

MISTERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the General Purposes Committee held in the Church Room on Tuesday 31st March, 2009

Present: Councillor M. A. Simmons, Chairman. Councillors Adams, Brand, Burton, Flower, Harwood-Gray, Keat, Marsden, Moffett, Taylor and Wheewall

Five members of the public were present

08/09/494 APOLOGIES

An apology for absence was submitted by Councillor Batty (personal matter).

08/09/495 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following standing declarations of personal interest were made:

Cllr. Adams	Joint Burial Committee NALC Northern Area Cttee.	Parish Council Representative Substitute Rep.
Cllr. Brand	Misterton Sports Social Club MAP Ltd. Joint Burial Committee NALC Northern Area Committee North East Bassetlaw Forum Primary School Governors Poors Fund Standrings Charity Wells Charity Bassetlaw District Council Standards Committee	Member Chairman of Trustee Directors Parish Council Representative Parish Council Representative MAP Ltd. Representative/Chairman Governor Parish Council Nominated Trustee Parish Council Nominated Trustee/ Chairman Parish Council Nominated Trustee Parish Council Member
Cllr. Burton	MAP Ltd. Misterton Sports Social Club South-east Misterton The Newells Terrace Mgt. Co. Safer Neighbourhood Group	Member Member Resident of the area Director Parish Council Representative
Cllr. Flower	Joint Burial Committee MAP Ltd. South-east Misterton	Parish Council Representative Parish Council Representative Trustee Director Resident of the area
Cllr. Harwood-Gray	Swimming Pool Committee Misterton Sports Social Club	Parish Council Representative Member
Cllr. Keat	Poors Fund Standrings Charity Wells Charity	Parish Council Nominated Trustee Parish Council Nominated Trustee Parish Council Nominated Trustee
Cllr. Marsden	North East Bassetlaw Forum	Parish Council Representative

Cllr. Moffett	North East Bassetlaw Forum Quality Councils	Parish Council Representative Managing Director of the Octagon Group of Companies which publish the Parish Council's 'Quality' Publications on a non profit-making Basis
Cllr. Simmons	Charles Cooper Trust MAP Ltd. Poors Fund Standrings Charity Misterton Sports Social Club	Parish Council Nominated Trustee/ Chairman Member Parish Council Nominated Trustee Parish Council Nominated Trustee Member
Cllr. Wheewall	MAP Ltd. South-east Misterton Misterton Sports Social Club Standrings Charity	Member Resident of the Area Member Parish Council Nominated Trustee

Councillor Wheewall also declared a personal interest at agenda item 6 (Sports Field), being a contractor involved in the sports pavilion improvements.

Councillor Keat declared a prejudicial interest at agenda item 16 (Proposal to develop 20 acres of land on the west side of Grovewood Road), having had a discussion about the matter with the developer, and left the meeting during consideration of that item.

Councillors Brand, Burton, Harwood-Gray and Simmons each declared a personal interest at agenda item 19 (Urgent Business - Community Centre Project), being members of Misterton Sports Social Club. Councillor Wheewall declared a prejudicial interest, in view of his trusteeship and membership of the Club Committee, and left the meeting during consideration of that item.

08/09/496

PUBLIC DISCUSSION RELATING TO AGENDA ITEMS

Pursuant to Minute No. 08/09/176(d) of September, 2007, a 15-minute public discussion was permitted on agenda items.

- (a) A resident referred to agenda item 16 (Proposal to develop 20 acres of land on the west side of Grovewood Road), and spoke of ad hoc, and continuing, development of Misterton. He considered that Misterton's future lay as a small market town with an individual identity. As regards the proposed development, he considered that guarantees as to infrastructure were of fundamental importance.

Another resident referred to this item, and asked if village envelopes were to be removed from the planning process. The Clerk informed her that it was a possibility under the forthcoming local development framework arrangements, but it would not mean a free for all. The Clerk added that the Head of Planning Services at the District Council had recently informed him that, although Misterton was classed as a development area, large-scale development would only take place if supported by the local community (in the form of the Parish Council).

- (b) A resident referred to agenda item 22 (Misterton Community Trust – Clerk’s Report and Email Correspondence re the Victoria Institute) and asked why the matter was being considered in the absence of the public. The Clerk replied that the email correspondence contained sensitive information.

Another resident referred to this item and asked if it concerned him in his capacity of former trustee of the Village Hall. The Clerk replied that it did not.

08/09/497 ACCOUNTS

Resolved: That the Accounts be approved for payment.

