



Replies to August 2009 Questionnaire

Comments written on front cover

1	And your biggest achievement was letting Langley Homes build three storey houses at the bottom of my garden. (Well Done)
	<i>Bassetlaw District Council is the Planning Authority, not the Parish Council. The Parish Council submitted a very strong objection to this planning application which unfortunately was unsuccessful. Actually, Newells Terrace is in Walkeringham Parish.</i>
2	You have people standing for council that know nothing about this village
	<i>Any qualified person may stand for election to Misterton Parish Council</i>

1 Are you happy with the way Misterton Parish Council conducts its business and keeps residents informed?

Yes	61
No	12
Mostly	1
Yes & No	1
No answer	3

If you would like to say something more than just Yes/No, please use the space below

1	I would like a detailed audit of what happens to the money we provide
	<i>The Parish Council is subject to Audit Commission audit. This takes the form of internal audit carried out twice yearly by an independent auditor and external audit carried out by a firm of chartered accountants appointed by the Audit Commission. Prior to the main annual audit, public notice is given of 20 working days during which any elector may inspect the accounts and make representations to the external auditor.</i>
2	I wasn't particularly happy with the leafleting exercise about the land off Grovewood Road, next to the school, which gave the impression that the Parish Council were pro development, and how it was worded still gives me that impression
	<i>The Parish Council was impartial and it is unfortunate if this impression was given. It is difficult, however, to invite residents to comment on any issue without giving the full facts.</i>
3	There can be few others as good as ours
4	Money should not be wasted on surveys and leaflets, people who wish to know can go to the Misterton Centre
	<i>The Parish Council considers it important to consult the whole community on key issues. There are many people who, for one reason or another are unable to visit the Misterton Centre.</i>
5	The DL Newsletters are a good way to keep the whole village aware

6	I would like MPC to consider residents feelings more, although only a handful of people responded to the proposed Gravelholes development, there doesn't seem to be enough concern about the flooding/sewage problems around the 2 bridges in the village. I for one have had problems for 30 years with sewage in my garden when the Marsh Lane bridge floods it still occurs. I have attended flood meetings and spoken my concerns but still nothing happens to solve this problem but you're happy to 'approve' at new large developments
	<i>Concerns for the village infrastructure are at the heart of much of what the Parish Council does. It must be appreciated, however, that major infrastructure provision is the responsibility of other agencies. However, we constantly raise problems of flooding with these agencies.</i>
7	Longer notice as to when meetings are held A diary of meetings is published on the Village web-site.
8	Very professional
9	Surely you don't need us to tell you where the problems lay x 2
10	Too many things are delegated rather than the council take responsibility Very few matters are delegated to either the General Purposes committee or the Clerk to the Council. The only matters delegated to the General Purposes Committee are approval of accounts for payment and observations on planning applications. The General Purposes Committee comprises all members in any case. The only matters delegated to the Clerk to the Council are (a) to make observations on planning applications (in consultation with members) when the timetable does not allow a Council/Committee decision, (b) orders for small maintenance jobs up to a certain amount (c) authorisation of members' training requests.
11	We think the newsletter is excellent and very informative x 2
12	But why do we need this questionnaire? Is it so that you can blow your own trumpet? No. It is because a local resident recently criticised our public relations and communications and told us that many Misterton residents were of the same opinion. It is important that the Parish Council is responsive to the needs of the Parish, and it was considered appropriate to consult on these and associated issues.
13	Sort out problems affecting the village The Parish Council works constantly to this effect, but has no responsibility for many key issues.
14	Parish Newsletter is a good communications medium. Website publishing minutes of meetings is good
15	Delighted with the MPC generally x 2
16	I am a council member
17	I think the council work well for the village
18	People who live outside the main village do not receive any information The Parish Council has always posted its publications to outlying properties. Unfortunately this questionnaire exercise told us that we had missed a small number of properties. Hopefully that has now been rectified.
19	You all do a great job
20	The benefit of Misterton Parish Council a Newsletter is distributed to every household
21	I have lived here for more than 20 years, and Misterton is better kept and looked after now than at any time
22	I am very happy with the information sent to residents, keeps us well informed of all matters
23	Level of communication about right
24	The communication ie, Newsletters is very informative, well presented and easy to understand

