

## Misson Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held virtually at 7.00pm on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

As a consequence of the Coronavirus pandemic the meeting was held virtually as a video conference. Members of the public were given the opportunity to join the meeting and/ or to raise questions in advance.

In advance of the Public Questions Cllr A Woolliams explained that an Extraordinary Parish Council meeting had been held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> April. At the meeting the resignation of Cllr and Chair Jayne Watson was recorded. As this left the position of Chair vacant Cllr A Woolliams was Proposed to this position by Cllr M Watson and Seconded by Cllr J Watkins.

At the meeting Dr M Walker was co-opted as a Parish Councillor – this fills the Casual Vacancy created by Cllr K Shephard's resignation.

The Clerk introduced Mr S Brown who is Head of Corporate Services at Bassetlaw District Council (BDC) who is attending the meeting at the invitation of the Parish Council. Mr Brown explained what the legal position would be if the Parish Council (PC) became inquorate (i.e., there were less than three PCs) or all the Parish Councillors resigned. In this instance BDC would take over the administration of the PC – a situation he has not encountered previously. He explained further that local decisions are best made by people living in and representing the Parish.

The Clerk made the following statements on behalf of the PC. He explained that the PC had received several emails and comments over the previous weeks which had prompted this:

- The reason why no PCs attended the Annual Parish Meeting on the 27th April – the PC had taken advice about the degree of hostility and conflict at recent PC meetings, and did not want such hostility to detract from what should be a positive celebration of village achievements over the previous year
- There has been speculation that the PCs wished to resign en masse – this was not discussed at a public meeting and therefore remains a matter of privacy amongst the PCs.  
The PC is currently advertising two Casual Vacancies

### Public Questions:

1. A member of the public wanted to have it noted that a lot of things have been said and done in recent weeks – it was now time to draw a line under this and move on for the benefit of the village – hopefully other people in the village are of the same opinion. He went on to express support for the Parish Council.
2. A member of the public had submitted the following question via email in advance of the April PC meeting. Lately the response that parishioners have been getting from some members of the parish council regarding the odour from Tunnel Tech is that we are mistaking the source of the odour which they are telling us is either slurry or sewerage, not Tunnel Tech. Could I ask if this is the official view of the Parish Council or just a member's personal opinion? The following was recorded in the minutes from that meeting - **Response – there is an agenda item on Tunnel Tech later in the agenda where this will be discussed.**

The member of the public raised the point that her question had not been addressed within the Tunnel Tech agenda item at the April meeting and wished for it to be answered at a later date.

**Action – to be included at the June PC meeting.**

**Present:** Cllrs. Julie Watkins, Andy Woolliams (Temporary Chair), Mandy Walker, Jamie Sutherton and Clerk Mark Hooper.

1. **Election of Chair** – Cllr A Woolliams explained that he did not wish to serve as permanent Chair. He Proposed Cllr M Walker which was Seconded by Cllr J Watkins and supported by Cllr J Sutherton – Cllr M Watson was not present at the meeting but had contacted the Clerk supporting this nomination.

Cllr M Walker read out the Declaration of Acceptance of Office – this includes the following statement -

*I undertake to observe the Code of Conduct that is expected of Members of Misson Parish Council. This Code of Conduct is based on the principles of selflessness, integrity, objectivity, openness, honesty and leadership*

2. **Election of Vice-Chair** – Cllr A Woolliams was Proposed by Chair M Walker and Seconded by Cllr J Sutherton – Cllrs J Watkins and M Watson supported this nomination.
3. **To receive apologies for absence:** Cllr M Watson, C Cllr T Taylor & PCSO David Airey.
4. **To receive any declarations of disclosable pecuniary and non-pecuniary interests:**  
**Chair M Walker** – disclosed a Non-Pecuniary Interest – as a Trustee of the Misson Park and Playground Committee.

