his occupation. The summary showed that almost 80% of the community were in favour of paying for Playing Field running costs through their Council Tax (Precept). This would pay for mowing, insurance and the annual safety inspection.

Anyone involved in any way with the Playing Field Committee who is also a member of the Parish Council is prohibited from speaking or voting on Playing Field matters when it comes up for discussion in Council, for this reason only 3 members were able to discuss it. Two members spoke against the proposal and chose to ignore the views of the majority of the village. So despite the village consensus the proposal was rejected

The question has to be asked, is this democracy in action? Is it right that two Council members can ignore the village view, follow their own agenda and deny what most people think is a reasonable request? If the Council isn't there to support village amenities what is it there for?

On the face of it this decision by the Parish

Council doesn't appear to be one that takes account of the majority view of the community it serves.

- TJP

Jennifer Tinker (nee Wood)

The funeral of Elizabeth Jennifer Tinker (Jenny) took place at Ellerker Church on Friday, 29th December. Jennifer died, aged 66, following a car accident.

Born at Hazel House, Jennifer grew up in Ellerker and after leaving Hull High School went to Bishop Burton College where she met her future husband, David Tinker.

Jennifer is survived by three children and several grandchildren, also her sister Barbara and her mother Edith, who is now in her late nineties and being cared for at Westerlands Care Centre, Brough.

The oration at her funeral was given by Mr Clive May and the many donations in Jennifer's memory were received by the Church. St Anne's was full with many of the congregation standing, a measure of the high regard in which she was held.

Interment took place near the grave of her father, James Wood, who farmed at Hazel House for many years.

- MD

ELLERKER SHOW – A Critics' Cornucopia

Another year, another show – gone! Nine down, maybe a tenth to go? Yet another veritable cornucopia for the drama critics. From Noah to 007, via Rene Artois, Herr Gruber and Helga and Mr Prescott, with a cast ranging from five-year-olds to the just-under-eighty-five-year-olds, how is it that

so many talents and reputations can be found – and lost – in such short a space of time?

The local commentator from the ubiquitous 'Grapevine' comments: "Apart from the cast, mention must be made of the tireless efforts of the stage management team under Clive Gray, the magnificent scenery produced by Len Rye and, of course, the customary Ellerker refreshments at half-time." Those four words "Apart from the cast" say so much, yet so little, without causing too much offence.

Theatre Gazette: "A show like no other"

Hull Daily Mail: "What can we say about the cast that hasn't already been said? You could say that they act with brilliant timing and precision but unfortunately nobody has."

And finally, heard as the members of the audience thankfully leave the Village Hall by the back door: "Best show I've seen this evening" or "So much to go wrong, so much to enjoy". (This may have been at half-time)

As the stage management team's wickedly original tee-shirts so accurately pronounced: "Ellerker Show – a different show every year – a different show every night"

"P.S. Seriously though, what a good 'do' – thank you everyone" – DIY weekly.

- RW

Women's Institute

The New Year started with a most enjoyable Celebration Dinner at the Village Hall, which was prepared by Jenny Winn and her team from Gilberdyke. Prizes were presented to those who had collected the most points from the monthly competitions.

In February, we were given a most informative talk on "Tudor Embroidery" and marvelled at the beautiful examples of miniature work by the speaker, Alison Larkin.

"Heavy Haulage" was the subject of our March speaker, Tony Hawkrige, who used to work for Elliott's of York. This was a light hearted look at the problems involved but many WI members now know the difference between half step loaders and low loaders

etc.!

Some of us are going to the Spring Council Meeting of the East Yorkshire Federation, in Beverley, in April. Others have signed up for trips "behind the scenes at Sainsburys" and to Hardwick Hall. In addition we are having a Jumble Sale on Saturday 14th April at the Village Hall, 2.00pm. Preparations for our Group Rally and the Scarecrow Festival are already underway.

The next monthly meeting is at 7.30pm. Wednesday 4th April, in the Village Hall and there is a change to the programme. Unfortunately, our speaker cannot attend so we are having an informal "Members Night", including a handicraft workshop and some short amusing stories and poems, debate on our Rally plans and a gossip! New members welcome – ring Secretary, Patsy Harrison on 421593.



- PH

New EN Editor

In September of this year we will produce Issue 40 of Ellerker News. This represents 10 years for a publication that (from the feedback I get) appears to be of value to the community. However, when I wrote, copied and distributed the first issue in December 1997 I never expected to be still editing it almost 10 years later. Fortunately there is now a reliable source for copying and a good distribution team in place.

It is time now for someone else to take over and hopefully breath some new life into the publication. I will cease being editor once Issue 40 has been produced. I do hope that someone will step forward and continue what has become something of a village routine and mini-tradition.

If you think you might be interested contact Tim Pickles on 422585.

It is a fairly simple job, which takes about 5 days effort per year.

- TJP

Parish Council

May Election

The election of Members of the Parish Council is held once every four years in May. If you feel that you wish to contribute something to your community by becoming a Councillor, or want to discuss what it involves, please contact the Parish Clerk, see contact details below.



Street lighting

It has been agreed that the maintenance of street lighting will in future be carried out by East Riding of Yorkshire Council under the terms of a Service Level Agreement 1 (SLA1) contract.

Playing Field

The request by the Playing Field Committee to have essential running expenses funded from the Parish Council Precept was refused. A donation towards the cost of insurance was proposed and agreed.