Legal responsibilities

2 Were you aware that Misterton Parish Council has certain powers and responsibilities laid down by law?

Yes	68
No	6
No answer	4

1	I assumed so
2	So have previous Parish Councils x 2
3	Why else would you be there?

3 What more would you like to see Misterton Parish Council do? Either more of one of the items listed above, or something new

1	I do not know how this village won awards as all the empty schools, church halls and property which are falling down near the Co-op – post box. Plus a really appalling sight of a detached house on Station Street that has scaffolding and old machinery in their front garden and has been there for the 12 years I have lived in Misterton
	<i>These matters are all outside the control of the Parish Council. However, the Parish Council has lobbied Bassetlaw District Council for years to demolish the Old Bank. You could follow this up with your District Councillor. The Old School is owned by Notts County Council, which runs the Youth Club there and is developing a Children’s Centre. The Victoria Institute was abandoned by its former trustees following vandalism. The Parish Council has appealed for worked-up suggestions for its use but there have been none. It will cost upwards of £70,000 to make good the interior. Anyone with thoughts on how to deal with this problem building – which has some ‘fans’ in the village – please contact the Parish Clerk.</i>
2	Something needs to be done on the Victoria Institute corner as it is looking a complete eyesore, and also Newells site
	<i>The Parish Council had hoped to include the Victoria Institute in a programme of rationalisation including the Youth Centre and Library (see above). Unfortunately, that has not proved possible, and a decision on the building’s future is imminent. The Newells site is private property.</i>
3	Council Members seem to be involved indirectly with planning issues
	<i>The Parish Council has a legal right to be consulted on planning applications, but the District Council is only under an obligation to consider, not act on any observations made.</i>
4	A new seat on the corner of Station Street & Wharf Road. Attention to tree at Cremated ashes area at far end of Church Path.
	<i>These suggestions will be examined</i>
5	Right to make observations on planning applications
	<i>See answer to 3 above</i>
6	Emphasise strongly the views of residents to the district council – particularly on planning matters (or continue to do this)
	<i>See answer to 3 above</i>
7	Youth Centre and Swimming Baths open each evening 6 – 7pm 7 – 8pm
	<i>The Youth centre is the responsibility of the County Council and the swimming pool is the responsibility of Misterton Primary School. The Parish Council has tried to get the pool open for public use more often – but it</i>

