

MISSON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Parish Council meeting held at 7pm on Tuesday 16th April 2024 at Misson Community Centre.

Before the meeting started Cllr Robey stated that he intended to make a recording of the meeting, and of future meetings. There were four objections, and one MOP asked why the Cllr felt it necessary to do so. He replied that it was not against the law, and that anyone present could make a recording. The Chair reminded him that he had to stop the recording if any of the objectors wished to speak, and when confidential items were being discussed.

The Chair read out advice from the Monitoring Officer at BDC stating that Misson Parish Council should review the format of Parish Council meetings so that anyone who wishes to record the meetings specify that they wish to do so. The Parish Council should also consider writing a protocol for recording public meetings. It was proposed that a draft protocol be submitted to Councillors before the end of the week for approval at the May meeting.

Pre-meeting from the public:

A MOP asked if there had been any update on the proposed ownership of the end of River Lane. He was informed that the paper is on the website. The Council is still waiting for a reply from the Land Registry.

A MOP complained about the number of cars parking on both sides of Coronation Avenue, restricting the space for other vehicles to drive down. It was stated that unless the cars are causing an obstruction, they are legally allowed to park there. If they are causing an obstruction, then it is a police matter. D.Cllr Pashley offered to raise the matter with PC Pickersgill.

Present: Cllr Walker (Chair), Cllr Watkins, Cllr Scott, Cllr Watson, Cllr Robey, Cllr Sutherton, D.Cllr Pashley, C.Cllr Taylor. **Clerk:** S Scott.

1. No apologies were received. Cllr. Andrews was not in attendance.
2. Declarations of disclosable pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests: Cllr Walker – non-pecuniary interest as editor of Community Newsletter and a Trustee of Village Park and Playground Project. Cllr Watkins – non-pecuniary interest as a member of the River Idle Management Partnership. Cllr Sutherton – non-pecuniary interest as a member of the River Idle Management Partnership. Cllr Robey – non-pecuniary interest as a Trustee of Misson Community Association. Cllr Scott – non-pecuniary interest as a member of Misson Community Association.
3. After the Clerk correcting an omission, the Council approved the minutes of 26th March 2024. They will now be placed on the notice boards and on the website.
4. Matters arising not on the agenda – The Chair asked for the recording-of-meetings protocol to be added to May's agenda for discussion. There were no objections.
5. Report from the County Councillor – Now that the budget has been set, projects can commence including Highways Capital Program. There will be new safety signage at the bad bend at Newington, and improved surfacing at Bryan's Close Lane plus new signage. There are no plans to close any local Household Waste Recycling Centres, despite what people may read on social media. Nottinghamshire County Council is 15 years into a 26-year contact with Veolia. The contract states what can be recycled roadside and what can be taken to the centres. At Nottinghamshire CC there has been a review over the Environment Act 2021 stating that we should be doing better and acting in a uniform manner. Councils across the country should be applying the same rules. Igas/Star Energy will be taken off future agendas as the work is now completed. There is no news about flood warden training as staff were on holiday. The Chair wishes to forward thanks to the C.Cllr on

behalf of the community for all her work concerning iGas/Star Energy. Also thanks to previous D.Cllrs, and previous serving Parish Councillors for their hard work. Public thanks also to the Misson Community Action Group, and to Frack-Free Misson, and to the people who represented Misson at the Community Liaison Group meetings.

6. Report from the District Councillor – The D.Cllr reminded all that it was the Mayoral and Police Commissioner election day on the 2nd May 2024. Misson Community Centre will probably be the polling station. There is also the review of the electoral boundaries in Bassetlaw. The consultation period ends on the 29th April 2024. He has been in touch with Julian Proudman regarding the problem of dog fouling across various parishes. BDC can provide signage and additional waste bins. If required, they will be installed free of charge by the local dog warden. The problem of Tunnel Tech odours was raised at the last Bassetlaw meeting. An article with their responses will be produced in the next Misson newsletter. The D.Cllr has requested a copy of the annual inspection report compiled by a company called Sol. There is a concern about bias, as Tunnel Tech request Sol to complete the inspection. It was therefore requested that Bassetlaw use another company. Tunnel Tech have now confirmed that the conveyor will be covered; currently only 30% is. They should have planted all the trees that had been requested, but this is still awaiting confirmation. The D.Cllr was asked to enquire to Bassetlaw Housing Department about the regulations concerning allowing horses to graze on Council-owned land, after horses were fenced in on the grass outside the New Bungalows on Top Street. The Clerk had already made such an enquiry but had not received a reply.

