

**MINUTES of the MEETING of MISSON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Held on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2017.**

**Councillors Present:** J Watson; J Watkins; P Edwards and J Sutherton

- 1. Election of Chairman:** The Clerk requested nominations for a Chairman due to the resignation of Cllr Shilling at the November meeting. Cllr Edwards nominated Cllr Watson and Cllr Watkins seconded the proposal. Council approved the election of Cllr Watson as Chairman.
- 2. To sign acceptance of office form:** Cllr Watson sign the acceptance of office form which was witnessed by the Clerk.

**Presentation from Joel Rathbone – Director of Misson Organic.**

Joel Rathbone (JR), Director of Misson Organic Dairy (MOD) attended the meeting to discuss, in particular, the condition of the various Public Rights of Way (PROW) leading to and from the dairy site. The key discussions were as follows:

- The condition of Top Road

Residents had expressed their concerns about the poor state of Top Road, saying that the mud and deep water-filled potholes made it difficult to use by walkers and cyclists. JR presented a map showing Top Road and Brickyard Lane as 'Restricted Byways' and Line Bank as a Bridleway. He stated that Top Road and Brickyard Lane are the responsibility of Nottinghamshire County Council. He also displayed satellite images which clearly showed Top Road to be in a poor state and, whilst accepting the planning condition that made the applicant responsible for any deterioration in the state of repair of the road, he said that this showed that the road was in a poor state prior to the farm opening and could not be held responsible for any pre-existing damage.

In response, residents pointed out that that the satellite image he had displayed was from approximately 2009 and at sometime within the last three years Top Road had been repaired by contractors believed to have been commissioned by Pollybell. The repair involved filling the potholes with fine rubble (possibly coming from demolished buildings) and levelling the surface and whilst recognising that this would be unlikely to withstand much heavy traffic in the long term, it was surprising that the condition of the road had deteriorated to a 'worse state than anybody could remember' over such a relatively short period of time. It was pointed out that large tractors and trucks using the road had, on each side, progressively squashed what had been grass verges capable of being walked upon, out as far as the boundary hedges leaving thick muddy tractor tyre treads so that the entire width of Top Road was difficult to negotiate on foot throughout its entire length.

JR responded by saying that the underlying nature of the road was such that the cost of a comprehensive repair would be prohibitively expensive and that all that could be offered at this stage was to ask drivers to only use the same half of Top Road in both directions so as to give the other half an opportunity to recover naturally.

Councillor Annette Simpson advised that, if these restricted by-ways were the responsibility of the County Council then, given current financial constraints, there was virtually no prospect of any money being made available for even the most basic repair and went on to say that, in her experience, the only other solution was to put gates across and grant vehicular access only to authorised users

- Slurry Vehicles.

Some residents said that they believed the worse of the recent damage had been caused by vehicles (both large tractors pulling tanker trailers and articulated road tankers) bringing slurry to the dairy. It was pointed out that there are periods where there is a large number of such vehicle movements taking place periodically.

It was pointed out that, when the dairy was first proposed it was said that this would be a largely self-contained operation with animal feedstuffs being brought as necessary and fresh

milk being taken out. It was also said that these vehicle movements would travel to and from the dairy via Brickyard Lane. There was, amongst those present at the earlier presentation, no recollection of there being a need to import slurry to the dairy and, consequently, no suggestion that these vehicles would travel to and from the site via Misson Village, Top Street and Top Road.

The main road through Misson has a number of potential traffic hazards such as a school entrance (busy with parked cars at school times and subject to an advisory 20 m.p.h. limit), poor sight lines and random on-street parking. Residents expressed concerns about the manner in which these slurry vehicles were being driven.

JR was asked why these vehicles were being routed through the Misson rather than via Brickyard Lane and Misson Springs like the milk tanker and, if it turned out to be nothing more than 'operator convenience' why this alternative route could not be followed. This would, it was pointed out, take some of the pressure off Top Road and relieve Misson (and Austerfield) from the unwelcome additional heavy traffic.

JR mentioned, however, that the condition of Brickyard Lane was also deteriorating.

- Cattle grid by-pass gates.

JR had, prior to the meeting, been advised that the gates that enable horses and horse drawn vehicles to by-pass the cattle grid at the point where Brickyard Lane and Top Road converge were secured with lengths of twine which made it difficult for these other road users to negotiate. He said that he has now fitted proper bolts to these gates.