	<i>always comes back to the cost of employing life guards and pool maintenance.</i>
8	Better signage in the village – to direct visitors to the Chesterfield Canal
	<i>This is something that will be looked at.</i>
9	I am unclear as to what is happening about the Vic Institute? I think dealing with as many derelict buildings as possible would be good
	<i>A working group comprising parish councillors and residents is examining possibilities (see 1 and 2 above).</i>
10	Keep Misterton a village
	<i>Growth is possible but is likely to be on a limited scale. Recent rumours that the Parish Council is to become a Town Council are unfounded.</i>
11	Better monitoring of street furniture. Have observed damage to bus shelters and litter discarded when bins are provided
	<i>Most street furniture, particularly signage, is the responsibility of the County and District Councils. When we become aware of necessary repairs, we report them. Our main responsibilities relate to dog waste bins, notice boards and public seating.</i>
12	The monthly refuse collection is great- can the dates for the year be distributed by mail to householders?
	<i>The District Council is currently considering discontinuing this service. The Parish Council is lobbying hard to prevent it.</i>
13	Invite village-wide voting on major issues
	<i>The Parish Council is elected as the democratic voice of the Parish. We do, however, consult through questionnaires and our newsletters on major issues.</i>
14	Speedily resolve the issues of derelict buildings (Victoria Institute and Old Bank by the Co-op) they are dangerous and unsightly x 2
	<i>We have referred to the Victoria Institute. We have been pressing the District Council to demolish the old bank for several years, and continue to do so. The problem with the old bank is said to be that no one knows who owns it.</i>
15	Clean up the ugly sights and sites along the main street
	<i>See 14 above</i>
16	Make more effort to sort out anti-social behaviour
	<i>This is a Police and parenting issue, but the Parish Council has fought hard to get and keep a police presence in Misterton through The Misterton Centre.</i>
17	Make independent decisions on planning applications
	<i>The Parish Council only has powers to make observations on planning applications, which the District Council is legally required to consider. Any member of the Parish Council with a close interest in a planning application may not participate in the discussion.</i>
18	Would like to see a Youth Council started this year
	<i>The current four-year cycle of the Parish Council ends in May 2010. Anyone interested in starting a Youth Council might consider standing for election in order to further this ideal.</i>
19	More regarding burial grounds. When I have attended meetings, little has been mentioned regarding to the up keep
	<i>Responsibility for the cemetery and the closed churchyard lies with Misterton and West Stockwith Joint Burial Committee, which comprises representatives of Misterton and West Stockwith Parish Councils. Details of meetings may be obtained from The Misterton Centre. Funding is provided by the two Parish Councils. A brief report is given at most main meetings of the Parish Council.</i>
20	I would like to see more promotion of cultural and arts events. The recent art exhibition in the Church was a rare event
	<i>See 18 re next year's elections. If you are keen to promote cultural and arts events, this is a golden opportunity</i>

21	Would like to see elected councillors participating more in discussion/decisions and less of delegation
	<i>This is a red herring that is currently doing the rounds. All major decisions are made by the Parish Council itself. See 1/10 above</i>

Planning & development

Misterton Parish Council is consulted on planning applications but does not have the final say. The planning authority is Bassetlaw District Council. Bearing in mind that planning applications can include anything from an extension to a housing estate, do you agree with the following points that the Parish Council regularly makes on planning applications and in planning discussions:

4 Support an application as long as it doesn't adversely affect neighbours

Yes	58
No	6
Yes & No	1
No answer	13

1	You must be joking (What about Newells Terrace)
	<i>See 1 at the top of page 1</i>
2	It fits in with Strategic development plan for the village
3	Within reason x 2

5 Ask that for every new house built, a levy is made to contribute to the village's infrastructure, e.g. roads, drainage, policing, youth services, etc. (At present, there is a charge on developers only if more than 25 houses are being built)

Note: We should qualify 5 above by pointing out that the requirement relating to more than 25 houses is actually a requirement to provide affordable housing, or money in lieu.

Yes	57
No	11
No Answer	10

1	What happened with the factory site?
	<i>Planning permission has been granted for 76 dwellings. There was no requirement in the planning permission for community benefit other than the usual requirement for open space and some affordable housing.</i>
2	Not every house but on developments in excess of 10, and should also include affordable housing
	<i>This is something that is currently being looked at.</i>

6 Bassetlaw District Council has designated Misterton a 'development area'. What development in Misterton would you find acceptable?

1	Development of the site parallel to Gravelholes to provide extended health centre and probability of jobs for local people x 2
2	Community Centre
3	I moved from the city to find peace and quiet, I am therefore against