**Cllr A Woolliams** disclosed a Non-Pecuniary Interest – as a Governor of Misson School

**Cllr J Watkins** disclosed a Non-Pecuniary Interest – as a member of the River Idle Management Partnership.

**Cllr J Sutherton** disclosed a Non-Pecuniary Interest – as a member of the River Idle Management Partnership.

5. **To approve the minutes of the Council meeting of April 7<sup>th</sup> 2021.** These were approved by Cllr J Watkins and signed by the Chair. A member of the public raised a query with a section recording the Public Questions – he stated that the third item relating to emails from residents supporting the work undertaken in the Pinfold had not been disclosed on the night of the meeting. This was disputed by the Clerk who had read out the emails and Cllr J Watkins.

**To approve the minutes of the Extraordinary Council meeting of April 22<sup>nd</sup> 2021.** These were approved by Cllr J Watkins and signed by the Chair

6. **To note matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting not on the agenda:**

**Dame Lane sign knocked over –Update April 21 – replacement sign now in situ.**

**Dog Poo Bins** – a member of the public raised a question about the provision of dog poo bins around the village. They enquired if an additional one could be located further along Top Road after the Cemetery near the old Vicarage. **BDC have responded** – a new litter bin can be installed on the man Newington Road at the junction with Norwith Hill. Unfortunately, the budget does not enable the allocation of another bin on Top Road.

A member of the public asked at the April PC meeting if a **portable swing** could be taken onto the Green and then removed when it has been finished being played on with an adult in attendance? The Clerk contacted the PC's Insurer who confirmed that if any swing was installed – even temporarily – on the Green and there was a subsequent accident the PC could be held liable.

**The lamp in the Church porch** was refurbished by one of the Lengthsmen a few months ago. The Clerk has contacted the Church to ascertain if any assistance was required to reinstall it – the response received was that it will be reinstalled in the near future.

**Disabled Access to the Pinfold** – it should be remembered that this is an historical cultural asset being restored for use by the general public. The Pinfold is more accessible to wheelchairs and buggies than the village green as there is level access through a wide gate, with no kerb present. The suggestions regarding lighting and paving are perhaps not suitable for a historic cultural asset. So let us focus on restoration of it for use by the general public, and ensuring there are no major barriers to access.

## 7. To receive reports from District and County Councillors

- **C Cllr T Taylor** – apologies had been received along with a summary of the previous year's achievements which will be included in full as an annex to these minutes- summary below -

**Covid response** – NCC have led a Local resilience Forum with other organisations which has provided financial and non-financial support for individuals, organisations and businesses within the County.

**NCC has continued to operate 'business as usual' throughout they pandemic.**

- Planning applications
- Highways issues
- Drainage and Flood mitigation work
- Environmental issues

- **D Cllr. M. Watson** – apologies had been received along with the following update –

The BDC AGM will be on the 18<sup>th</sup> May – no agenda available yet. Things have been quiet ahead of the elections.

The UK Atomic Energy Authority is looking at West Burton as one potential site for a commercial-scale nuclear fusion reactor (a spherical Tokamak). Nuclear fusion does not produce the dangerous isotopes associated with traditional nuclear power stations, but nobody in the world has actually made one work yet. If the site is selected there will be a very thorough planning process to go through.

With regard to Tunnel Tech, D Cllr M Watson has had extensive discussions with David Armiger (Deputy Chief Exec) and Jim Whalley from environmental health. They have agreed the following principles:

- 1) More detailed monitoring of odour issues needs to be carried out in order to construct a credible, robust case now that TTN have complied with the enclosure requirements. In order to take things further, either via DEFRA or the civil courts, we will need to convince these external agencies that there is a significant case to answer. In the case of a landfill site in the Midlands that was in the national news recently, there were 2000 complaints per week. Our numbers are not currently in this league. Odour log documents for the month of May have been sent out to local residents to complete. I have reservations on the design of the documents, which may need to be improved for ease of use by members of the public, but let's see how it goes over the first month.
- 2) BDC will monitor the odour logs kept by TTN on a monthly basis to see if these correspond with reported odour issues. If not, why are TTN not picking these up? Are odour releases the result of continuing technical issues, or operational mistakes?
- 3) BDC will approach local landowners to register planned slurry spreading, so this can be excluded as a potential source of odour.

8. **Parish Council Resilience Stores** – this item is to be carried forward to a future meeting as D Cllr M Watson was absent this evening.

