

MISTERTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of an Extraordinary Meeting of the Council held in the Church Room on Tuesday 8th May, 2010

Present: Councillor H. M. Brand, Chairman. Councillors Adams, Batty, Burton, Keat, Moffett, Simmons, Taylor, Trossell and Wheewall

Eight members of the public were present.

09/10/500 APOLOGIES AND LETTER FROM COUNCILLOR SIMMONS

Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillors Cooper (private commitment) and Marsden (private commitment).

The Clerk read out a letter from Councillor Simmons, stating that his decision not to stand for re-election was made owing to his age and health, and his opinion that it was time for some new blood on the Parish Council. He thanked members and the Clerk for their support over the years.

09/10/501 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The following standing declarations of personal interest were made:

Cllr. Adams	Joint Burial Committee	Parish Council Representative
	NALC Northern Area Cttee.	Substitute Rep.
Cllr. Batty	Misterton Adult Swimming Club	Member
	Charles Cooper Trust	Parish Council Nominated Trustee
	Joint Burial Committee	Parish Council Representative
Cllr. Brand	MAP Ltd.	Member
	MAP Ltd.	Chairman of Trustee Directors
	Joint Burial Committee	Parish Council Representative
	NALC Northern Area Committee	Parish Council Representative
	North East Bassetlaw Forum	MAP Ltd. Representative/Chairman
	Bassetlaw Parish Council	Parish Council Attendee
	Liaison Group	
	Primary School Governors	Governor
	Poors Fund	Parish Council Nominated Trustee
	Standerling Charity	Parish Council Nominated Trustee/Chairman
Wells Charity	Parish Council Nominated Trustee	
Bassetlaw District Council	Member	
Bassetlaw District Council Standards Committee	Parish Council Member	

Cllr. Burton	MAP Ltd. South-east Misterton The Newells Terrace Mgt. Co. Safer Neighbourhood Group Administration	Member Resident of the area Director Parish Council Representative Is reimbursed costs of purchasing various small items
Cllr. Keat	Amenities Poors Fund Standering Charity Wells Charity	Carries out small jobs occasionally Parish Council Nominated Trustee Parish Council Nominated Trustee Parish Council Nominated Trustee
Cllr. Moffett Cllr. Simmons	North East Bassetlaw Forum Charles Cooper Trust	Parish Council Representative Parish Council Nominated Trustee/ Chairman
Cllr. Taylor Cllr. Wheewall	MAP Ltd. Poors Fund Standering Charity Swimming Pool Committee MAP Ltd. South-east Misterton Standering Charity The Misterton Centre Amenities	Member Parish Council Nominated Trustee Parish Council Nominated Trustee Parish Council Representative Member Resident of the Area Parish Council Nominated Trustee Relative of employee Carries out jobs occasionally
All Members	Training, Etc.	Entitled to Travelling and Subsistence Allowances

Councillor Simmons also declared a personal interest at agenda item 15 (Planning Applications – 33/10/15 – amendment to 33/09/37 – alterations to double garage on land rear 72 Station Street, Misterton), being a relative of the applicant.

Later in the meeting, Councillor Wheewall declared a prejudicial interest at agenda item 18 (The New Administration – To Approve Transitional Arrangements), having a potential financial interest in one of the matters to be discussed – The Misterton Centre key holder arrangements. Councillors Brand, Keat and Simmons each declared a prejudicial interest at the same item, having a potential financial interest in one of the matters to be discussed - mementos. The three members left the meeting during consideration of the matters in question.

09/10/502 MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

Resolved: That the Minutes of a meeting of the Council, held on 13th April, 2010, be approved as a correct record, subject to a clerical amendment at Minute No. 09/10/469.

09/10/503 MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE STRATEGIC REVIEW COMMITTEE

Resolved: That the Minutes of a meeting of the Strategic Review Committee, held on 13th April, 2010, be approved as a correct record.

09/10/504 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

The Clerk referred to Minute No. 09/10/477 of the Council meeting, and reported that Councillor Trossell would like to attend the annual County Council Civic Service, together with his wife.

Resolved: That approval be granted.