	anything that will change the village atmosphere (especially new estates)
4	Only odd houses – Misterton is big enough and hasn't a sewage system at the moment for anymore development to cope with
5	None – We are losing the close community of a village
6	Limited development
7	New Business Area to create jobs
8	None – We are too large already
9	None
10	Only fill in, the village is large enough for facilities available
11	None – because we have not got the facilities to cope with it
12	Youth Centre, Sports facility
13	Misterton is a village, too many houses are being built – our main concern is that green field sites are protected for future generations needs, eg food provision etc
14	Limited number of dwellings, Less 'infill' dwellings. More employment opportunities
15	Any development to provide affordable housing and lots of green open space
16	If, we are to extend our village we must extend our amenities, ie Schools, Shops, Youth Projects, Nursery Projects
17	Yes, the village needs to grow to support and !!!!!!! its facilities
18	I would need more details and understanding of the above, before a comment could be made
19	Only small developments. I feel there are enough large estates, eg. Newells planned development, as we are a village and I for one would like it to stay that way.
20	Houses and job opportunities (industry) for the youngsters
21	Nothing other than the odd house
22	Minimal – Over concentration would be a problem
23	A petrol station – provision for a dentist. Help for small businesses – a bakery. – Events for the senior citizens to enjoy where local people can support them in a community centre
24	Infilling only
25	Sustainable development that's sensitive to both the environment and Misterton's character
26	Only development that will have a positive effect on the village
27	Small clean industrial units – Limited housing
28	Individual houses rather than a development
29	Development of the former mobile phone shop site in a thoughtful way, for the benefit of the village community x 2
30	Community centre/club
31	Just fill in
32	Seems to me that the council is sometimes in the pocket of the developers <i>The Parish Council engaged with Langley's agents over development of the former Newells factory site, but our wishes did not materialise. The Parish Council accepts that there will be people for and against most proposals and tries to present both sides of the argument – but the Parish Council is certainly not in the pocket of developers.</i>
33	1500 Houses
34	As little as possible. Misterton is a village, lets keep it that way
35	Any
36	Residential housing in-keeping with existing village architecture and not 'lego' town-houses (Fox Covert) Live/work units are a good idea
37	More bungalows x 2
38	Only Infilling
39	New sports centre, similar to those in Retford, Worksop

40	Tourism
41	A new modern youth centre and library. A local coffee shop near Misterton Centre
42	Controlled
43	New school, Surgery, Library, Day Care Centre
44	None
45	A leisure complex would be desirable to cover the ratio living in Misterton
46	Enough to take us into the small market town bracket
47	Would not like to see further developments of sites with properties (3 stories) as on Newells site
48	More employment facilities
49	No more until the infrastructure is capable of coping with additional development. There are already problems for some residents
50	Steady growth, not large developments which bring an influx of people the infrastructure is unable to support
51	No more houses
52	None
53	There is already planning approved for approx 150 more houses. We do not need any more. We urgently require a village hall
54	Residential development of less than 50 dwellings of a traditional style in keeping with a village scene. Small industrial space, office space, small manufacturing would be ideal
55	Requirement for development must be identified, and any development must be sympathetic to village environment

Communication

7 Are you satisfied with the Parish Council's communication?

Yes	66
No	6
No answer	6

If no

8 Are there any other ways in which the Parish Council could communicate with residents?

1	Postal contact with all residents
	<i>Much too expensive. All our publications are delivered to every dwelling by a team of young people (subject to the letter box being easily accessible, and no dog loose on the premises).</i>
2	Misterton Notice Boards, Misterton Centre, Library
	<i>All these are currently used.</i>
3	No
4	Perhaps the website could allow people to 'opt in' to having details emailed to them of say 'meetings dates, minutes and newsletters. I know these are all available, but if with busy lives people often need reminders
	<i>We do have a weekly emailed bulletin available to all residents. Contact The Misterton Centre for details.</i>
5	Council Houses are given to outsiders when there are people that have lived here for many years needing them
	<i>Council housing is the responsibility of A1 Housing Limited</i>

6	No – I think you do a good job – As a full time working person, I enjoy reading about the work done in the newsletter – it certainly isn't over my head. I would like a larger print leaflet as I have eye problems
	<i>Larger prints of our publications are available at The Misterton Centre.</i>
7	Carrier Pigeon, Town Crier
	<i>Very funny!!</i>
8	Events, Public relations
	<i>Please call in The Misterton Centre to give us more of an idea of what you are suggesting.</i>
9	The newsletter is a PR exercise and avoids negative issues
	<i>We do not agree. We include information on rumours circulating in the village and try to address issues fair and square.</i>
10	Direct e-mail
	<i>See 4 above</i>
11	Talk to them in person when issues arise
	<i>The Misterton Centre can be used for such purpose. Furthermore, the contact details of all members and the Clerk to the Council are published widely.</i>
12	Perhaps an attempt to pump life into the web-site
	<i>Tell us more!</i>
13	Be more approachable/respectful towards rate payers
	<i>What can we say?</i>
14	Communication is a 'two way street' and it would be constructive, and more interesting, if councillors debated and discussed issues – and attempted to ascertain the views of residents
	<i>We have already covered this in several comments above.</i>
15	Though it must be appreciated that in general public responses are fairly minimal, when required
16	Excellent Newsletters x 2
17	Hence, no need for this paper

