**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

**HELD IN THE CHURCH ROOM ON Wednesday 9th May 2018**

Present: Councillor P. Marsden in the Chair.

Approximately 20 members of the public were present

1. **MINUTES OF THE LAST ANNUAL PARISH MEETING (10th May 2017)**

The Minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting were provided for those present.

**Resolved**: That the Minutes be approved as a correct record.

1. **CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARDS FOR 2017**

Cllr Hazel Brand introduced the achievements of Mr Darley including being a volunteer driver for the BDC hospice and his work producing “bug hotel” kits free of charge. The Parish Council Chairman presented the award to Mr Darley on behalf of the Parish Council. Mr Darley thanked the Council and also highlighted some of the “pamper” days that benefitted the patients.

The Parish Chairman summarised the activities undertaken by the nominees for their participation in the Sight Project and presented the junior award to Mr Andrew Green who accepted the award on behalf of Class 6 at Misterton Primary School

The public present showed their appreciation in the usual manner.

1. **REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND LOCAL ORGANISATIONS**

**a) MISTERTON BURIAL COMMITTEE**

Chairman of the Burial Committee, Alan Stead reported as follows:

The Misterton and West Stockwith Burial Committee consists of three members of Misterton Parish Council and two from West Stockwith. The committee is responsible for the management of the cemetery on Haxey Road, the western end of the churchyard and the remembrance garden, also at the western end of the churchyard.

The Misterton and West Stockwith Burial Committee is funded by annual maintenance awards from both Parish Councils and also from the sale of burial plots, internments and memorials. The growing trend over recent years for cremations and green burials as opposed to traditional burials now seems to have levelled out as we have seen the same number of burials this year as last year. There was a total of five burials for 2017/18, three lots of ashes were interred and a total of three plots were reserved.

There are approximately 80 vacant plots in the cemetery so any expansion of the cemetery into the adjoining field will be at least 10 years away.

Grass cutting, hedge cutting and waste disposal are our three largest categories for expenditure amounting to nearly £5,000 per annum.

I would like to take this opportunity of thanking all members of the Burial Committee and The Burial Committee Clerk for their contribution during the year and I would also like to thank Stuart Moody for his work as groundsman in keeping the cemetery neat and tidy.

**b)** **NORTH EAST BASSETLAW FORUM**

Councillor Dave Pearce submitted the following report:

The NEBF is not a tier of local government nor a decision making body. Rather it acts as a liaison group and provides a forum where a number of Parish Councils and Bassetlaw District Council (BDC) can review local issues and raise their mutual concerns. BDC attend and supply support to NEBF. District and County Councillors attend. Nine Parish Councils are represented on the NEBF.

Matters of interest considered during this year include:

* Broadband coverage where BDC and providers have met with NEBF and answered questions. Concern was been raised at the seemingly piecemeal way the work has been proceeding with numerous visits to each area extending coverage each time but still leaving significant gaps in the coverage being achieved.
* Keeping up to date with Fracking, both by the companies and the LA’s.
* Devolution and the City/Regional plans.
* Planning and development. A mutual concern shared between parishes (initially raised by MPC) has been what they regard as a weak approach by BDC to planning matters generally and particularly poor enforcement practice.
* Health provision: NEBF has been updated as to plans for extending hours and days of access to GP Surgeries. This is proposed by practices supporting each other and collaborating between themselves. This is being rolled out but compatible working practices and particularly compatible IT are a restraint, albeit recognised and being addressed.

**c) MAP LTD**

Councillor Hazel Brand, Chair of MAP, submitted the following report:

This is the report for the Misterton Area Partnership for 2017/18. MAP was developed from the joint Parish Plan for Misterton and West Stockwith. MAP’s AGM was held in February.

Building on the success of the applications for grant funding for the local history project then for the Misterton Neighbourhood Plan – approaching £20,000 brought into our community – an application for funding to produce a local visitors’ guide will be submitted as soon as the latest bank statement arrives – a copy is needed to go with the application. This is the culmination of work to set up a project team, begun last year.

The trustees think it important to showcase the area, and this will be more pertinent as we approach 2020, the 400th anniversary of the sailing of the Pilgrim Families when visitors to Bassetlaw from the USA and Canada, in particular, are expected to rise from some 7500 to 20,000 day visits, and from 2000 to 6000 staying visits. With Misterton en route between the villages where the pilgrims originated and Epworth, home of Methodism, the area is in a prime position to take advantage of the expected boost in tourism – which brings improvements to the local economy.