7. Update on policing – No update, but it had been noticed that a police response vehicle had been seen around the village during the previous evening. The Clerk has tried to contact Sharon Shaw, the Senior Traffic Support Officer to discuss the sitting of speed vans in the village but has had no response. An email will be sent again, and will copy in the Chair.

8. Councillors received and approved the following expenses and receipts:

Expenses

PAYE for March - £101.00 24/002

M Guest for March - £192.00 24/009

Hugo Fox for website support - £11.99 inc vat 24/006

S E Scott salary for MPC for March - £434.20 24/003

Enterprise Accountants for payroll - £143.10 inc vat 24/001

Cloud Next web back up - £132.00 inv vat (biennial cost) 24/010

Refund of unused grant to Groundworks - £935.00 24/008

Npower - £1.69 24/005

NALC subscription renewal - £182.34 24/004

SLCC subscription renewal - £112.00 24/007

Receipts

Precept - £8223.50 received 12th April 2024 24/R002

VAT reimbursement received 10th April 2024 - £1713.57 24/R001

Bank interest for end of March - £11.95 23/R024

Bank account balances as at 31st March 2024

Current a/c – £6108.33

Business Reserve a/c – £10754.49

The quarterly accounts were passed over to be signed off. The annual accounts will be circulated after the meeting with the internal auditor on Monday 22nd April.

It is recommended that the Code of Conduct policy adopted by BDC be reviewed every time there is a change of membership. It is also recommended that all Councillors sign and date the policy, not just the Chair, also that the policy is signed and dated again when there is a change of membership.

There were no objections to the recommendation. It will now be placed on the Misson Parish Council website.

The FOI and Model Publication Policy will be signed after the Clerk has made a couple of amendments. It will also be placed on the website.

It was suggested that a Complaints Policy be drafted. As the Clerk is reviewing all the policies that are a statutory requirement, a Complaints Policy will be considered at a later date.

An updated Risk Register Policy was discussed. Councillors will forward any amendments prior to the May meeting.

The three-year plan was discussed. It was suggested to incorporate the ongoing work on the church wall, and the consideration of installing EV charging points. It was agreed to review it and discuss it at the June meeting.

9. Planning Applications – A County application has been received for a proposed extension eastwards towards the existing Misson Grey Sand Quarry. Ref 24/0040/CDM. A decision is awaited.
24/00239/HSE – application granted for the demolition of a conservatory and the construction of a single-storey extension and a first-floor extension over the garage at 12 Manor Close.
24/00293/HSE – an application for a two-storey side extension to 2, New Cottages on Dame Lane. Awaiting a decision.
23/01232/LBA – application granted for the external rendering of Gibdyke Farm.
No other planning applications received.
10. Discussion regarding the proposed independent energy audit. The audit would give advice on areas such as insulation, draft proofing, lighting, and alternative heating sources (especially if the current boiler no longer works). The energy audit is a requirement for many grant funds. It was proposed and seconded that Cllr Scott obtain three quotes to enable an audit to be undertaken. The Clerk will be sent details of the current quotes already received. C.Cllr Taylor informed the Council that the Local Community Fund is now open for capital projects, although probably too late to apply for a grant from this round, it will be open again in autumn.
11. Report on the Neighbourhood Plan – The unused grant money has been returned to Groundworks. The steering group have signed off the process. They are now waiting on a response from Bassetlaw. It will be kept as an agenda item until an update is received from the group.
12. Update on Neighbourhood Improvement Program – Grass cutting is taking place throughout the village, a little earlier than usual due to all the rain and sunshine. The lengthsman are trying to keep the paths in the cemetery and churchyard clear of grass cuttings. The lengthsman and women have been encouraged by the positive feedback on Facebook after the photos of the newly cut areas were posted showing all the spring flowers. Jason Morden from Notts C.C. Conservation Dept. will be continuing the work on the church wall on the 20th and 21st June 2024. Micheal Tagg the Conservation Manager at Bassetlaw will be offering financial support. Looking for a working party of volunteers to help on the two days. Details will be posted on social media nearer the time. The WI will also be asked if they could supply drinks and food, as they kindly did on the previous occasion. The Chair asked if Rev. Becky could be informed of the work party. The Curate contacted Cllr Watkins to ask if she could know more about the upkeep of the churchyard. A meeting will be arranged. Cllr Scott asked if the Parish Council would consider ‘No Mow May’ campaign for selected areas around the village, such as the village green and the verge along Vicar Lane. It was proposed that a part of the green will be left, and the verge, and around the trees at the end of Coronation Avenue. Cllr Watkins will discuss the requirements with the lengthsman. It will be publicised on social media. It was asked if the path in front of the cemetery could be swept, and some trees, especially the holly near the gate require crowning.