9 Have you ever used any of the following:

The Misterton Centre

Yes	50
No	21
No Answer	7

Parish Council information file held in The Misterton Centre

Yes	21
No	50
No Answer	7

The Parish Council's website (www.misterton-notts-pc.gov.uk)

Yes	43
No	27
No Answer	8

The Misterton community website (www.mistertonvillage.org.uk)

Yes	38
No	30
No Answer	10

The message board on the Misterton community website

Yes	24
No	44
No Answer	10

1	Because I am housebound
2	This does not mean that I would not do so if necessary
3	And I have lived here for 25 years
4	No P C
5	No P C
6	No P C
7	But would if necessary in future
8	Only since joining council

Buildings

10 Misterton currently has 10 rooms/facilities on six sites that can be used for public events. The Parish Council has, on the advice of external consultants, adopted a policy of working towards fewer such buildings, but helping their owners make more use of each of them to pay for their upkeep and improvement. Do you agree with this policy?

Yes	55
No	7
No opinion	1
No Answer	15

If no

1	Far too many empty schools, churches and halls. The main street through Misterton needs to tell the house owners to clean up their properties.
	See section 3.
2	Don't understand significance of this. X 2
3	Was not aware the council had 10 rooms/facilities – maybe a list of these and what they could be used for would be helpful to residents
	Details can be obtained at The Misterton Centre. The Parish Council does not own them all – but there's this number of facilities in the village
4	Because you are selling buildings off but not making more use or spending on the rest
	We have only sold the village hall, which was redundant and unviable. As stated above, we are currently looking at the Victoria Institute
5	In principle this makes sense, however I am surprised about how many rooms are available. Do people know about them? What are they currently used for? And could they be let for other uses
	See 3.

6	The houses coming up are out Worksop way. Why should we move out there, you give them to outsiders and gypsies. Misterton used to be a good place to live
	<i>Council housing is the responsibility of A1 Housing Limited</i>
7	What are the six sites??
	<i>Please contact The Misterton Centre for details.</i>
8	Each building should be considered individually x 2
9	Not sure, each site should be individually assessed
10	Much more information is necessary before a conclusion can be formed on this issue
11	Said yes, but all old inefficient buildings over 75 years should be demolished and new greener ones built that cost less to run/maintain
12	Wasn't aware that this was PC policy

11 Bearing in mind that residents currently pay approx £2,200 per year from their Parish Council precept towards maintaining the building it owns (Victoria Institute), how much more would you be prepared to pay?

Nil	23
Don't Know	2
Very little	1
£1,500	1
£2,300	1
No Answer	50

1	Its a waste of money, the building is obsolete
2	As much as it takes, it was donated to the village to be used by all, not boarded up
3	What is going to happen to this building?
	<i>See 3/9 above</i>
4	Can't really afford more
5	You state that MPC own the Victoria Institute but at various Parish Council meetings and in your Winter 08/09 Newsletter you state that if the Parish Council wish to make use of the Victoria Institute, they would have to purchase it from the Community Trust at full valuation. AN EXPLANATION PLEASE x 2
	<i>An explanation has already been given to the two people who made this enquiry. Anyone else requiring an explanation should contact the Clerk to the Council.</i>
6	Does the Parish Council own this building? You have always maintained it doesn't
	<i>The Parish Council owns the Victoria Institute as Trustee of Misterton Community Trust, which was established on 1st March 2006. Prior to that, responsibility lay with a body of Trustees who abandoned the building in 2002. This trusteeship is different from the Parish Council's role as taxation authority, and the two have to be kept completely separate. In effect, the Parish Council wears two hats.</i>
7	Loaded question, value for money comes into this
8	I would like to see this building brought back to public use. This is a 'leading' question
9	Demolish along with the library, etc
10	Is this statement correct? I though this was funded by community trust. Higher cost would be justified only if building was used