A second project is to complete the work that the late Pete Luck started in 2014 - replacing the long-lost, wooden plaque, listing the WW1 fallen, that once hung in the Parish Church. It would be a fitting tribute to Pete to get it completed. He had started to raise funds for the plaque.

During the year, MAP continued to act as a facilitator for other groups and bodies. This concludes the summary of activities in 2017/18. My thanks go to the trustees, members for their input, and the company secretary.

**d) MISTERTON COMMUNITY TRUST**

David Pearce, Trustee and Secretary of the Misterton Community Trust provided the following report:

The Trustees are pleased to report as follows:

Last year we deposited most of our available funds into the Charitable Organisations Investment Fund’s (COIF) Deposit Account. This was an improvement on our annual return.

This year we have moved 50% of our funds out of the Deposit Fund into COIF’s Investment Fund which gives an even higher rate of interest. This now more than covers the Trust’s insurance policy and begins to increase our resources.

Both the above funds are still deemed low risk.

We have held all our meetings this year in the new Misterton Centre and Community Partnership Library thus negating any room hire charges.

We have had one resignation this year resulting in there being four remaining Trustees.

**4. REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

Peter Marsden delivered the following report as Chairman of the Parish Council:

We had a good start to the year with the benefit of Barry Coopers previous 2 years as Chairman

We had much pleasure in celebrating the opening of the Misterton Centre and Community Partnership library on 10th June by the Chairman of the County Council - Councillor John Hadley. We are also pleased that Bassetlaw District Council has agreed to be part of Centre and Library.

The library has been a remarkable success this year and I would like to thank David Seymour and the Library Working Group, together with Lesley Parker of Inspire, for all their hard work. We are now open an extra day on Wednesdays meaning the library is open for 4 days of the week. Misterton Primary School will be coming in to the Library during June so that every child in Misterton will be registered as a library user. This will help to promote the summer reading challenge which was a huge success this year. Relationships with Inspire are very positive and all the systems that have been introduced are working well. The footfall over this last year was some 2,600 which is an improvement on previous years. Having said all that none of this would be possible without the help of all the Volunteers and a massive thankyou goes to all of them for making it a tremendous success.

To continue with improvements to the village we have increased the Village Precept to make sure we are financially viable and are able to cover any contingencies.

We had the first full summer with the new Play Park on Church Meadow gardens which is proving a great attraction and is used by many residents and their friends.

In December we had a very successful Christmas lights switch on evening together with a Christmas Tree competition in the church. The weather this year was kind to us and we had the benefit of stalls and a brass band with the donations shared between All Saints Church and the Charity Help Me I Am Fine.

Our Neighbourhood Plan is now in the Consultation Period which ends on Friday 8th June 2018 and is currently on display in the Misterton Centre. We welcome any constructive comments before the final version is issued ready for the Referendum.

We welcomed our new County Councillor Tracey Taylor who now attends our monthly meetings and is proving to be good link to County Hall.

I would like to thank David Airey our local PCSO who provides us with a comprehensive report each month and is always available for advice on security matters. It has been comforting to know we have a proactive police presence in the village.

We had one resignation this year, Ray Simpson, who had served the Parish Council for some time and we welcomed the return of Steve Taylor our new co-opted member.

We have decided this year to enter the Best Kept Village and hopefully all our residents and businesses will help to make this a success. The judging is in June and July.

This coming year we are hoping to improve the sports field car park and finalise the Police agreement to operate from the Misterton Centre and Community Partnership library.

I would like to thank both of our staff members – namely Natalie and Brian - for their demanding work and continued service with the Parish Council.

My thanks go to all the Councillors for their support over the year and to those who sat on the various working Groups, their efforts have made my life so much easier and certainly more enjoyable.

Thanks again must also go to Angela Harrison, our Clerk, from myself and the Parish Council for all her hard work in guiding us through another successful year.

**5. MATTERS RAISED BY ELECTORS PRESENT**

- litter pick arrangements highlighted for the 24th May

- Community Trust issues/activities raised but the resident was advised to contact the Trust

directly for information.

There being no other matters the meeting was closed at 7.25pm.

Signed………………………………. Dated………………………………………….