

Misson Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held virtually at 7.00pm on Wednesday 23rd June 2021.

The meeting was held in the Community Centre following Government guidelines re Covid restrictions.

Public Questions:

1. A member of the public read a personal statement about the recent relationship challenges experienced by groups in the village

Present: Chair Mandy Walker, Cllrs. Julie Watkins, Andy Woolliams Vice Chair, Jamie Sutherton, Mark Watson and Clerk Mark Hooper.

1. **To receive apologies for absence:** PCSO David Airey.
2. **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.

Cllr M Watson disclosed a Non-Pecuniary Interest – District Councillor for Bassetlaw District Council

The Chair took this opportunity to introduce the new Parish Clerk – Barbara Lowndes who is sitting in on this meeting. Barbara will commence as Clerk from the beginning of July – Mark Hooper will provide mentoring support and also retain the role of Responsible Financial Officer and manager of the Cemetery for the time being.

3. **To approve the co-option of a Parish Councillor** – Cllr J Watkins Proposed the co-option of Sue Smith, this was Seconded by Cllr M Watson. Cllr S Smith subsequently read out the Declaration of Office which was signed by herself and the Proper Officer of the Council. Cllr S Smith joined the Cllrs for the remainder of the meeting.
4. **To approve the minutes of the Council meeting of May 5th 2021.** These were approved by the Chair
5. **To note matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting not on the agenda:** there were no matters arising from the May meeting.
6. **To receive reports from District and County Councillors**
- **C Cllr T Taylor** – the Parish Council expressed their congratulations to C Cllr T Taylor in being re-elected in the recent poll.

The new administration (led by a Conservative majority) held it's AGM at the end of May. There are two significant workstreams that NCC will be concentrating on:

1. **The Green agenda** – the impact that NCC has on climate change within Nottinghamshire. A target has been set for the County Council to become carbon neutral by 2030. The approach will be to look at the Corporate Estate and the behaviours to drive this aim:
 - a. Reducing carbon footprints
 - b. Reducing the amount of single use plastic
 - c. Working with Partner organisations to promote this ethos.
2. **Highway's review** – this will be cross-party approach to examine the best way of utilising the resources available to improve the roads within the County.

- **D Cllr. M. Watson** – there have been a few by-elections which have resulted in little change to the constitution of the District Council.
There is new Council Chair – Jack Bowker

The Flood Review Group (of which D Cllr M Watson is part of) have completed their report and it will be put to the Cabinet for comment.

It is not available for public view yet – it does contain eleven recommendations including the re-writing of the Bassetlaw Flood Plan and the need for a Lead Councillor for Flooding.

BDC are working on a **Community Governance Review** – this is looking at potentially the creating, merging, altering or abolishing parishes. This will have no impact on Misson.

There has been a lot of public support for the **Proposed Renewal of Existing Public Spaces Protection order for dogs**. This will go to full Cabinet in September

Covid - the number of new cases has increased in the last week by 170% from the previous week to 76. There is still a need to remain vigilant whilst the Delta strain of the virus is prevalent.

Climate Change – BDC will be discussing this at a full Council meeting on the 24th June and what their approach will be to tackling this issue.

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.

7. **Parish Council Resilience Stores** – D Cllr M Watson explained that this subject has been discussed at other Parishes he represents following the flooding in 2019. It was Proposed by the Chair and Seconded by Cllr M Watson to progress this and the next agenda item – Flood Responsibility Plan. **Action – Clerk to re-issue the emails pertaining to these two agenda items.** These items will be included at future PC meetings to progress.
8. **To consider setting up a Flood Responsibility Plan** – please see response to previous item
9. **To receive a report on the policing of the Parish:** PCSO Dave Airey provided the update for May via email. There have been seven crimes over the whole BEAT area for May – none of which were in Misson. This compares with eight crimes reported during the same period last year. The full report includes security advice applicable to everybody and is available on the MPC website. D Cllr M Watson stated that there had been two thefts from vehicles in Misson at the beginning of June.

There is a new **Police and Crime Commissioner for Nottinghamshire** – Caroline Henry. One of her priorities is tackling rural crime. The PC will look to invite her to a future meeting
10. **To discuss standing items on the agenda** – the Chair explained that advice received from the Head of Corporate Services at BDC was to concentrate on the business of the PC at the meetings. The Chair wished to try to contain the duration of future meeting to one and a half hours. The fifteen

minutes for Public Questions would remain at the start of the meeting – following that there would be no voices apart from the Parish Councillors, County Councillor and District Councillor. This would remove the requirement for verbal reports from Third parties such as the Misson Community Association. In future any update from the MCA should reflect their relationship with MPC – as tenants of the Community Centre, any maintenance issues with the building and whether they wish to use the village Green for a planned event.

