

The following is a copy of a Deed of Gift dated the 19th July 1919 (enrolled in the Central Office on the 12th September 1919):-

THIS INDENTURE made the nineteenth day of July One thousand nine hundred and nineteen between John Page Sowerby of Stokesley in the County of York Barrister at law (hereinafter called the Donor) of the one part and The Parish Council of Stokesley aforesaid (hereinafter called the Parish Council) of the other part whereas the Donor being seised in fee simple in possession, free from incumbrances of the hereditaments hereinafter assured is desirous of conveying the same to the Parish Council upon trust to permit the same to be used for the benefit and advantage of the inhabitants of the Township of Stokesley and in order to perpetuate the memory of those belonging to the Parish of Stokesley who fell in the Great War 1914-1919 NOW THIS INDENTURE WITNESSETH that for effectuating the said desire the Donor as settler hereby conveys unto the Parish Council ALL that stone built building and premises belonging thereto known, by the name of "The Town Hall" situate in Stokesley aforesaid being the Eastern portion of a block of buildings situate in the Market Place Stokesley aforesaid Bounded on or towards the North East and South by the Town Street or Market Place and on or towards the West by property belonging to the Trustees of Thomas Fidler deceased TO HOLD the same unto and to the use of the Parish Council their successors and assigns for ever But nevertheless upon the trusts and with under and subject to the powers and provisions following that is to say:-

- 1, THE Parish Council shall hold the said premises for such purposes in such manner and under such rules and regulations as they in their discretion shall from time to time consider to be for the benefit and advantage of the Township and inhabitants of Stokesley aforesaid including the formation and carrying on of an Institute or place of recreation and social intercourse for the benefit or advantage of the inhabitants of the Township of Stokesley either gratuitously or in consideration of any money payment or on such terms as the Parish Council may think fit.
 2. THE management and control of the property and affairs of the said premises shall be vested in the Parish Council with full power and authority at their discretion at any time to appoint or make provision for the appointment of any persons (including all or any of the Parish Council) as Committee Men or otherwise for the purpose of the administration of the trust aforesaid in such manner and subject to such rules and regulations as the Parish Council may prescribe
 3. FOR the purpose of providing additional funds for maintaining the property and of defraying any expenses incidental to the purposes hereof (including the provision of furniture pictures books periodicals games musical instruments and the like) the Parish Council may require such subscriptions (if any) from all or any persons using the premises as they shall from time to time think necessary and proper and may let the said premises for entertainments lectures and like purposes not being inconsistent with the objects and purposes of these presents
- IN WITNESS etc.

The following is a copy of a Deed of Gift dated the 19th July 1919 (enrolled in the Central Office on the 12th September 1919);-