09/10/505 ELECTION OF COUNCILLOR BRAND TO THE DISTRICT COUNCIL

Councillor Keat congratulated Councillor Brand on her election to the District Council the previous day, which he considered would be highly beneficial to the Misterton Ward. Other members too expressed their congratulations, as did the Clerk.

09/10/506 PUBLIC DISCUSSION RELATING TO AGENDA ITEMS

Pursuant to Minute No. 09/10/176(d) of September, 2007, a 15-minute public discussion was permitted on non-confidential agenda items. This was introduced (later amended) when the Parish Council adopted Paragraph 12(2) of the Misterton Code of Conduct. It allowed a Member with a prejudicial interest to make representations, answer questions or give evidence on a relevant matter prior to the matter being considered by the Committee, when the Member must leave the room. The same rights were afforded to the public.

No matters were raised.

09/10/507 PROPOSED RESIDENTIAL DEVELOPMENT REAR THE FIRE STATION, FOX COVERT LANE, MISTERTON

The Clerk reported that he had been consulted by the District Council Planning Department on a possible planning application for residential development rear the Fire Station on Fox Covert Lane. He explained that, although the site was designated as employment land, the potential applicant, Langley Homes Ltd. had submitted evidence demonstrating a lack of need for employment development on that site.

Resolved: That the District Council be informed as follows:

Misterton Parish Council recognised the fact that there was pressure to release the employment land rear the Fire Station on Fox Covert Lane for residential development. However, the two planning permissions given to Langley Homes Ltd. in recent years would eventually increase the housing stock of Misterton by some 18%, with no community benefit in return. It was noted that the S.106 agreement relating to the 65 home development on Fox Covert Lane required Langley Homes Ltd. to build an access road to the employment site, but in effect, that requirement in reality had only opened up access to a proposed residential site.

For the Parish Council to give any kind of support to the proposed planning application, it would wish the following conditions to be met:

1. Transfer of the freehold of the sports field in its entirety to the Parish Council, with legal costs to be met by Langley Homes Ltd. The Parish Council currently held a lease of the sports field for 60 years, with 19 years remaining. It was important that, as the size of Misterton increased, the future of this open space and recreational facility was secured. It was noted that Misterton did not currently have enough open space provision.

2. In view of the fact that the Parish Council was currently searching for land to be used as allotments, following service of a notice by the requisite number of electors, Langley Homes Ltd. should be required to provide, lay-out and equip a site of approximately two acres for such provision at its expense, including legal costs.

3. If 2 above was met, the Parish Council would be happy to abide by whatever open space requirement on the Fox Covert Lane proposed development the Planning Department considered appropriate.

4. If 2 above was not met, the Parish Council would wish to see the open space requirement fulfilled by utilising the land fronting Fox Covert Lane, and not any part of the proposed development site.

Furthermore, the District Council should be informed:

(a) that it was important to the village that the former factory site be developed at the earliest opportunity, owing to the derelict feel it gave to the village, and

(b) of the reasons why the S.106 requirement in the former factory site planning permission relating to transfer of the freehold of part of the sports field to the Parish Council was inadequate, namely:

The Parish Council declined the offer prior to it being included in the S.106 agreement, after taking legal advice about tenure: and also after considering the practicalities, which were (i) the field simply wasn't big enough to accommodate a club, (ii) parking would be a major problem, (iii) a club building would be a major problem for cricket (abutting right up to the boundary) and (iv) the existing children's playground would be dominated by the building, with pedestrian access to it also a problem. There was also the major issue of losing tenure of part of the field to Langley Homes Ltd, particularly the entrance.

09/10/508

VILLAGE GATEWAY SIGNS

The Clerk referred to Minute No. 09/10/469(a) of April, 2010, and reported that, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, he had accepted a quotation of £866.49 from the County Council in respect of the installation of the four village gateway signs, such cost to be met from the Capital Reserve.

09/10/509 INTERACTIVE SPEED SIGNS

The Clerk reported that the County Council's criteria for provision of interactive speed signs had changed, with the most significant change being that the one-way traffic flow in the heaviest one-hour period had reduced from 400 to 250 vehicles.

