

East Drayton Parish Council

Minutes of a Meeting of the Parish Council held
at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 16th October 2012 in the Village Hall

Present:

Cllrs N Stanley, A Stanley, I Stephens, M Goddard, R Small and H Mackintosh. In attendance: Cllr H Brand and Clerk, S Pickard. Members of the public: 0.

1. **Apologies for Absence** – Cllr P Ogle, DCllrs K and S Isard and PC Bailey.
2. **Minutes of meeting held on 18th September 2012** – were approved and signed.
3. **Matters Arising**

- i) Local Broadband facilities – The Chairman reiterated the importance of completing the on-line survey by Notts CC to support the campaign for superfast broadband at www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/broadband, or phone/fill in a paper pledge form.
- ii) Highways defects – the pothole on Top Street has been repaired, the replacement reflectors have been marked out and the blocked drain on Church Lane is now clear.
- iii) Effect of part-night lighting – the Clerk read out an email received from Clare Murden, Highway Energy Saving Dept at Notts CC and excerpts were noted as follows:

“As you are probably aware the issue of part-night lighting has been happily accepted by some but not by others generally because of the fear of crime.....

We meet with the Police, Crime Safety Partnership and Road Safety experts on a monthly basis to discuss the schemes as they are rolled out and deal with any specific issues which may arise. We also promised to carryout reviews at 6 and 12 months following implementation of the schemes. I've checked the data we've got for East Drayton and there have been no increases in crime to date

The part-night lighting scheme was introduced following increases in electricity prices which affected all households and Councils. We all try to do our bit, such as switching the lights off, power plugs off etc before going to bed and the same needs to apply at the County Council. In 2005 our Street Lighting energy bill was £1.05m compared with £4.2m expected this year. Large organisations will soon also be hit with a CO2 emissions charge which will put our expenditure up even more.

In East Drayton the lighting is a mixture of 35w SOX on Low Street up to 70w SON on North Green; these are typical examples of lighting found around the County. The savings produced from the part-night lighting scheme will be approx £290 per annum which may not seem that much but when you consider we have completed similar schemes in over 100 villages in Nottinghamshire to date, it soon adds up”.

It was noted that no information concerning the cost of the exercise had been mentioned and it was AGREED to request this information again. **ACTION: S Pickard.**

- iv) Developing the relationship: district and town & parish councils. The Chairman reported that he had been contacted by Stephen Brown, Senior Management Support Services at Bassetlaw District Council concerning the first meeting, but Cllr Stanley was unable to attend. The Chairman requested he be kept informed of the progress the review makes.
4. **Declarations of Interest** – there were no declarations.

5. Correspondence

Nottinghamshire County Council

- a) Lengthsman Scheme: Evaluation Event, Tuesday, 13.11.12 at 6.15pm at Rufford Mill. Information to be placed in the circulation folder.
- b) Waste Core Strategy – Schedule of proposed changes can be found at www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/wastehaveyoursay. Information to be placed in the circulation folder.

Bassetlaw District Council:

- c) Police and Crime Commissioner Elections – 15.11.12. Poster to be placed on the village noticeboard.
- d) Parish Councils Liaison Group Agenda for 10.10.12 and minutes from meeting 11.7.12. Information to be placed in the circulation folder.

NALC:

- e) Northern Area Committee meeting minutes from 20.8.12. Information to be placed in the circulation folder.

General:

- f) Nottinghamshire Fire & Rescue Service Autumn 2012. Information to be placed in the circulation folder.
- g) Review of Ambulance Service in Bassetlaw. Information to be placed in the circulation folder for any comments to be made at next month's meeting.

Police:

- h) PC Bailey's report advised there had been no crime in the village since last month.

- 6. Cllr Hazel Brand, newly appointed Rural Advisor with Bassetlaw District Council was welcomed to the meeting and spoke about her role.

Cllr Brand (Independent, Misterton Ward) said she had been asked to join the (Labour-run) Cabinet to advise on rural matters. Her remit is to look at all the documents that come to Cabinet, go through the policies and comment on these with a rural dimension. To help her with this, she is proposing to set up a group of people she can call upon, at short notice, to comment upon various rural matters – a rural reference group. Essentially this would be an email group that through the District Council would give Cllr Brand their thoughts on issues raised at Cabinet to help her get a broader picture. The Chairman AGREED to be a part of the group.