9. **To receive a report on the policing of the Parish:** PCSO Dave Airey provided the update for April via email. There have been four crimes over the whole BEAT area for April – none of which were in Misson. This compares with three crimes reported during the same period last year. The full report includes security advice applicable to everybody and is available on the MPC website.

### 10. To receive a report from Misson Community Association –

- The De-fibrillator require replacing – following discussion it was agreed that the cost should be met in full by the PC. **Action – Clerk to contact MCA for details.**
- The MCA had asked if the PC electricity supply on the Green could be used for the village event planned for the 25<sup>th</sup> July. The response made was that the current installation is limited to a single 13A supply which can be easily overloaded. The plan had been to install a min-ring main to bring the supply up to 30A – this work has not been undertaken. Therefore, it was felt that the electricity supply would not be sufficient for the requirement.

### 11. To review and approve the Asset Register – this was agreed to by the PC

### 12. To review and approve the Risk Management Register – this was agreed to by the PC.

### 13. Parish Financial administration

#### To receive and approve:

- The Clerk presented the Financial statements to the 30<sup>th</sup> April 2021 and Council resolved to accept them:

NatWest Current Acc.	@ 30/04/21	£15,997.67
NatWest Reserve Acc.	@ 30/04/21	£10,564.43

- Councillors resolved to approve the following payments:

<u>Payt</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
BACS	E-ON	Electricity Usage Christmas Tree	£1.38
BACS	Eagle-S	Newsletter printing	£60.00
BACS	TEC Clerk	Salary – April	£113.00
BACS	HMRC	PAYE – April	£86.80
BACS	MPC Clerk	Salary – April	£377.60
BACS	Enterprise	Accountancy Services	£138.00
BACS	Lengthsmen 1	Maintenance in Churchyard & Cemetery	£110.00
BACS	Lengthsmen 2	Maintenance in Churchyard & Cemetery	£49.50
<b>Total</b>			<b>£936.28</b>

The Clerk explained that the Bank Mandate required updating following the resignation of the Chair and Vice-Chair. The new Chair and Vice-Chair both agreed to become signatories. **Action – Clerk to progress.**

### 14. To discuss the implications of the Coronavirus situation – nothing to report this month.

**15. To consider whether to delay future PC meetings.** The legislation permitting remote meetings ceases on the 7<sup>TH</sup> May – subsequent meetings will need to be held face to face. The June PC meeting would usually be held on the first Wednesday – the 2<sup>nd</sup> June this year. Government Covid restrictions are due to be further relaxed on the 21<sup>st</sup> June. Advice from the Association of Local Councils is that June meetings can be deferred until after this date to enable the meetings to be held under less restrictive conditions. This was discussed – the decision was made to defer the meeting until after the 21<sup>st</sup> June – it was proposed to hold it on the Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> June – to be confirmed with the MCA re availability of the Community Centre. A decision will be made re the date of the July meeting at the June PC meeting.

## 16. Planning –

### a. To note planning decisions:

- **21/00091/CAT** | Works to Trees in a Conservation Area - Fell 2 x Leylandii | The Old Granary High Street Misson – **Decision – Not to make a Tree Preservation Order**
- **21/00382/CAT** | T9 & T10 (Lilacs) Bothare Overgrown and Flower Poorly Plan to Trim Main Stems of Both to Wall Height (1.7m) to Produce New Growth with Finished Height of 2.2m to Match Privet Hedge. | South View Dame Lane Misson. **Decision – not to make a TPO**

### b. To consider planning applications:

- **21/00420/HSE** | Single Storey Side Extension | The Old Granary High Street Misson. **This application was supported** - The property positively contributes to the conservation area character and nearby listed buildings. We therefore agree with the BDC Conservation Managers views and recommendations’
- **21/00461/HSE** | Two Storey Rear Extension with Ground Floor Side Extension, New Double Detached Garage and Garden Wall with Gates | Linden House Station Road Misson. **This application was supported**

### c. To consider any planning applications received after the agenda was posted – none this month.

### d. To consider any other planning matters – None this month

## 17. To review highways and parish paths

It was noted that the roads have been swept by BDC – **Action – Clerk to email BDC to thank them.**

The overgrown hedges and pavement at Newington is still outstanding. The Clerk is in regular contact with NCC to progress this.