The MCA is a constituted association within the village – the PC should only be receiving reports from constituted associations.

The Tunnel Tech Action Group and the Environmental Action Group can report to the MPC via the MCA.

Policing of the Parish – during lockdown the reports have been received electronically and read out by the Clerk. Going forward as restrictions ease the PCSO could be invited to meetings once a quarter.

The Chair went on to explain why the agenda does not include **Any Other Business (AOB)** – the PC can only debate issues which are included on the published agenda which the parishioners have had the opportunity to view.

This approach was Proposed by Cllr M Watson and Seconded by Cllr A Woolliams.

11. To receive a report from Misson Community Association –

Building Committee – please can MPC let us know who will want to be on the Committee. Ian will then circulate dates to the appropriate people. **Action – Clerk to email PCs re volunteers for the Building Committee**

Drains – still waiting for a written report which will then be circulated

Tickets on sale for the ‘Time to Party’ event

Re-opening of the Community Centre now slightly delayed – MCA in contact with groups and individuals

Cleaning of the hall will return to the pre-Covid regime

12. To review and approve the Financial Regulations – this was Proposed by the Chair and Seconded by Cllr J Watkins.

13. Parish Financial administration

To receive and approve:

- The Clerk presented the Financial Statements to the 28th May 2021 and Council resolved to accept them:

NatWest Current Acc.	@ 28/05/21	£12,765.54
NatWest Reserve Acc.	@ 28/05/21	£10,564.51

- Councillors resolved to approve the following payments:

<u>Payt</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
BACS	Zurich Insurance	Public Liability Insurance	£361.85
BACS	Harry Stebbing	Bench and Notice Board	£2,934.00
BACS	Came and Company	Lawn Mower Insurance	£139.60
BACS	TEC Clerk	Salary – May	£113.00
BACS	HMRC	PAYE – May	£108.60
BACS	MPC Clerk	Salary – May (50 hours)	£464.40

BACS	Lengthsmen 1	Maintenance in Churchyard & Cemetery	£166.03
BACS	D Fox	Grass Cutting	£480.00
BACS	M Hooper	Reimbursement Stat Declaration re Pinfold	£5.00
BACS	Eagle-S	Newsletter printing	£48.00
BACS	G Cawthorne	Internal Auditor	£230.00
BACS	M Hooper	Reimbursement Stationery items	£5.00
BACS	MCA	Reimbursement CC Buildings Insurance	£408.23
BACS	NALC	New Clerk Training	£30.00
BACS	C Goodman	IT Support	£20.00
Total			£5,513.71

Outcome of the Audit – the Clerk had circulated the Annual Report by the Internal Auditor which concluded the Council’s internal controls in place appear to be efficient and effective. In addition, there were no matters that I wish to draw to the attention of the Council.

The Exercise of Public Rights Notice has been posted on the PC Notice Boards and the website. The public are able to request sight of the accounting records from the 24th June until the 5th August. The Audit documents are available on the PC website.

14. Planning –

a. To note planning decisions:

- **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 **Decision- GRANT**
- **21/00472/HSE** | Carry Out Internal and External Alterations to Existing Detached Outbuilding Including New Door and Window Openings and Rooflights | Windmill Cottage Top Street Misson **Decision – GRANT**
- **21/00420/HSE** | Single Storey Side Extension | The Old Granary High Street Misson **Decision – GRANT**

b. To consider planning applications:

- **21/00710/CAT** | Works to Trees in a Conservation Area Lift the Canopies of 3 Flowering Cherries (T1-T3) from 2 Metres to Allow Large Vehicular Access, Prune Back (T4-T5) Ornamental Shrubs. | White Cottage Church Street Misson. **NB – this application required a response prior to the 23rd June. MPC have no objections and responded with a Neutral stance.**
- **21/00549/CAT** | Works to a Trees in a Conservation Area T1 (Fir Tree) Crown Reduction and Crown Thinning by 25%-33%, T2 (Willow Tree) No Works Proposed to This Tree. | Woodbine Lodge High Street Misson. **NB – this application required a response prior to the 23rd June. MPC have no objections and responded with a Neutral stance.**

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

d. To consider any other planning matters – C Cllr T Taylor raised the issue that the IGas application to extend the planning permission period is due to be heard at the July Planning Committee.