Other strands Cllr Brand is working on include communication between the Parish Councils and District Council, and the role of the Parish Councils Liaison Group (which is not well represented by PCs). The Chairman commented that he had attended one of these meetings concerning the 'clustering' of PCs. Cllr Brand said she was involved in the North East Bassetlaw Forum and as a larger body, had been able to bring to bear more weight than a PC working on its own, but agreed it was not a model for everybody. She continued that the way things were going with the financial position of the District Council and lack of resources, it was quite likely the District Council may only provide statutory services in the future (licensing, planning and waste disposal) and would look to the Parish Councils to provide more. Parish Councils could be forced into a little more 'clustering'.

The new Parish Councils Liaison Group will have five members from the District Council, five from Parish Councils and NALC. However, there had been a big response from Parish Councils and a meeting had been organised this week to discuss the situation. It was hoped those not chosen to join the Group would still be involved in some way and the first meeting could be arranged.

Cllr Brand is also hoping to organise a Rural Conference to gain thoughts and ideas that can be built into a District Council Rural Plan or strategy based on what Parish Councils want. This is likely to take place on a weekday in December and Cllr Brand said she hoped East Drayton would respond with its six priorities for consideration at this event.

Cllr Brand is also involved in the Sheffield City Region Project – if Sheffield is developed as a mega hub this could worsen migration from rural areas. Rural communities would be depleted as people follow jobs and schools etc and to discourage this faster internet connections and better transport should be developed in rural areas.

Concerning the Ambulance Service, Cllr Brand said she would fight for a station in Retford or Worksop to be maintained, rather than a hub based at Mansfield. This would impact greatly on response times and she felt there were enough big issue risk factors to have one in Bassetlaw.

Cllr Brand urged everyone to complete the survey for faster broadband in the County. Nottinghamshire is now behind Norfolk in the number of pledges.

Cllr Brand concluded by saying she was in post for one year and she was 'pushing at an open door'; her intentions were to try and raise the profile of issues in rural areas and to try and work together on some of them.

The Chairman thanked Cllr Brand for attending the meeting.

7. Planning

- i) The Clerk read out a letter from the Planning Department informing Parish Councils of its intention to move to an electronic based service in some areas of the process and a new website called Public Access (which may be found at: http://www.bassetlaw.gov.uk/planning_and_building/planning_public_access.aspx) The most relevant is that the green planning decision notices are now available to view/and or download on the Public Access website. They will, therefore, no longer be providing paper copies. During the next few months electronic consultations will be found on the Public Access. The new consultation process will include sending consultation requests to each main Parish contact (the Clerk) via email. The consultation request letter will provide a link to the Public Access website where comments on the cases in the Parish can be made electronically.

8. General Business

- i) Village Newsletter – Cllr Ann Stanley congratulated Cllr Mackintosh on yet another good, succinct edition.

9. Meeting adjourned for Publish Discussion – No members of the public were present.

10. Finance

- a) Income – None.
- b) Accounts for Payment – None.
- c) Balance of Accounts

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| The account balances as at 16 th October 2012 were: | | £ |
| Nottingham BS | | 2,519.37 |
| Lloyds TSB | | <u>158.58</u> |
| | | 2,677.95 |

- d) Transfer of Funds – not required.

11. Urgent Business

- i) The Chairman advised that the Church renovation had been put back six months due to the bat survey.
- ii) Register of members' interests – were duly signed and ready for forwarding to the District Council and copies to be posted on the website. **ACTION: S Pickard.**
- iii) Bassetlaw Rural Conference – after discussion it was AGREED when thanking Cllr Brand for her attendance at the Parish Council's meeting, the following six priorities East Drayton would like to raise are:
 - Services and access to them
 - Transport
 - IT/broadband
 - Health
 - The Localism agenda
 - Anti-social behaviour (and Policing)

Also comment should be made that Cllr Brand did not mention farming in her discussion this evening. **ACTION: S Pickard.**

There being no further business, the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9 pm.

12. Date and time of next meeting – The next meeting of the Parish Council will take place on **Tuesday, 20th November 2012 at 7.30 pm.**

Signed _____ Date _____

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