

- the continuing development of The Misterton Centre
- resolution of the saga of the Packet Inn site and common land adjoining
- proposed residential development at the former Jenkins Newell Dunford factory site
- infrastructure issues – particularly the summer floods and proposed rationalisation of the public buildings at School Corner
- Misterton Community Trust (Village Hall and Victoria Institute)
- sports field – in particular changes to the pavilion to facilitate the serving of cricket teas
- donations
- village maintenance
- summer gala
- Christmas illuminations.

Summary of the Accounts

We began the year with a balance of £19,139 and ended it with a closing balance of £20,132. Income during the year came to £85,433 and expenditure to £84,440. Total fixed assets amounted to £263,599 – well down from 2006/07 because the Village Hall and Victoria Institute are now excluded from the figures, owing to government changes to the accounting rules.

Large Print

Copies of this newsletter and all our publications are available in large print if required.

Last Word

The next newsletter will be out in the winter, in which we'll give a full update of developments since this newsletter, but don't forget that it's now easy to pop into The Misterton Centre whenever it's open. You can also use the contact details below. We try to keep everyone up-to-date with significant developments using Parish News. You can also read agendas and approved minutes of meetings, etc. at The Misterton Centre, Library and Post Office, pubs, club, various shops and cafes and on the web site: www.misterton-notts-pc.gov.uk.

Contact Details

Hazel Brand, Chairman	01427 891376
Maurice Simmons, Vice-chairman	01427 890770
Jenny Adams	01427 890621
Valerie Batty	01427 890392
Clive Burton	01427 891581
Wayne Flower	01427 891319
Sarah Harwood-Gray	01427 891162
Ian Keat	01427 890271
Peter Marsden	01427 890122
Jane Moffett	07798 747234
Alan Stead	01427 891335
Derrick Wheewall	01427 890153
Norman White	01427 890413
David Wright Clerk to the Council The Misterton Centre, 31 High Street, Misterton, Doncaster DN10 4BU	Tel: 01427 891659 Reception Tel: 01427 891872 Home Tel: 01709 813360

E-mail: theclerk@misterton-notts-pc.gov.uk
Parish Council Website: www.misterton-notts-pc.gov.uk
Community Website: www.mistertonvillage.org.uk



Autumn 2008



Misterton
Parish Council
Newsletter

AUTUMN 2008



Misterton Sports Social Club

Langley Homes Ltd. has now applied for planning permission to build eight houses on the Club site. The Parish Council and MAP have told the District Council that we wish it to be a condition of any planning permission that Langley provides a new club/community building elsewhere in the village.

Site of the Former Packet Inn and Common Land Adjoining

Most households in the village received a copy letter from Andromeda Trading Ltd. to the Parish Council. We wish to assure residents that this was entirely the doing of Andromeda.

We didn't object to Andromeda's successful planning application for residential development on land it owned, but asked the District Council to address access questions before granting planning permission. Planning permission was granted without those access questions being addressed.

Andromeda required access to its building site across registered common land owned by us, and they approached us about building a roadway. Because of the complexities of the law relating to common land, we took legal advice about the possibility of selling the common land to Andromeda. Andromeda began construction work before a deal was agreed. An offer to sell was eventually put to Andromeda, who decided against taking it up, but continued with construction.

Another company later made a significantly better offer than the one put to Andromeda, which was accepted after taking further legal advice. Before the offer was accepted, Andromeda renewed its interest and made an offer, but it was rejected as being far too low - roughly half, in fact.

Throughout this saga we've had three aims, firstly to protect the interests of the commoners, secondly to protect the interests of the Parish Council, and thirdly to ensure the best financial return for the people of Misterton. The rights of the commoners on and over the common land are preserved in the transfer, the Parish Council has acted with propriety throughout, and an excellent return has been achieved.

Legal issues raised by the letter from Andromeda, circulating in the village, have been addressed by our solicitors.

You Asked. We acted

Here are a few more examples of the ways in which

we've been able to help local people recently at The Misterton Centre:

- A resident received a parking fine at Marshall's Yard. We helped get it cancelled.
- Many residents now use us to find local business telephone numbers.
- We're processing large numbers of bus pass applications, taking photos when necessary, so that residents don't have to travel to Retford or Worksop.
- A resident wanted to know how to set up a business. We found the contact details, and now use them for other similar enquiries.
- We were told about some fly tipping. We reported it to the District Council who moved the rubbish within two days.

Don't forget, that if you've any public service enquiry, we'll try to either deal with it, or put you on the right track. Just call in The Misterton Centre.

In our summer newsletter we said that the annual cost per resident of running The Misterton Centre is around £4.70. A resident has since asked if the word 'resident' includes children. The answer is, of course, yes.

The resident has also asked us to publish the cost per property. Taking the mean average of all the properties in the Register of Electors, the figure is around £10.90 per annum. Excellent value no matter how you present the figures, we would have thought.

Public Buildings at School Corner

For well over two years we've been working with the County Council towards rationalisation of these buildings, which include the Young People's Centre and Old School House, Library and Victoria Institute. The aim is to provide a library and youth centre with 21st century facilities. This would include selling off the remainder of the site for private housing, which would require demolition of the Victoria Institute to provide a new access. The field to the rear would remain untouched. The capital receipt from the sale of the Victoria Institute would become the property of Misterton Community Trust.

The Victoria Institute is internally derelict since being abandoned by its trustees – local residents - some seven years ago. We've invited feasible suggestions to bring it back into community use, but none have been forthcoming. The

only suggestion – to use it as a library – was unacceptable to the provider of library services, Nottinghamshire County Council. That's why we're proposing to include it in a redevelopment scheme. The building is currently costing Misterton people around £2,000 a year simply to insure. Even if some sort of community use could be identified, we'd be looking at major expense to refurbish the building – probably at least £50,000. That cost would have to be borne by the Misterton taxpayer, unless a real need could be demonstrated in order to try to attract outside funding.

It's been suggested to us, however, that there's a feeling in the village that the Victoria Institute is part of the village heritage, and should be preserved in some way. If you have any views on this subject, please contact us.

Citizen of the Year 2008

Our annual Citizen of the Year Awards provide a great opportunity to recognise people from all walks of life who have made a significant contribution to village life. We have a junior award (up to 18) and a senior award. If you would like to nominate someone, please write to the Clerk to the Council, or send an email, with up to 50 words explaining why you are nominating him or her. The deadline is 31st December.

Synopsis of the Annual Report

As a Quality Council, we're required to publish a synopsis of the annual report and a brief summary of the accounts in one of our newsletters. The annual report included reference to the following:

- an expression of thanks to all those in the community who make a positive contribution to village life, including volunteers, public service employees (with special thanks to the Clerk to the Council) and parish councillors
- changes in member and staff personnel
- success in the Calor English Village of the Year Competition – the village won the Business Award for Central England
- success in the NALC Council of the Year Competition – top parish council in England and Wales
- the only local council to be shortlisted in all three Co-operative Bank/LCR Communications Competitions – annual report, newsletter and website – with third place in annual report
- Most Improved Premises Competition - Kate Macdonald and Craig Bland, winning with Misterton MOT & Service Centre

...continued overleaf