**Public:** 6 members of the public attended the meeting and raised the following issues and comments:

- Over 30 guests are attending the pensioners Christmas lunch; funds have been received from Cllr Simpson. Are further funds available from the Parish Council? The Clerk advised that there is £150.00 in the budget for the event.
- There are parking issues on Top Street during school drop off/collection times; Cllr Watson advised that she would speak with the head teacher of the school.

**3. Apologies for Absence:** A Wilcox and A Woolliams.

**4. To receive any Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary & Non Pecuniary Interests.** None.

**5. To Approve the Minutes of the Council Meeting 1<sup>st</sup> November 2017:** The minutes were approved and signed as a true record.

**6. To note Matters Arising from Minutes of the last Meeting not on the Agenda:** None.

**7. Policing:** Cllr Watson advised that the latest police report had been received; no crimes had been reported within the village since the previous report.

**8. Report from District and County Councillors:** Cllr Simpson advised that Nottinghamshire County Council are reviewing the signs located on Bracken Hill Lane and will advise if planning permission has been granted or is required; the kerb on the same lane complies with all highway requirements and legislation. BDC provide a memorial inspection service free of charge; Cllr Simpson advised that she would contact the relevant person to arrange a meeting once he returns from leave.

**9. Councillor vacancy:** The clerk advised that BDC had confirmed that the vacancy could be filled via the co-option process. A notice had been displayed online and in the village noticeboards and the closing date of applications is Monday 18<sup>th</sup> December.

**10. Planning:**

**To Note Planning Decisions:**

- **Apple Tree Garth; Gibdyke:** Aspen Tree (1) 30% reduction; Conifer (2) 30% reduction; Conifers (3-16) top and reduce size by 50% of one conifer (17):  
**Decision: Not to make a tree preservation order.**

- **Bank End Farm; Bank End Road:** Side extension to bungalow following the demolition of an existing barn: **Refused.**

**To consider Planning Applications:**

- **The Chapel; Middle Street:** Erect single storey side extension (Resubmission of P.A.17/01171/HSE. Council agreed to approve once the materials have been decided and are in keeping with the village.

**To consider any other Planning Matters:** None.

**11. Neighbourhood Issues Including:**

1. **iGAS Liaison Group:** Cllr Watson read the attached report.
- **Pinfold:** The Clerk advised that a copy of the draft transfer deed had been received from Jones and Co solicitors. Council agreed to approve the draft transfer deed and authorised Cllr's Watson and Watkins to be responsible for the transaction. The Clerk advised that both Cllr's are required to provide proof of identity to the solicitors.
- **Robin Hood Airport: Noise Monitoring and Environmental Sub Committee:** No updates received.
- **Tunnel tech: To review odour monitoring:** Cllr Watson advised that a report had been received from Simon Middlebrook with regards to the works taking place at the site and the Parish Council had been invited to a site visit. Clerk to arrange,
- **Village Noticeboard:** No updates.
- **Village Signs: Newington:** No updates
- **Highways and Footpaths:** The Clerk advised that Laura Summers had received a complaint with regards to dogs fouling on Misson footpath No.1. The matter had been reported to Bassetlaw Environmental Health Team and the Street Cleansing Team. Cllr Watson advised that new signs are in place along the bridleway to warn dog owners.
- **Cemetery Maintenance:** No updates.
- **Lengthsman Work:** The Clerk advised there are funds in the budget to carry out work on the footpaths in and around the village. Council resolved to review at the January meeting.

**12. Finance: To receive and approve:**

- **Financial Statements:** Council reviewed and approved the bank statements.
- **Cheques for Payment:** Council approved the following payments:

|                           |                   |                |
|---------------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| <b>Cheque number 1039</b> | <b>Viking</b>     | <b>£62.39</b>  |
| <b>Cheque number 1040</b> | <b>ICO</b>        | <b>£35.00</b>  |
| <b>Cheque number 1041</b> | <b>S Youngman</b> | <b>£308.19</b> |
- **2018-2019 Budget:** Deferred.

**13. To Receive Correspondence:**

- Notification of external auditor appointments for the 2017/18 year. The Clerk advised that PFK Little John LLP had been appointed as the external auditors.
- Nottinghamshire County Council advising of a conference for parish and Town Councils on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December at County Hall.
- Nottinghamshire County Council advising that the Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan Issues and Options consultation is open until 14<sup>th</sup> January. Council resolved to discuss at the January meeting

**14. To approve the date of the next meeting: Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January.**

**Meeting closed 20:50.**