Resolved: That the County Council be requested to carry out traffic surveys on Gringley Road, Haxey Road and A161 Newells Terrace area, with a view to provision of interactive speed signs should the criteria be met.

09/10/510 THE MISTERTON CENTRE – STREET MAP

The Clerk reported that, following confirmation that the Planning Department had no objections to the proposed street map, he had, in consultation with Councillor Burton and former Councillor Flower, researched the manner of provision. As a result, an order was ready for submission to Arien Signs for the provision of a 1000mm x 700mm viewing area, in mounted glazed case with polycarbonate glazing and locks, for the inclusive sum of approximately £614.

Resolved: That an order be submitted, and the cost be met from the Capital Reserve.

09/10/511 ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 2010

The Clerk referred to Minute No. 09/10/463 of April, 2010, and submitted correspondence from the Parish Council's external auditor, Clement Keys, and the Audit Commission.

Resolved: That the Clerk write to Clement Keys, asking why an investigation was launched into the Parish Council's use of S.111 of the Local Government Act 1972 to defend its reputation and good standing, when legal advice was obtained from a practising firm of solicitors, confirming that such use was legal, prior to expenditure being incurred.

09/10/512 CHARLES COOPER TRUST

The Clerk reported that Councillors Batty and Simmons had indicated a wish to remain as trustees on the above for the four-year period beginning 1st May, 2010. The Trust had indicated that it wished Councillor Simmons to assume chairmanship.

The Clerk also reported that the Parish Council's nominees did not have to be parish councillors.

Resolved: That Councillors Batty and Simmons be renominated for a further four-year period.

09/10/513 DONCASTER DIABETES UK VOLUNTARY GROUP

The Clerk reported receipt of a letter from the above, thanking the Parish Council for its donation of £250.96, representing the surplus from the sale of the village calendars. The letter explained that the donation would help to continue raising awareness of diabetes, and support research in an effort to find a cure and relieve the complications of diabetes.

09/10/514 ACCOUNTS

The Clerk reported that, as it would take some considerable time to prepare new bank mandates, following his retirement and changes in Parish Council membership, he had in consultation with Councillor Brand produced schedules of payments in respect of known amounts such as salaries, up to and including the 27th July, 2010 meeting.

He intended to further report later in confidential session.

Resolved: That the Accounts now submitted, totaling £14,120.08, be approved for payment.

09/10/515 CORE STRATEGY PREFERRED OPTIONS CONSULTATION EVENTS

Letter was submitted from the District Council, inviting the Parish Council to send two representatives to a consultation event at Carlton-in-Lindrick on 24th May, 2010.

The letter also gave details of public drop-in sessions, including one to be held at The Misterton Centre on 2nd June, 2010.

Members agreed to refer this matter to the Annual Meeting of the Council.

09/10/516 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

33/10/13

Bassetlaw District Council

Alterations to flats to create nine two-bedroom flats and four one-bedroom flats and create parking spaces at Swallow Court, Hillside Avenue, Misterton

Resolved: That no adverse comment be made.

33/10/14

Mrs. G. Smith

Erect single-storey rear extension at 101 Station Street, Misterton

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

33/10/15

Mr. F. Ayres

Amendment to 33/09/37 – Alterations to double garage on land rear 72 Station Street, Misterton

Resolved: That no adverse comment be made.

33/10/17

Misterton Group Practice

Provision of temporary building for use as pharmacy during construction of permanent pharmacy on adjacent site at Misterton Group Practice, Marsh Lane, Misterton

Resolved: That no adverse comment be made.

09/10/517 PUBLIC DISCUSSION

- (a) Mrs. A. Potter asked the Clerk to further explain the situation regarding the insurance premium in respect of the Victoria Institute, which he did.
- (b) Mr. N. White raised a matter relating to the proposed residential development by Langley Homes Ltd. and an associated question relating to the current S.106 agreement clause relating to the gift of part of the sports field to the Parish Council.

09/10/518 THE CLERK TO THE COUNCIL

Councillor Brand presented the Clerk with a bottle of champagne to mark his final meeting with the Parish Council.

Members expressed tributes to the contribution of the Clerk over the past eleven years.