15. To review highways and parish paths

The footpath near the Vicarage has now been cut – however there are other parts of the Public Footpaths which have not yet been cut. **Action – Clerk to contact the relevant authority to request the Public Footpaths be cleared.**

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

D Cllr M Watson asked if the PC had a definitive map of the Public Footpaths within the Parish. C Cllr Taylor took an action to contact the Countryside Access Team at NCC to request a copy. This has now been received electronically and distributed to the PCs.

Slaynes Lane – there has been an issue with bird watchers apparently cutting back the verges when they should be left. **Action - Cllr J Watkins to contact the Hansons Quarries.**

16. The Neighbourhood Improvement Programme

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

The memorial bench for the Cemetery has been received and will be installed next week

The Churchyard wall – the work to rebuild the section on Vicars Lane is progressing well. **Action - Clerk to email the Church architect and the Diocese with a progress update.**

- **Pinfold** – restoration of the Pinfold Cottage wall has progressed well – there are approx. two – three days more work left to complete – the next date is the 2nd July.

The Clerk has submitted an application to register the Pinfold as a Town or Village Green to NCC. It has been confirmed that the PC would continue to own and maintain the Pinfold if it was registered.

- **Update re Notts Rural Gigabyte Scheme** – Cllr M Watson has now registered with the Openreach Platform. However, he has had many problems in accessing the site to register people's interests in the scheme. Cllr M Watson is pursuing this.

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 with their:

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

17. Business Liaison

- **Odour emissions from Tunnel Tech (TTN).** There have been 13 complaints registered during May. Several of these were at the beginning of the month – following this Tunnel Tech carried out some investigative work.

Residents can lodge complaints with Environmental Health at BDC via the following email address: Environmental.health@bassetlaw.gov.uk

At the April PC meeting a member of the public raised the following question which they felt had not been addressed at that meeting – an action was taken to include it in tonight's 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.***

Cllr M Watson explained that at the end of March, whilst on a dog walk, he had observed slurry spreading taking place on the fields adjacent to Station Road. The following day there was a NE wind which was driving the smell of the slurry across the village. As the wind was in that direction it was not feasible that any bad odours in the village could have come from TTN.

The Corporate body of the Parish Council holds the view that there are odours from Tunnel Tech and from slurry spread in the local fields. The following section of the minutes outlines what has been discussed previously about BDCs approach to this issue:

The following is an extract from the May 2021 minutes -

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.

In addition to the above D Cllr M Watson explained that he had a site visit at Tunnel Tech North arranged for the 5th July.

- **Doncaster Airport Committee** – Cllr M Watson has taken over representation of the PC on the Committee.
 - **Misson School** – the school is operating to capacity of 104 pupils with no current Covid cases. D Cllr Taylor explained that new funding had been received to enable free school meals to be provided over the summer holidays.
18. **To receive feedback from meetings attended during May** – D Cllr M Watson attended the North East Bassetlaw Forum meeting on the 22nd June – most of what was discussed was included in his D Cllr update.
19. **To receive correspondence** –
- **The Queens' Platinum Jubilee** celebrations between the 2nd and 4th June 2020. There will be a national beacon lighting event. The details have been shared with the MCA. This item to be carried forward to the next PC meeting.

- **Vaccine walk in centre** for any over 18's at Retford Hospital on Saturday 26th June between 10.30 – 17.00 – no appointment necessary.
- A member of the public raised the issue of the **overflowing bottle banks at Misson Mills**. The Clerk has subsequently contacted BDC who have confirmed they will treat emptying them as a matter of urgency. A message has been posted onto social media asking people to retain their empty bottles until the banks have been cleared.
- **Ramblers Association** – correspondence has been received regarding request being submitted by the RA for Public Rights of Way to be created. This is a matter for the landowners concerned and will be ultimately decided by NCC. **Action – Clerk to respond explaining that the PC has no further information to add.**

- 20. To note appointment of new Clerk** – as mentioned earlier in the meeting Barbara Lowndes is taking up the post of Clerk from the beginning of July with Mark Hooper providing mentoring support and retaining the role of Responsible Financial Officer and manager of the Cemetery for the next few months. Barbara will receive a salary based upon 30 hours and Mark based on 10 hours for this period – unless they actually work substantially more hours. Cllr J Watkins expressed her thanks to Mark Hooper for the support he has given to the PC – this was supported by the other PCs.
- 21. To confirm the date of the next meeting:** as the June meeting had been postponed until the end of the month it was decided to forego the July meeting. The next meeting will therefore be held on Wednesday September 1st.

It was agreed by the Parish Council that payments would continue to be authorised and paid in the interim.

Planning applications would be circulated for comment to the PCs – a report of any applications commented on will be included in the September agenda.