08/09/498 QUALITY ACCREDITATION AND THE POWER TO PROMOTE WELL-BEING OF THE AREA

The Clerk gave a detailed explanation of the requirements of Quality Accreditation. He also explained the statutory guidance on the new power to promote well-being.

08/09/499 SPORTS FIELD AND CHURCH MEADOW

- (a) The Clerk reported that he would let the contract for the replacement sports field boundary fence once the contractor had the necessary insurance in place.
- (b) The Clerk reported that Hemswell Contracting Ltd. had earlier in the day completed the drainage work in the sports field car park, the resurfacing work at the skate/bmx park, and the laying of the new path at Church Meadow. Councillors Burton and Flower had kindly provided signage relating to the closure of the facilities during the works.
- (c) The Clerk reported that the car park railings had suffered damage – probably as a result of vehicular impact. He had requested Middlebridge Construction to repair the damage.
- (d) That Clerk reported that he had studied the Bowls Club’s sub-lease, which provided that the Club covenanted ‘not to permit any vehicles belonging to the tenant or any employees or members of the Club or their guests or visitors to stand on the adjoining property and to ensure that such vehicles are parked in the car park shown hatched brown on the plan without causing an obstruction.’

He had reminded the Club of this clause, and made the point that the relaxation allowed by the Parish Council only applied to disabled and elderly infirm bowlers.

- (e) The Clerk reported that he had requested Middlebridge Construction to carry out further works to prevent unauthorised access through the roadside hedge.
- (f) Councillor Wheewall reported that the sports pavilion alterations were almost complete.
- (g) Councillor Burton reported that Hemswell Contracting Ltd. had raked and reseeded the land abutting to the new path and that Mr. J. Wilkinson had begun repainting work on the ball court joints.
- (h) Councillor Burton circulated photographs of the new path at Church Meadow referred to at (b) above and the path area referred to at (g) above.

08/09/500 GYPSY, TRAVELLER AND SHOWMEN'S SITES IN BASSETLAW

Letter was submitted from Mr. John Mann, MP, expressing concern, following adoption of the East Midlands Regional Spatial Plan, that Bassetlaw District Council, along with Newark and Sherwood District Council, had agreed to have the vast majority of proposed new traveller sites allocated for the whole of the North Midlands Area. Bassetlaw District Council had agreed that 43 new pitches be created in the Bassetlaw area, even though it had not yet identified any sites for the growth and there was no evidence of need.

Mr. Mann had written to all Bassetlaw parish councils, saying he was happy to work with parish councils to ensure that proposals such as the one for a showmen's site at Oldcotes were not recreated either there or elsewhere in the area.

08/09/501 ROAD SAFETY MEETING AT BECKINGHAM ON 23RD MARCH, 2009.

The Clerk reported that Councillor Maclagan (Everton) had kindly agreed to report back on the above meeting, called by East Bassetlaw Police. Nine villages were now operating Community Speedwatch and arrangements were much improved. However, the Police confirmed that they would not provide insurance cover for volunteers, which they considered was the responsibility of parish councils.

The Clerk (in his capacity of Clerk to Everton Parish Council) had resumed correspondence with Allianz Cornhill Insurance, in an attempt to resolve the insurance question. If a successful outcome were achieved, it would apply in the same respect to Misterton Parish Council.

**08/09/502 BASSETLAW PRIMARY CARE TRUST – CONSULTATION ON A
NEW STRATEGIC DIRECTION**

Councillor Brand reported that she had responded to the above. Firstly she referred to the fact that a number of health organisations were consulting on their strategic directions: plans for the next five years, which would be translated into local actions year-by-year. A common theme in all consultation was patient choice and access to services. The points consistently made by the Parish Council were:

- people in rural communities had difficulty accessing services. There was a high number of elderly people; public transport was poor. This was a form of deprivation that seemed to be ignored
- Misterton, and, therefore, surrounding villages, could benefit from having specialist services, such as dentistry and chiropody available locally
- selected hospital outpatient appointments could be held locally. Some hospitals were planning to do this; Misterton shouldn't be forgotten.

08/09/503 REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Letter was submitted from Victim Support in Nottinghamshire, requesting financial assistance.

Recommended: That a donation of £100 be made, subject to confirmation by Victim Support Nottinghamshire that it operated in north-east Bassetlaw and that it would supply publicity material to The Misterton Centre.

08/09/504 SALARY ARBITRATION SETTLEMENT 2008/09

The Clerk reported that the final agreement was an increase of 2.75%, plus a supplement of £100 on spinal column points 4, 5 and 6.

08/09/505 CASUAL VACANCY

The Clerk reported that 18 electors had requested a bye-election, which would be held on 4th June, 2009, the same day as the County and European Assembly Elections.