	<i>You are correct, and our question was incorrect. Whilst the Victoria Institute was financially supported from the precept from 2002 to 2008, it is now supported by Misterton Community Trust using monies received from the sale of the Village Hall. Such monies were also used to reimburse the Parish Council (as taxation authority) for past expenditure.</i>
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12 Misterton Parish Council has fought to keep Misterton Sports Social Club - but the prospects are not looking good. Do you wish to see the Club provided somewhere in the village in the future?

Yes	50
No	20
No Answer	8

1	More Central Please
2	It was very useful for a funeral for a buffet afterwards – I attended a few years ago
3	Not bothered
4	Not unless a good business plan is provided and worked to and connected to a sports facility
5	Providing it is well attended now and the facilities modernised
6	The club is not a viable business and cannot be subsidised by the Parish Council
7	Ex Mobile Shop
8	A form of community centre facility
9	But not at Tax payers expense
10	But before vast amounts of public money are spent on this joint venture, we would expect a similar survey to this one carried out. After all, this is a private members club. X 2
11	Not bothered. A small village hall or community centre would be adequate. The club will still go ahead and if the community want to use it they will be able to hire it
12	But I don't think that the responsibility for finding an alternative site should be the Councils', it is down to the members
13	Not personally, but for the village and members and quality large space to hire – film club – private hire would be useful x 2
14	But not at a high cost to village rates
15	More central – sports and youth orientated
16	For Misterton club to decide
17	But not at council tax payers' expense. It is after all, a private club which should be self-funding
18	But yes if it is self financing and no council tax is used to 'prop' it up
19	The prospects are looking good, and the parish council should start to help by converting Millenium House into a village hall
20	Even though I am not a member or use it, I think it is a valuable community/social facility
21	Whilst not currently using the club it does offer alternative social place and overall think it would be a shame to lose, not sure how much PC should fund this

People

13 Have you ever approached a parish councillor about a village matter?

Yes	51
No	20
No Answer	7

14 If no
Why not?

1	Lots of jobs on motorbikes and walking about in large groups, particularly at night. The Police are ineffectual when contacted and to my knowledge have never apprehended them, If they have - we have not heard about it
2	Most approachable and helpful x 2
3	I wish they would
4	I always tend to go through the Parish Clerk, for example ongoing problems with flooding, railway bridges and low lying areas of Misterton
5	Any matter that concerns me seems to be on your agenda or dealt with - so far
6	But I have contacted the Clerk
7	Never needed to
8	Would they take any notice (I don't think so)
9	Misterton is not what it used to be. It as gone down hill in the last 20 years. I have been here 25 years and my wife 45 years
10	I would go to the Misterton Centre instead because I really wouldn't know which council member to ring . (Although I have the numbers - Thank You)
	<i>You may telephone any member.</i>
11	Not found it necessary
12	Not been necessary
13	Waste of time
14	Because of some other items they do not address (Main Street) seem that barking dogs and gangs of youths would not receive any more attention
15	No specific reason to date
16	No necessity x 2
17	Don't know them
18	Not needed to, have dealt with issues myself

