

Misterton with Walcote Parish Council

Minutes of proceedings at the meeting of Misterton with Walcote Parish Council
held on Monday 7 April 2008 at 8.45 p.m. in Walcote Memorial Hall

Present: Councillors: S. Green (Chairman), C. Bach and P. Jackson
J. King, clerk to the Council
District Councillor: J. Everett
6 members of the public

1 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillors A. Watts and B. Gilbert
Apologies were received from County Councillor G. Hart

2 Declarations of interest from councillors

There were no declarations of interest

3 Minutes of the meeting of 10 March 2008

Resolved to approve the minutes of 10 March 2008 as a true record

4 Comments or questions from members of the public

A resident asked why the Council's precept for the current financial year had increased by 17%. They felt this to be an unacceptable level of increase and mentioned the proportion of the precept taken up by the clerk's salary. The Chairman commented that the Council had had to pay a large percentage of its budget for the contested election in 2007 and that funds were needed to carry out the improvements to the children's playground. The Council noted the resident's comments and the precept increase would be explained more fully at the next meeting.

5 Planning matters

5.1 The Tavern Inn, demolition and erection of 4 dwellings 08/00318/OUT

Resolved to object to this application on the grounds that it would mean a loss of a valuable village amenity, a loss of village jobs and that the access to the site from Frank's road was unsuitable.

5.27 Brook Street, erection of 2-storey extension. 08/00299/FUL

Resolved to make no comment.

5.3 The Old Barn, Wakeley Farm, erection of stables 08/0350/FUL

Resolved to make no comment.

6 Assessment of risk and insurance cover

The Council reviewed the risk management policy document.

Resolved to adopt the risk management document without change.

The renewal schedule for the Council's insurance policy was examined. The renewal premium due on 1st June 2008 was £660, an increase of 4.5%. Reducing the level of cover on the playground equipment could make savings on the cost of the premium. Although the Council intended to replace some of the equipment when funds allowed, in the meantime, it was agreed that it was sensible to continue the cover.

7 End of year statement of finances

The clerk had produced the end of year figures in draft form for the Council to approve at the May meeting. The figures showed a considerably reduced balance of £560 in the general account to carry forward following the payment of £1238 for the election last year. £500 was the agreed minimum for contingency in the Council's budget. The remainder of the Council's reserves, a sum of £5000, had been earmarked for the playground project.

8 Appointment of planning champion to assist Harborough District Council with production of a planning handbook

Resolved to appoint Councillor P. Jackson as the planning champion with the proviso that Councillor S Green would step in should Councillor Jackson be unable to attend the training session.

9 Publications and documents received

9.1 MWCT re use of playing field by a caravan & camping club as part of hiring the hall for a rally

The Community Trust had received a request from a caravan club to hire the hall and playing field for a rally. The Trust wished to know the view of the Council on the use of the playing field for this purpose. The Council felt it could not agree this until it had more information such as the number of vehicles that might use the field and whether any noise disturbance might be caused to local residents by the club's activities.

Resolved to ask the Community Trust for further information.

9.2 Renewal of Local Council Review subscription

Resolved to renew the subscription to Local Council Review magazine at a cost of £13.50 for the year.

9.3 Leicestershire Rural Strategy 2007-2014

As this was a large document, it would be circulated amongst the Councillors but a link to the online document would be placed on the website for interested residents.

9.4 Rural Festival 2008 – 23 October 2008 11am – 3pm at Hothorpe Hall

Noted

9.5 Notes from the Parish Liaison meeting

Councillor C. Bach, who, with the clerk, had attended the meeting, gave a précis of the information contained in the notes, to the Council.

9.6 Partnership funding for bus shelters

Noted but would not be followed up at this stage. Whilst on the subject of the bus lay-by, a resident commented that the No-Parking sign had been returned, following the installation of raised kerbs at the bus stop, but the sign only stated no parking between the hours of 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. The Council felt that the no-parking ban should be continuous. The clerk was asked to follow this up.

9.7 Town & Parish Standard News March 2008

Noted

10 Any other items for notification only

10.1 Planning Permission for temporary residential caravan at Orchard Cottage, Swinford Road

Noted

10.2 EMDA news - To be circulated

10.3 LRALC March Newsletter - To be circulated

10.4 Harborough Arts Update - To be circulated

10.5 LCC Branchline - To be circulated

11 Date of the next meeting

The next meeting was confirmed as 19 May 2008 at 7.30 p.m. in Walcote Memorial Hall, for the AGM of the Council to be followed by the annual meeting of the Parish. A short ordinary Council meeting would follow.

The chairman closed the meeting at 9.45 p.m.