

Minutes of the Upper Hopton of Community Association Meeting On Tuesday December 1st at 7.30pm by Zoom

Roger began the meeting with these tributes to very active members of UHCA:-

Paul Ashley Raine

Ashley Raine died peacefully of Mesothelioma, in hospital on 4th November after a determined battle, which he fought with such amazing cheerfulness and courage. We send our condolences and sincere sympathy to his wife Alex. Theirs was a wonderful village wedding at St John's church where HiB decorated it with lots of sweet peas and this was followed by a reception at the Club.

He was such a wonderful man, always smiling and so full of energy, and always willing to help whenever he was needed. He enjoyed his life to the full and loved the community here in the village.

He was a past Chairman of the Community Association serving as Vice Chair with Peter Cockerill for 2 years and then as Chairman from 2010 - 2013. During his time, he gave freely of his services to Croft House and ensured the electrical installations were modernized and up to current standards; the kitchen and toilets were also completely redesigned with the help of a grant of £10,000 from Kirklees. Ash personally went to speak at Mirfield Town Council about our two phone boxes, at Hopton Drive and Jackroyd Lane. As the box at Hopton Drive was not in a conservation area this was beyond reach, but the Jackroyd Lane box was adopted. John Broscombe tidied up the area around this phone box and completely refurbished it using all original materials. Ash helped anyone who needed it always with a smile and a joke.

His funeral was held at St John's Church on 25th November. Villagers, friends, family, and a large contingent of his cycling club came to pay their respects as the funeral cortege travelled through the village.

His ashes will be interred on Wednesday Dec 2nd at 11.30 am in St John's churchyard.

He will be sadly missed by us all.

Message from Alex:

The donations in memory of Ashley for Mesothelioma UK are £4570 to date. The page is going to be left open and added to, over the course of the year as we are planning to do some further charity events.

Please pass on all my thanks for the wonderful support with regard Ash's celebration of life from the village, including the prayers. Myself and our families have taken great comfort from this.

Mary Cropper

Mary Cropper, who has died of Covid at aged 87, was regular and very active member of UHCA long before my time. She was at every meeting and she and Pat r looked after Croft House with Mary doing all the jobs that no one else wanted to do like emptying the bins. Mary did not mince her words and would speak her mind quite honestly about what she thought.

She also looked after the churchyard cleaning it up, and unfortunately, as she was a smoker and always carried a lighter, she lit bonfires regularly. She came along to the 'Afternoon Tea' on Wednesdays and was so kind to some of the other ladies, even though many were younger than her. She was always active and enrolled for Pilates at Croft House.

Her funeral and burial will be at St John's on Wednesday Dec 2nd at 1.30 pm

1. **Minutes of the last meeting** on March 3rd 2020, were proposed by Joan, seconded by Alison and all voted in favour.
2. **Matters arising from the Minutes.**
 - The potholes on Station Road have been filled in.
 - The modified H & S Policy has now been approved by the Committee. Chris thanked Roger and Andrea for working on this very comprehensive document.

3. Correspondence

Most correspondence has been circulated by email as it arrives.

4. Financial Report

Kath reported:

Balance at the bank on the 29th November 2020 is £11,564.00

Income £8000 CHMC Donation

Expenditure for Sept/Oct/Nov

- Industrial Cleaning of Croft House (following installation of the new window). £295
- Locks Keys £10
- Blinds for new window £104
- 200 Club Oct £85
- 200 Club Nov £400
- Building Materials £150
- Wood Laycock Window (new window) £5440
- Zoom £40
- Paint for new window + Poppy Wreath British Legion £62
- Bags, Tags, Chocs, Xmas Parcels £41
- Metal fence stakes for Rose Garden Xmas decorations £78

Total expenditure £6705

Roger thanked Kath for her report and is so thankful that we still have a healthy balance, although we have had no income from fundraising. We will need to minimise our spending until we are back to some kind of 'normal'.

5. Croft House Maintenance

- Vertical Blinds have been fitted to the Croft House new front window for a cost of £104.
- Due to our inability to carry out any fundraising, all our maintenance projects such the additional car park lighting are on hold, and only essential maintenance will be carried out.
- When it is possible, we would like to decorate inside Croft House, depending upon the Covid-19 restrictions, this is likely to be in the summer school holidays 2021.

6. Health & Safety

- Covid 19 continues to be our number one priority at Croft House. With the exception, of Pre-School, all activities have been cancelled and will not be reinstated until we have moved out of 'tier 3'. As the rules and restrictions are continually changing, we cannot say with any certainty when Croft House will be open again for other activities, but we will keep everyone informed.
- Monthly safety checks continue to take place at Croft House.
- On the 21st December 2020 'Flamstop' will carry out an inspection of all our fire-fighting equipment.