15 Are you aware of the role of the Clerk to the Parish Council

Yes	63
No	8
More or less	1
No Answer	6

1	Partly
2	He does a great job
3	Only since joining council

16 Are there any other tasks that you think the Clerk should take on?

1	I think he works extremely hard and effectively for the village x 2
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2	Having been in a clerk/chairman relationship with the present clerk I applaud the experience he now has
3	No
4	More local economic developments – but need to increase Clerk’s hours to do that
5	I think the clerk does an excellent job, keep up the good work and thank you
6	Part time only
7	None come to mind
8	Legal support to council
9	Not really – keep councillors well informed
10	No. As you say, he is there to advise, It appears he has delegated powers to do everything!!
	<i>Not true, see 1/10</i>
11	No
12	None he does an excellent job, Well done David
13	No x 2
14	No Heavy work load at present
15	In practise the clerk acts as an executive officer, which can cover most things
16	No
17	No
18	No, I believe the clerk already acts as the Mayor
	<i>A Mayor is always an elected member, not an appointed member of staff.</i>

17 Our staff are paid on national scales. Is this appropriate for a Quality Parish Council?

Yes	62
No	2
No opinion	1
Within reason	1
No Answer	12

1	What is the question getting at? <i>There are a small number of residents who think that the Clerk is overpaid. We wondered what other people thought.</i>
2	Cannot answer, not allowed to ask details of salaries
3	Unable to comment as I have not researched the scales
4	Show us the scales

18 Are you aware of the role of the Chairman of the Parish Council?

Yes	58
No	12
More or less	1
No Answer	7

1	Partly
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19 Are there any other tasks that you think the Chairman should take on?

1	Should inform us of action they have taken
2	My late husband was a clerk for 28 years and Bassetlaw Parish liaison officer, I have been a councillor and chair of two village councils so I say well done
3	No
4	The Chairman does an excellent job again, keep up the good work and thank you
5	Due to his hourly rate the clerks hours as in all business should be kept to a minimum to save money for village needs
6	No
7	I think the chairman does more than required, superb!!!
8	No
9	No
10	None, Hazel Brand does an excellent job, one of the Village's best Chairman we have ever had
11	No
12	No x 2
13	She acts, very successfully, as the representative on Misterton
14	Think there should be limit of 'say 4 years' tenure of Chairmanship
15	I think not
16	No

Finally, please use this space to tell us anything you like, or ask any questions you like, about the Parish Council.

1	The Parish Council was contacted numerous times to clear the dykes on Station Street, Neighbours eventually helped to clear the dead trees. The rubbish was eventually taken away, but the dykes have still never been dragged out before winter
	<i>The Parish Council always passes reports on to the relevant authorities.</i>
2	With so much attention on MP's expenses, are there any expenses the Parish Councillors claim for ie Petrol, attending events, training. If there are could they be published
	<i>Members are entitled to claim travelling expenses. Every year there is a window of opportunity (details are normally published on the notice boards in May) for electors to examine the Parish Council's records, and to make representations to our auditors.</i>
3	I would like to defend the Parish Council on public relations, critics who say you have a poor communication obviously expect you to knock on their door personally as all information is freely available. As for those who say we can't afford the Parish Council - What a thoughtless, uneducated comment!
4	We appreciate the information via leaflets/notice boards/website about council and village concerns.
5	New faces are needed on the Parish Council. Nothing will change with the old guard. To move forward they need to embrace change
	<i>As stated earlier, there is a full election of all 13 members in May 2010.</i>
6	Very happy with Parish Council
7	Find ways of countering negativity in the village, and encourage more balanced attendance at PC meetings
8	Thank you to each and every one of the Parish councillors. Its hard work often not appreciated. Well done. Best Council we ever had
9	Village grass contractors should pick up the grass. The cemetery gate is too stiff to open, the shelter is dirty, the grass cuttings left on the ground. The old school needs a complete modernisation programme