THIS INDENTURE made the nineteenth day of July One thousand nine hundred and nineteen BETWEEN HENEAGE WYNNE FINCH of The Manor House Stokesley in the County of York Esquire (hereinafter called the Donor) of the first part; EMILY CAROLINE WYNNE FINCH of Chapel House Crathorne in the County of York Widow (hereinafter called the Jointress) of the second part; HENRY MARWOOD of Pinecroft Graffham Petworth in the County of Sussex a Retired Brigadier General in His Majesty's Army and SIR WILLIAM FRANCIS MARWOOD Secretary of the Board of Trade Whitehall Gardens in the City of Westminster K.C.B., (hereinafter called the Jointure Trustees) of the third part; ARTHUR WYNNE FINCH of Chapel House Crathorne aforesaid Land Agent HELEN WYNNE FINCH of the same place Spinster and GRIFFITH WYNNE FINCH of the same place a Retired Major in the Kings Royal Rifle Corps (hereinafter called the Portionists) of the fourth part; CHARLES MOORE KENNEDY of Leaves Green Keston Hayes in the County of Kent Barrister at Law and JOHN ARUNDEL HILDYARD of Hutton Bonville Hall in the said County of York Esquire (hereinafter called the Portions Trustees) of the fifth part; and THE PARISH COUNCIL OF STOKESLEY aforesaid (hereinafter called the Parish Council) of the sixth part. WHEREAS the hereditaments hereinafter described and hereby conveyed together with other hereditaments of far greater value forming the Donor's Family Estate in the County of York now stand limited (subject to the jointure rent charge in favour of the Jointure and to a term of Two hundred years vested in the Jointure Trustees for securing the same jointure rent charge and also subject to certain charges for portions in favour of the Portionists and to a term of Six hundred years vested in the Portions Trustees for securing the same portions) to the use of the Donor in fee simple AND the Donor is desirous of conveying the same to the Parish Council for the benefit of the Town of Stokesley aforesaid and in memory of his Father the late Edward Heneage Wynne Finch of the Manor House Stokesley aforesaid AND WHEREAS the Jointress and Portionists being satisfied that the other hereditaments forming part of the said Family Estate are a sufficient security for the said jointure rent charge and portions respectively have agreed to release the hereditaments hereby conveyed therefrom respectively and it has also been agreed that the Jointure Trustees and Portions Trustees should also join in these presents in manner hereinafter appearing AND WHEREAS the Donor has agreed to indemnify the Parish Council in respect of the duties payable on the death of the Jointress in manner hereinafter appearing NOW THIS INDENTURE WITNESSETH as follows:-

1. FOR effectuating the said desire the Donor as Settlor hereby conveys unto the Parish Council FIRST ALL the Wastes or waste ground belonging appertaining or appurtenant to the Manor of Stokesley aforesaid (except such parts thereof as have been heretofore enclosed) within the precincts of the Town of Stokesley as this latter is defined and comprised with the Verge line coloured Yellow marked on the Ordnance Map (coloured Edition) for the Township of Stokesley aforesaid published in the year one thousand eight hundred and ninety four Together with all encroachment rents now or hereafter due in respect of the same ground (but not including any Fee Farm Rents due from the freehold tenants of the Manor to the Lord of the Manor in respect of other lands of the said Manor

SECONDLY ALL THAT MARKET now and heretofore held on the Saturday in each week in the Town of Stokesley aforesaid with the tolls and with all liberties and free customs thereunto belonging and all other the franchises and rights of market and market tolls (if any) had enjoyed or exercised by the Donor in the Said Town of Stokesley or any part thereof And (so far as still subsisting) All those yearly fairs known as Palmsun and Trinity Fairs held in the said Town or Vill on the Saturday before Palm Sunday the Saturday before Trinity Sunday with the tolls thereof and all other (if any) franchises or rights of fair and fair tolls had exercised or enjoyed by the Donor in the said Town or Vill or any part thereof TO HOLD the same unto and to the use of the Parish Council their successors and assigns for ever for the use and benefit of the said Township of Stokesley

2. FOR further effectuating the said desire the Jointress as Mortgagee at the request of the Donor hereby releases and the Jointure Trustees as Trustees at the request of the Jointress and Donor as to the term of Two hundred years hereby surrenders and the Portionists as Mortgagees at the request of the Donor as to their said portions hereby release and the Portions Trustees as Trustees at the request of the Portionists and Donor as to the term of Six hundred years hereby surrender unto the Parish Council ALL AND SINGULAR THE PREMISES hereby conveyed TO HOLD the same unto and to the use of the Pariah Council their successors and assigns for ever as aforesaid Freed and discharged from the said Jointure and portions and from all powers and remedies for securing and recovering the same respectively and to the intent that the said term of Two hundred years and six hundred years respectively in the same premises may henceforth be merged and extinguished in the freehold and inheritance thereof

3. THE Donor hereby covenants with the Parish Council that as and when any duty shall become payable in respect of the hereditaments hereby conveyed by reason of the death of the Jointress he or his executors or administrators will pay the same and will at all times keep the Parish Council their successors and assigns indemnified against all claims and demands in respect of such duty or any part thereof.

IN WITNESS etc.