

**KNARESBOROUGH TOWN COUNCIL TASK & FINISH GROUP FOR 2025  
ENCLOSURES ACT COMMEMORATION**

**NOTES FROM MEETING ON 5 DECEMBER 2023**

**Present:** Margy Longhurst (ML), Shan Oakes (SO), Helen Westmancoat (HW)  
(Notetaker)

13<sup>th</sup> August 1770 was the day commissioners and local people met to discuss the implications of the Enclosure Act. We propose to make **13 August 2025 Knaresborough Day** to commemorate but also celebrate how things have moved on. 13<sup>th</sup> August 2025 will be 'Knaresborough Day' to commemorate the enclosure of the Forest through the Enclosure Act 1770, and to celebrate the people buying back the once common land (Knaresborough Forest Park)

HW will discuss with clerks the list of VIPs and sending them that date. She will also talk to FEVA, Matt Walker and Hannah Gostlow re NYC rep **Action HW**

ML will – talk to Museum, Castle Museum, KJS. Historical society, Charlotte Gale re Cliff lift and feasibility study. **Action: ML**

SO will - talk to Knaresborough Forest Park, Renaissance Knaresborough, Civic Soc, Studio 3, David Rhodes re date for 2030 and leaflet update. **Action: SO**

Also discussed was an outline plan for the day starting at the Castle Top with children performing, moving down to Knaresborough House where lunch could be provided for dignitaries and/or family picnics in the grounds. There would be opportunity for speeches, talks, and the significance of the event, with David Rhodes speaking and possibly the Chair of the Northern Forest. The Mayor could lead the walk through the town which would then go on to Conyngham Hall and the Knaresborough Forest Park.

Next planning meeting – Mon 29 January 2024 with wider invited group at Knaresborough House. HW to chair, SO to take notes. Emails will be sent out to interested parties. **Action: All**