10	No
11	It is an astounding achievement to win 'best Parish Council' for the last 2 years. I had no idea. Have confidence in yourselves. This questionnaire, I think assumes a level of understanding about the issues raised, that I simply don't have.
12	I would like to ask if more could be done about 'adopting' the roads. York Terrace and Albion Terrace. We struggle to upkeep them and yet more people use them, eg, care workers, tradesmen, parking when the car park at sports field is full. Other private roads, eg, Minster Road was repaired, why can't ours be brought up to date. I sometimes think 'our' older end of the village is a forgotten lot
	<i>This is a County Council issue, although the Parish Council has lobbied hard.</i>
13	Last minutes on site is 2008
	<i>Incorrect. Minutes are available on www.misterton-notts-pc.gov.uk</i>
14	What are the strategic objectives for the next three years?
	<i>That decision will be made after the elections in 2010</i>
15	We do not !!!! any of the main party's any more
	For your information, Misterton has been a non party-political parish Council for as long as anyone can remember.
16	I think the Council do their very best for Misterton - Thank you
17	Hard act to follow
18	I would like to discuss with the council possible strategies for sustainable development
	<i>Already done. Call into The Misterton Centre if you have ideas.</i>
19	The precept set in April 2007 included a figure of £15,000 to pay legal costs for the sale of the Packet Inn Common Land and you stated this was "ring-fenced". As legal costs were borne by the purchaser; this was not used. This £15,000 was again included in the precept for 2008/09 and 2009/10 which will make a sum total of £45,000 by the end of this financial year. We are aware that the precept for 2009/10 was reduced by £16,780 (25%) but you stated in your Winter 08/09 Newsletter that this was because of the recovery of costs following the sale of the Village Hall. AN EXPLANATION PLEASE x 2
	<i>An explanation has already been given to the two people who made this enquiry. Anyone else requiring an explanation should contact the Clerk to the Council.</i>
20	Thank you all for what you do for the village x 2
21	Satisfied, doing a good job
22	What a waste of money this questionnaire is. Wrong questions asked (Resident posted this questionnaire at a cost of £1.30 to PC)
23	Have sought help but consider there was little interest and no follow up
24	Is the Misterton Centre a white elephant? It strikes me as a solution in search of a problem
	<i>No. It is an important village asset. Other villages are envious. It is used by each of the three 'parties' organisations, CAB, Retford Action Centre, Notts Fire and Rescue Services, A1 Housing..... and more, to provide services locally for local people.</i>
25	Consider 20mph speed restriction on side roads, eg Rooks Lane, Colton Street, Debhill Road. Very concerned about speeding traffic. Also Church street junction with Haxey Road needs mirror to see traffic from north. Also top Colton Street. X 2
	<i>This is a County Council responsibility. The County Council is currently running a feasibility study on 20mph zones. Until the study is complete, there is no possibility of introduction of 20mph zones.</i>
26	Well run and motivated council with a chairman who does above and beyond her duties
27	Would like to see a youth council and view of the youth taken into account

	<i>See 3:18 above</i>
28	The Parish Council is not perfect, but it is more productive and successful than any of the past 20 years. What are people complaining about?
29	Has the Parish Council any say with regards to Swallow court? I feel its a 'step back' to loose the warden 1. For the help she gave residents 2. The loss of social activities. I have received assistance with my council tax, had to go to Retford to get info, nothing available at Misterton Centre. Feel it should be accessible at TMC
	<i>Please call in The Misterton Centre for discussion. Tax advice for older residents is available through The Misterton Centre.</i>
30	You are well aware of my views. I would like to see much more open debate and discussion with EVERYONE'S views being valued. I would also like the precept to rise in line with government recommendations only.
	<i>We pride ourselves on being an open, transparent and representative Parish Council. This financial year our precept was reduced by 25%</i>
31	Could we not help towards the cost of a new medical centre for the doctors with adequate car parking?
	<i>The Parish Council has no legal powers at the moment to contribute towards the provision of medical services.</i>
32	I believe the clerk and chairman have too great an influence on the remaining councillors
	<i>As previously stated, there is an opportunity to stand for election in 2010.</i>
33	Thank you for your continued support and pleasing performance throughout the years

I would be interested in attending a future event

Yes	31
No	
Perhaps	1
May be	1
No Answer	45

1	It would be nice to put a face to the names on your list
2	Should I be lucky enough to win the draw, I would wish the money to go to a local charity – The First Responders. I have no wish to be contacted, thank you

Comments written in blue were requested, those in green were voluntarily given

The comments in black are the Parish Council's responses