## 18. To consider setting up a Flood Responsibility Plan – this item to be carried forward to a future meeting as D Cllr M Watson was absent this evening.

## 19. The Neighbourhood Improvement Programme

- **Lengthsmen** – now the growing season is well underway the Lengthsmen have been cutting grass regularly

Several positive comments have been received about the high standards being maintained in the Cemetery and Churchyard

The Valuation Office has requested some information about the size and capacity of the Cemetery. The Clerk has contacted BDC to obtain details of the size of the Cemetery. A site inspection with the Clerk, Cllr J Watkins and the Lengthsmen will take place later in the month to obtain the rest of the information required.

The Churchyard wall – confirmation has ben received from the builder that work will commence on the section of the Churchyard wall on Vicar Lane in the next few weeks. **Action - Clerk to confirm with the builder if the road will require closure.**

- **Pinfold** – restoration of the Pinfold Cottage work has commenced via the Historic Buildings Officer (Jason Morden) from NCC had been in touch with the PC regarding the remaining part of the Pinfold Cottage wall which requires restoration. Jason has been working on the wall during April with the help of volunteers – three full days have been achieved so far and excellent progress has

been made. There will be further days spent on the wall with the help of a large group of volunteers.

The PC would like to thank the WI for providing lunch for the volunteers and also the residents near the Pinfold who have provided electricity and water.

A member of the public contacted the Clerk and asked for the following comments to be recorded.  
**NB the Clerk omitted to mention these at the meeting – they are being recorded for completeness**

*We would like to record how impressed we are with the progress to restore the Pinfold wall and to thank the MPC and village volunteers for making this happen. We look forward to being able to take a restful seat here and meet with friends once the bench has been made and installed - an area of sanctuary for people rather than animals as its historic purpose.*

Correspondence has been received from the **Open Spaces Society** – there is the potential to registering the Pinfold as a Town or Village Green. This would confer the same status on the Pinfold as the village Green – and would protect it from future development. The PC were in agreement in principle to pursue this – they would like assurance that the Parish Council would still own and maintain the Pinfold if it was registered. **Action – Clerk to ascertain ownership etc if registration was successful.**

- **Update re Notts Rural Gigabyte Scheme** – Cllr M Watson has now registered with the Openreach Platform.

As D Cllr M Watson was unable to attend the meeting this item will be carried forward to the June meeting.

If members of the public and/or businesses wish to register an interest in the scheme can they email Cllr M Watson at [Mark.watson@missonparishcouncil.org](mailto:Mark.watson@missonparishcouncil.org) with their:

- **Name**
- **Address**
- **Post code**
- **Landline number**
- **Whether they are a resident or business**

## 20. Business Liaison

- **Odour emissions from Tunnel Tech (TTN).** The Clerk is awaiting the April figures from BDC

The D Cllr update included information about a meeting D Cllr M Watson had had with BDC – please see above.

**Residents can lodge complaints with Environmental Health at BDC via the following email address:** [Environmental.health@bassetlaw.gov.uk](mailto:Environmental.health@bassetlaw.gov.uk)

- **Doncaster Airport Committee** – with the departure of Cllr P Edwards there is no update on this.
- **Misson School** – the school is operating to capacity of 105 pupils with no current Covid cases..

21. **To receive feedback from meetings attended during April** – none

22. **To receive correspondence** – there were three items this month:

- **Parish Council Public Liability Insurance** – this is due for renewal by the end of May. Quotes have been received from the Prudential (who the PC usually insure with) and Came and Company. The Clerk has negotiated a lower cost for the Prudential policy – the PC agreed to proceed with this one and gave permission for the expenditure to be incurred - £367.84

- **Tree planting alongside Misson Mill** – the PC had contacted NCC Highways to enquire if trees could be planted on the verge alongside Misson Mills. NCC Highways have not been able to allow this for the following reasons -
  - visibility issues
  - the narrow width of the verge at this location and the close proximity of the private boundary wall
  - the presence of existing overhead cables

**Action – Clerk to contact BDC Highways and ascertain if any flowering shrubs could be plant there**

- The Clerk confirmed that he had tendered his resignation to the PC with effect from the end of June. He has agreed to continue to provide Financial support and manage the Cemetery pending a replacement Clerk being appointed.  
Chair – M Walker passed on the PCs best wishes to the Clerk and thanked him for his help and support whilst he has been in post.  
Cllr J Watkins said that she would be very sorry to see him go and it was a shame that recent events in the village had led to this.

