

## **Misterton Parish Council**



### **Community Engagement Strategy**

Misterton Parish Council is committed to giving residents a voice and involving them in the decisions that affect them and their community. The Parish Council's aim is to engage residents and encourage their participation in decision making to secure better services and to create a more active and informed community.

#### **Current Methods of Communication**

The Misterton Centre, staffed by our Receptionist, at which a wide range of public sector information is available.

Parish Council and community websites, both operated by the Parish Council.

Weekly press briefing on parish affairs, including Parish Council matters.

Monthly column in Misterton & West Stockwith Parish News.

Quarterly newsletter.

Annual report.

Annual information leaflet.

Information on the five village notice boards.

Agendas, minutes, quarterly newsletters, annual reports and information leaflets, etc. all supplied to local shops, licensed premises, local libraries, offices of the principal authorities and the media.

Clerk to the Council's weekly surgery.

#### **Current Methods of Consultation with the Community**

Through the methods listed above.

Through village questionnaires, e.g. future of Misterton Sports Social Club, Parish Emergency Plan, opening hours of The Misterton Centre, etc.

Public Meetings on key village issues, e.g. future of public buildings, Parish Plan, etc.

Public Discussion Periods at all our meetings.

A message board is provided on the community website.

#### **Does the Parish Council know what the Community wants or expects from it?**

Through the above methods of consultation.

Councillors' surgeries were introduced, but dropped after two years owing to extremely low take-up.

### **How content is the Community with Existing Services?**

The Parish Council receives very few complaints about its services.

The Parish Council receives more plaudits about its services than criticism.

A tiny minority is boycotting The Misterton Centre because of the cost – this year expected to be around £4.70 per head of population for all Parish Council, District Council and Police services.

A tiny minority believe that the Victoria Institute should be brought back into community use, but, without evidence as to need, funding would be impossible.

Some residents would like to see a new village hall/community building developed, which is certainly something that can be considered for the future.

### **How well does the Parish Council communicate with hard to reach groups or young people?**

All the above means of communication and consultation are available to the whole community.

We have a tiny ethnic minority population, which is well-integrated, and whose children attend Misterton Primary School with which we have an excellent relationship.

One of our members serves on the school governing body and we financially support the school's DARE programme.

The Misterton Centre is equipped with a hearing loop.

Facilities at The Misterton Centre are fully accessible by mobility-challenged people. A video conferencing link is available at The Misterton Centre to aid those with mobility/transport difficulties.

We publicise the fact that all our publications are available in large print if required.

The Parish Council communicates with young people through the annual Junior Citizen of the Year Competition.

The Parish Council consults young people on issues such as the development of the multi-court, skatepark, etc.

The Parish Council liaises with the local police on a regular basis, especially regarding issues relating to young people, where the police talk to hard to reach groups on a regular basis.