13. Update on the Community Centre – The MCA are asking for a formalised contract between MPC and MCA. The proposed contract was distributed to the Councillors, with the recommendation that it be discussed at the May meeting, once everyone had the chance to read it.
14. Reports from Parish groups and projects – Cllr Robey discussed a speedwatch proposal which had been advertised in the April newsletter. PCSO John Dale had made a visit to the village and noted the best places for speedwatch teams to be positioned. Once enough volunteers are assembled, PCSO Dale will return and supervise a training session. The volunteers would be in groups of three. Registration numbers will be taken of all vehicles caught speeding and submitted to the police. A young lad in the village has kindly offered 12 hours of his time to help groups. He has already spent three hours distributing the April newsletter. This is towards his bronze Duke of Edinburgh award. His offer applies to any group, not just the MPC. Cllr Watkins will ask the lengthsman if they would like any help in sweeping paths. Cllr Scott proposed that she would mention it at the MCA meeting on Wednesday 17th April 2024. It was also suggested that he could help at the Misson Book Swap.

The Village Park and Playground project has stalled again, due to the school head being indisposed. The land outside the Community Centre was mentioned as a possible alternative, but as it's the only suitable piece of land that the Council owns, it may be more useful as an EV charging point, if considered. The constitution states that if it is progressed by February 2025, the funds will be transferred to the Town Estates Charity, to be used in future projects. It was also pointed out that the school now has outside play equipment as does the Angel Inn.
15. Update on the Parish Resilience plan – The next meeting of the Resilience team is planned for May. The second draft of the plan is in development. The team are considering climate emergencies, in particular, flooding that would make Misson an island, heavy snow that would cut off access, and extreme heat over an extended period. They met with the leader of Fishlake Resilience team, and a further meeting will be arranged to join their flood water training event. It was asked if a reply had been received from Environment Agency concerning flooding around Misson. No response had been emailed.
16. Review of Parish highways and paths – It was agreed that Misson did not need stencils sprayed on the pathways warning people to clear up after their dog. Signage would be more appropriate in the areas that are not tarmac. The Clerk was asked if she would contact Bassetlaw Dog Warden to see if she could come into the village to see the problem areas and offer advice. The streetlight in Newington has been repaired, although it is now slightly askew. There is an issue with the footpath that passes Mill House and crosses the old railway line. The hawthorn hedge is now overgrowing the narrow footpath making it difficult to walk on. The Clerk to ask if it can be cut back.
17. Feedback from meetings – Cllrs Watkins and Sutherton attended the RIMP meeting on the 28th March 2024. Cllr Sutherton has also attended an additional RIMP meeting on the 27th. It was stated that the EA are opposed to dredging the river Idle, despite people's requests due to flooding.
18. Correspondence received – An email was received regarding Misson entering the 'Best Kept Village' competition. Cllrs were asked to think about it before the next meeting in May. Thanks were given to the MOP who sent in concerns about Cllrs' conduct in meeting. It will be discussed more fully under confidential items. A report was sent to the Notts Highways Dept concerning the state of the checkered bridge at Misson Bridge.
19. The next meeting will be on Wednesday 1st May 2024. This will be the Annual Misson Parish Council meeting.
20. Confidential items – Councillors' conduct was discussed with the agreement to work together in a more constructive way moving forward. The new minimum hourly rate was discussed.