If the bye-election was contested, the Parish Council would be responsible for a third of the costs of election, other than forms, ballot papers, etc. where the Parish Council would be responsible for the whole cost. There would only be minimal costs if the bye-election was not contested.

08/09/506 SURFACE WATER DRAINAGE PROBLEMS OFF FOX COVERT LANE

The Clerk and Councillors Burton, Flower and Wheewall submitted a report on a recent site meeting rear Newells Terrace with Mr. Ian Davies of the District Council. Correspondence on the matter between the District Council and Mr. John Mann, MP was also submitted for information.

At the site meeting, old maps, etc. were examined, and the problem of recent flooding rear Newells Terrace and under the railway bridge on Fox Covert Lane were explained to Mr. Davies. Mr. Davies explained that one of the problems in recent years was the lack of any engineering input into planning determinations at Bassetlaw.

Mr. Davies undertook to carry out an investigation and report back in due course on his findings and possible solutions.

08/09/507 OLD PRISON FARM, CORNLEY ROAD

The Clerk reported on email correspondence from Mr. Garry Wright, Head Coach at N-gage Coaching & Athlete Support, regarding proposals to donate the track at the above site to Epworth Motocross Club in order to promote the N-gage Challenge Cup. Dates proposed for 2009 were 26th April and 26th July.

The Clerk had ascertained that the planning permission for the site did not cover the proposed usage, and he had informed Mr. Wright accordingly.

08/09/508 PARISH COUNCILS LIAISON GROUP

The next meeting of the above would be held on 22nd April, 2009.

Recommended: That, once the agenda was published, any interested Member be authorised to attend.

08/09/509 PROPOSAL TO DEVELOP 20 ACRES OF LAND ON THE WEST SIDE OF GROVEWOOD ROAD

The Clerk reported that he had had a further approach from Merryvale Developments regarding a proposal to develop 20 acres of land. The company had furnished him with a copy letter to the Bassetlaw Planning Department, and he confirmed that he had met the Head of Planning Services to discuss the matter.

The proposal involved up to six acres being devoted to green infrastructure to which the public would enjoy access. Four acres would be devoted to employment facilities, and 10 acres would be devoted to residential development.

Within the proposal, immediate provision would be made for construction of a community hall. Positive talks had also taken place with Misterton Group

Practice regarding provision of a surgery. It was also intended to provide financial assistance towards Misterton Primary School projects.

Mr. D. Brown, of Merryvale Developments, wished to meet the Parish Council to discuss his proposal.

Recommended: That Mr. Brown be invited to attend the next meeting of the Parish Council.

08/09/510 RURAL COMMUNITY ACTION NOTTINGHAMSHIRE (RCAN)

Letter was submitted from RCAN, explaining that, because of the financial situation, a membership fee was being introduced from 1st April, 2009. In the Parish Council's case, the fee was £100, subject to a 50% discount if paid prior to September, 2009.

Recommended: That approval be given to continued membership.

08/09/511 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

33/09/10

Dr. & Mrs. D. Wood

Erect wooden stable block consisting of three loose horseboxes at The Laurels, High Street, Misterton

Resolved: That no adverse comment be made.

33/09/12

Mr. & Mrs. P. Cross

Demolish double garage and erect new double garage at 32 Haxey Road, Misterton

Resolved: That no adverse comment be made, subject to the proposed development not having a detrimental effect on neighbouring property.

08/09/512 PLANNING DETERMINATIONS

There were no planning determinations.

08/09/513 PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960

Resolved: That, in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the public be excluded, and they are requested to withdraw.

08/09/514 SCHOOL CORNER REGENERATION PROJECT

Consideration was given to email correspondence regarding the future of the Victoria Institute, in particular with regard to the above.

Recommended: That consideration be deferred pending availability of the first drawings of the project, expected shortly.

08/09/515 COMMUNITY CENTRE PROJECT

The Clerk reported that there was another party interested in acquiring Millennium House. Members agreed that nothing could be done pending determination of the current application for planning permission for change of use.

08/09/516 INSURANCE CLAIM

Letter was submitted from the Parish Council's Insurer, with regard to a claim that someone had allegedly fallen through the roof of the sports field garage.

Recommended:

- (a) That the Clerk take action as requested by the Insurer.
- (b) That, without accepting any liability for the alleged incident, the roof be replaced by a steel roof.
- (c) That, in order to expedite the matter, Financial Regulation 11.1(b) and Standing Order 45(b) be suspended to enable approval of a quotation of £660 from Misterton Roofing Co.