**23. To confirm the date of the next meeting: the provisional date shall be Wednesday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7.00pm – this is to be confirmed with the MCA.**

### **Annex One – County Councillor Annual report May 2021**

This year’s meetings are being held in the same unusual circumstances that prevented last year’s AGMs and APMs. But through all of that time your parish councillors have continued to work to manage local facilities on behalf of residents and I have supported and assisted wherever I’ve been needed.

#### **COVID**

The Local Resilience Forum - led by NCC because of its Public health function - includes District and Borough Councils, NHS, Police and Fire Services; all as statutory service providers. It’s also included Parish Councils, Community Groups and Voluntary Sector organisations. Community Hubs and Good Neighbour Schemes have sustained our communities and reignited the best of caring and living together in all our villages. It’s shown beyond question just how well we achieve when we act together.

The changes in our ways of living have also brought more visitors to our villages, not all of whom understand living well with nature. This has resulted in some inconsiderate behaviours such as speeding, poor parking, littering and a lack of respect for the environment, livestock and wildlife. These issues are not unique to our villages or our county, but they will need a concerted effort to address as lockdowns continue to ease and visitors perhaps continue to share what we’re lucky enough to live with every day.

#### **NCC through 2020**

NCC has striven to deliver “business as usual” in most key service areas: Education, Child & Adult Social Care, Highways & Public Rights of Way and Waste Management, but there have been inevitable delays in managing some programmes of work. To summarise

- All Council meetings moved online from June 2020. Officers adapted quickly to working from home and ICT systems have been bolstered at pace to make that possible.
- I am particularly proud, in my own portfolio area, of NCC’s social workers and youth service, who have maintained contact with children in care and vulnerable families since the very beginning; including providing extra activities for those most at risk of placement breakdown or personal stress.

- The Full Council meeting 25 February agreed a balanced budget for 2021/22. All frontline services are being maintained.
- Planning applications have continued to be assessed, with major applications for Lound and Misson ongoing. A new Waste and Minerals Plan for Notts was adopted at the Full Council meeting 25 March; this plan period runs to 2036.
- Highways issues continue to dominate in most areas. More pothole and road repairs have been delivered in each of the past 4 years, fuelling the debate about whether that means our roads are being more neglected or more cared for. Vehicle nuisance on roads, PROWs and private land is generally a matter for Notts Police, with NCC highways officers regularly monitoring traffic movements in response to local issues raised.
- There has been an increase in misuse of and damage to PROWs through vehicular presence and fly-tipping. NCC officers continue to address those issues over which NCC has remit and to work with BDC and Notts Police over planning, ASB and criminal matters.
- Drainage and flood mitigation work has continued since the latest flood episodes of winter 2019/20. There is particular focus on needs in Clarborough, Clayworth and Walkeringham, including natural flood management and engineered solutions. The historic village water management systems are both complex and simple at the same time, and NCC is working with partner agencies who share responsibility for different parts of those systems to achieve lasting solutions. Misson and other villages alongside the River Trent and the Chesterfield Canal to West Stockwith have very particular issues which are the subject of ongoing work with the Environment Agency.
- Environmental issues are moving centre stage, with three key strands currently: a review of the waste management contract to improve recycling rates across the county; improving the council's carbon footprint across the estate and fleet; and proposals on how to create the infrastructure in towns and rural areas to support the move to electric vehicles. Reports to the respective committees are due this summer.

Over the past year I have supported villages over a range of issues which have been raised and reported on at your regular parish council meetings, so I will not reprise these here. Some are ongoing and several will need partner agency support to resolve.

I would like to thank parish councillors and clerks for everything that you have done over the past 12 months in particular, but also through the 4 years that I have had the privilege of serving alongside you.  
Cllr Tracey Taylor