7. Croft House Management Committee report.

A meeting was held by Zoom on October 20th 2020.

Sadly, due to ill health, Michael has advised that he cannot continue in the role of Secretary. Everyone agreed that through Michael's efforts a long-term stable future for Croft House has been established. In 1999 following the Charity Commission's query about the charitable status and relationship of the Croft House Rooms Management Committee, the Friends of Upper Hopton Parish Church and the Upper Hopton Community Association, Michael created a 'Heads of

Agreement' for each of the three charities to clarify the situation. In 2000 the Charity Commission advised that they were satisfied with the formal arrangements established by Michael.

During his time as secretary of CHRMC Michael was also responsible for all the insurance, legal and H & S procedures for CHRMC and until recently UHCA.

It was agreed that Michael's skills and efforts will be sadly missed and that a letter and gift should be arranged for Michael and his wife Mavis. This has been delivered.

The committee are grateful to Kirklees for a grant of £10, 000 to alleviate the lack of income during the Covid Pandemic.

Roger Leedham was voted as secretary of CHRMC at this meeting.

8. Plans for Fundraising Events

Unfortunately, due to Covid-19 restrictions and government guidelines all fundraising events are suspended.

9. Plans for Community Projects

- Thanks to Tony, John and Mike for helping with the erection of the Christmas tree and lights in the Rose Gardens. In these dark times we hope that the tree will bring a little cheer to the village.
- A letter of thanks will be sent to Richard and Charles Haigh for delivering and also helping with the installation of the tree.
- As we are unable to hold fund raising events at the moment, we would like to put out an appeal to help with the funding of the Christmas tree and lighting. If you are able to make a small donation please contact Roger Leedham, Chris Breare or Kath Cockerill.
- As previously announced, we will not be holding a village 'Christmas Lunch' this year because of Covid restrictions. Instead, we will be delivering small Christmas parcels
- Sadly 'Carols Around the Tree' will not take place this year.



10. **Hopton in Bloom.** See AGM minutes attached.

11. News from the Pre-School

Pre-School continues to meet in Croft House under strict regulations for Covid, and there is now a waiting list as all the places are full. The Pre-School Covid cleaning routine is working well. To raise funds Pre-School are selling tickets for their Christmas raffle. Tickets are available from Sonya.

12. News from Club.

The club remains closed as we are in Tier 3.

13. News from St John's Church.

Church services will resume at St John's each week from **Sunday Dec 6th at 11.15** and **Thursday Dec 9th at 10 a.m** with congregation numbers limited to 20 under strict Covid Guidelines of mask, hand sanitizing and social distancing.

On **Christmas Morning** there will be a Communion Services 9.30 am at St Mary's Mirfield and 11.15 am at St John's.

Booking in advance will be essential for Track and Trace.

For all services, please book your place at St John's by email Chris cbreare@aol.com or 01924 492530
And for St Mary's contact Helen by email helen.walker266@gmail.com 01924 517083 or 07985 627812
These services are streamed live on the Mirfield Team Parish Facebook page and UTube

As we are not able to fill our churches as in other years, the following will be virtual services and will be streamed on the Mirfield Team Parish Facebook page and UTube

Dec 6th at 4 pm **Christingle** service <https://vimeo.com/487828948>

Dec 13th at 4 pm **Live Nativity**

Dec 13th at 6 pm **Sing along Carols**

December 21st at 7pm **Carol Service**

Dec 24th 11.30 pm **Midnight Mass**

The link for all these services will be on the website www.mirfieldteamparish.org.uk

14. AOB

There was a query about the progress of the footpath access through Carr Mount. (This was referred to the Secretary of State for the Environment by The Planning Inspectorate in July 2019 with an expected decision within 6 months). Chris to ask John regarding progress.



Thanks to Alison & Tony for putting up the Christmas tree inside Croft House.

(Alison and Tony followed strict Covid-19 procedures and protocols).

Message from Pre-School:

"The children have loved the tree and they keep going to look at the lights. Will you tell Alison & Tony, thank you from Pre-School".

The 200 Club Draw for October:

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| 1st prize £50, | 183 |
| 2nd Prize £25, | 128 |
| 3rd Prize £10. | 150 |

The 200 Club Draw for Christmas (November):

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| 1st prize £250, | 151 |
| 2nd Prize £100, | 33 |
| 3rd Prize £50. | 177 |

Subs are now due for the 200 Club for 2020 @ £15 per annum per number.

There are 50 spare numbers so please think of asking members of your family or friends and neighbours to buy one. (At the moment this is our only source of income).

Please email and we will pass your request on to Margaret who will issue you with a 200 Club number. Or you can contact us through our on-line enquiry system, see the link below.

www.upperhoptonvillage.co.uk/contact-us

Date of next Meeting will be on Tuesday February 2nd 2021