Planning Applications

Hunsdale Farm - Construction of powder propellant store and roadway - APPROVED

Land north of Ellerker Beck and south of Brantingham Road - Erection of 2 horse stables and use of land for the grazing of horses - REFUSED

Orchard House, Sands Lane - single storey extension to front – APPROVED

Camelia House, Ring Beck Lane - Erection of a two storey extension to side, conservatory to rear and construction of pitched roof to garage – PENDING

Main Street/Church Lane Culvert

An obstruction against a pipe upstream of the culvert caused an overflow of the Beck and flooding on Main Street and Ings Lane in July 2006. YEDL have scheduled work to re-route the 'pipe'.

New Clerk

A new Clerk to the Council has been appointed. He is Jonathan Leathley and he can be contacted at 15 Market Place, South Cave, Brough HU15 2BS on 01430 471072 and leathley@hotmail.co.uk.

Next meetings:

12th April 2007 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall.

17th May 2007 at 7.30 p.m. in the Village Hall.

AGM and Annual Village Assembly

- TJP

St Anne's

Easter is early this year. There will be a Family Communion at 9.30am on Easter Day – Sunday, 8th April.

The Parochial Church Council (PCC) has had the generous offer of the use of a marquee on Sunday, 24th June. The intention is to hold a Sunday lunch in it, followed by entertainment by Judith Hibbert of Beverley, a highly recommended light entertainer. Further details will appear later, but please put the date in your diary.

We are also hoping to hold another plant stall/produce/ coffee morning in late April or early May. We will welcome any gifts or plants, cakes, or produce. Please contact any member of the PCC.

- AS

Playing Fields

The 'Habbershaw Seat'.

This was 'unveiled' by Rodney Habbershaw on Tuesday, 6th February. Many thanks to the Habbershaw family for donating this fine seat to the village.

Annual Tree Inspection.

This was carried out on Sunday, 4th March. A schedule of work has been determined by 4 members of the Committee and will be carried out once agreed with the ERYC Tree Officer.

Scarecrow Weekend 21st-22nd July.

The Committee will be running the Tombola, Book and CD stalls again this year. Please dig deep and take all items suitable for these stalls to



Green's Garden Centre for storage until that July weekend.

Future funding

Most people in the community would like the Playing Fields to continue in their present form in perpetuity. To this end the Committee resolved in 2004 to carry out a well publicised survey of the village to determine the preference of each household for the means of raising the money for essential running costs. By a large majority the option chosen was to pay through the village portion of the Council Tax (the Parish Precept). Sadly this opinion has been ignored by the Parish Council which has refused this funding request.

At the moment money to fund running costs (mowing, insurance, annual safety inspection) is raised by the Scarecrow Weekend and the 70s/80s Disco. These events will not run forever and a stable and reliable form of funding has to be obtained, if the Playing Fields are to continue to be managed by the village community, rather than by another body such as East Riding of Yorkshire Council. If ERYC were to take control of the fields then the ability to control locally how they are used and what equipment is placed on them would be lost.

AGM – 11th April

This will be held in the Village Hall at 7.30pm on Wednesday, 11th April. It is important that you make an effort to attend since the Committee is at a 'crossroads'. Several members have resigned during the year and one person has had to take on the responsibility of Chairman, Secretary and Treasurer. A long term solution to the future funding of essential running costs needs to be resolved if the Fields are to continue in their present form (see Future Funding above).

- TJP

Yorkshire Countrywomen

Our first three monthly meetings of 2007 have varied from our usual fish and chip supper to the return of Derek Clarke who entertained us once more with his usual objects for us to identify and more recently we had a most interesting and enjoyable talk by Gill Pirt from Home Start based in Goole.



Gill had just returned from Kenya where she is living and working with the Sengwer Tribe. With the help of Home Start the tribe are building a new health centre which will be completed by the Government when they get to roof level. She described their every day life style and brought along some of their craft work which included beautiful beaded necklaces and rings, carved wooden forks and spoons for us to purchase, all proceeds for the Sengwer Tribe.

- WB

Village Hall

On Friday, 18th May the Leeds Library Theatre Company will once again be visiting Ellerker. This time they will be performing William Douglas-Home's light-hearted romantic comedy "The Kingfisher". As usual tickets are available from Green's Garden Centre at a price of £5.

At the forthcoming Scarecrow Festival it was decided by the Committee that we would once

again have a White Elephant and Cake Stall on Sunday, 22nd July, thus continuing the excellent work which Ann Barker undertook last year. If you have any items which we could sell on the stall, please get in touch with Ann on 01430 440529, who already has started collecting things, or with any member of the Committee.

Mike Harrison was welcomed on the Committee as a Parish Council representative.

To complete the work in tidying up the side of the Village Hall, Tony Barratt will require 12 railway sleepers which will cost £20 each and to help with the cost it was decided to seek sponsors for each sleeper. Should anyone wish to make a donation please get in touch with our Treasurer Mike Parker.

The Committee's thanks go to Hugh and Tricia Christmas for providing and fixing the new blinds for the kitchen in the Village Hall.

- SP & MP

Acknowledgement

Many thanks to Morgan Lloyd Jones Partnership for their generous help in producing this publication.

- Ed.

**ELLERKER EVENT DIARY
APRIL — JUNE**

April

- 4 WI, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 5 YCA, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 8 Family Communion, St Anne's, 9.30am
- 11 Playing Field AGM, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 12 Parish Council, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 14 WI Jumble Sale, Village Hall, 2pm

May

- 2 WI, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 3 Parish Council Election, Village Hall
- 3 YCA, 7.30pm
- 17 Parish AGM, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 18 "The Kingfisher", LLT, Village Hall

June

- 6 WI, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 7 YCA, Village Hall, 7.30pm
- 24 St Anne's, PCC Lunch in Marquee