The Clerk responded by speaking of the satisfaction he had achieved in his job over the past 11 years, and his appreciation of the part played by members in various different ways. He paid tribute to Councillor Brand, whose Chairmanship he highly respected, and with whom he had enjoyed an excellent working relationship.

As the presentation was about to begin, residents Mrs. A. Potter, Mr. A. Stead and Mr. & Mrs. N. White departed from the meeting.

09/10/519 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.

**09/10/520 REPORT FROM THE STRATEGIC REVIEW COMMITTEE
REGARDING THE RETIREMENT OF THE CLERK**

The Clerk informed Members of a decision made by the Strategic Review Committee with regard to overtime worked by him, and recommendations relating to staff cover in the period up to and including appointment of his successor.

Resolved unanimously: That the recommendations contained at Minute No. 09/10/496 of the meeting of the Strategic Review Committee held earlier in the day be approved.

09/10/521 THE NEW ADMINISTRATION – TRANSITIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

(a) An era was about to end in which significant progress had been made at Misterton Parish Council, including:

- publication of the first Parish Plan in Bassetlaw, demonstrating long-term concern for the community
- being co-first of three parishes in Bassetlaw to achieve Quality Accreditation
- achievement of top three placings in the 2007 and 2008 Council of the Year Competitions – the top parish council in both years, beaten only by town councils
- population category winner in the 2006 CPRE Nottinghamshire Best Kept Village Competition, and Best New Entry
- Nottinghamshire's representative in 2006/07 Calor English Village of the Year Competition - won the Business Award for Central England
- establishment of The Misterton Centre
- major capital investment of around £100,000 on the sports field, and support for each of the sports clubs that used it
- significant movement on rationalisation of public buildings, including sale of the redundant Village Hall for £40,000, thus allowing reimbursement to the council taxpayer of costs incurred in maintaining the Village Hall and Victoria Institute
- an award of £10,000 to help save the Primary School swimming pool

- resolution of the Station Road common land legal problem, with a sale of the common land producing a capital receipt of £100,000 plus contribution of £6,500 towards legal fees.

A discussion took place about the factors behind this era of success, with special mention being made of Councillor Brand's chairmanship, which had been continual since 2001, Councillor Simmons' supporting role as Vice-Chairman, a position he had held since 1996, and the role of the Clerk to the Council, a position he had held since 1999.

Resolved unanimously: That inscribed mementos be presented to Councillors Brand and Simmons, to mark their terms of office, and a practical retirement present be presented to the Clerk to the Council – on the basis now agreed – at a dinner to be held that evening.

- (b) Councillor Wheewall acted as principal key holder for The Misterton Centre, his home telephone being linked to the intruder alarm system. He had offered to continue in that role for a short while until the Parish Council found someone to take over.

Resolved: That Councillor Wheewall be paid a fee of £50 for his services for up to four weeks, beginning on 10th May, 2010, with an additional fee of £20 for every week after 6th June, 2010.

- (c) Resolved: That the arrangements now discussed for payment of small invoices prior to completion of new bank mandates be approved.
- (d) Resolved: That the facility enjoyed by Everton Parish Council to have its accounts audited by the Internal Auditor at The Misterton Centre continue.
- (e) Resolved: That a supplementary list of accounts be approved totaling £6,381.66.
- (f) Agreement was reached on certain matters relating to the Parish Council office.

09/10/522

MISTERTON AND WEST STOCKWITH JOINT BURIAL COMMITTEE

Councillor Batty expressed the view that the Joint Burial Committee, being in effect a local authority in its own right, should be given the respect it deserved by way of dedicated membership.

Councillor Brand agreed to pursue the matter.

09/10/523 CONCLUSION OF AN ERA

Minute No. 09/10/523 concluded an era of success and community enrichment. Councillor Batty paid tribute to Councillor Brand and the Clerk by saying that it had been a privilege to work with them.

Councillor Brand and the Clerk responded by saying that nothing could have been achieved without the dedicated support of members.

All members were happy that a job had been done well.

Finally, the election of Councillor Brand to the District Council was viewed as a most excellent development for the Parishes of Misterton and West Stockwith – Councillor Brand giving a firm commitment to represent the two parishes to the very best of her ability.

The meeting, and era, ended on a happy note.