## Minutes of Extra Misson Parish Council Meeting held at 8.20pm on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> October 2025 at Misson Parish Hall, Vicar Lane, Misson.

**Regarding Public Attendance:** Members of the public were excluded from this meeting due to the confidential nature of the business transacted and in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 and the Local Government Act 1972.

Parish Councillors Present: Cllr Mandy Green (Chair), Cllr Mark Watson (Vice-Chair), Cllr Julie Watkins, Cllr Sue Scott, and Cllr Keith Andrews.

Minute Taker: Due to the Parish Clerk vacancy, minutes were taken by Cllr. Watkins.

- **To receive and approve any apologies for absence**: Cllr Spencer Robey sent apologies for his absence at the meeting, which were received and approved.
- 2025-96.2 To approve the minutes of the previous ordinary meeting held 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2025 as a true record. The minutes were approved. There were no matters arising.
- 2025-97.3 To discuss the outstanding AGAR 2023/24 objections and agree a resolution course of action. Following a long discussion it was established;
  - a) the Objector is preparing their full evidence set for imminent submission to the National Auditor and will supply the same to Parish Councillors,
  - the Corporate Body of Misson Parish Council is committed to finding a resolution course of action which satisfies the Objector but preferably without incurring the substantial cost to the Parish of a PKF Littlejohn investigation,
  - c) the Chair explained her expectation that any investigation would confirm 'minor procedural errors' in the AGAR 23/24 process, which had been corrected in the AGAR 24/25 process,
  - d) the Objector confirmed their principal concern remained around the way in which MPC treats the employment of Lengthsmen,
  - e) MPC will ask Notts ALC to review the situation and appoint a third party to address the objections raised,
  - f) the risk of a costly investigation by the National Auditor remains,
  - g) both MPC and the Objector will contact PKF Littlejohn to ask for clarity as to its understanding of where we are in the process and what costs are due.
- 2025-98.4 To discuss arrangements regarding the Parish Clerk vacancy and consider;
- 4a What we can learn and change having considered the recent feedback from the previous Locum. Work is being done to comprehensively address the issues which are making it very difficult to recruit and retain a permanent clerk. Further, the Monitoring Officer recommends a Locum Clerk is employed to take the minutes of Parish Council Meetings and provide legal advice at those meetings as required. The Chair shared the CV of a clerk who could come and take the minutes of the meeting of 5<sup>th</sup> November.
- 2025-99. 4b The administration projects currently being undertaken. Councillors considered the list of administration projects currently being undertaken by retired clerks who will be paid from the Locum budget already agreed. Vice-Chair said that a retired clerk was preparing a draft budget for consideration at the November meeting. Cllr Watson will circulate it and give councillors the opportunity to ask any questions of the retired clerk ahead of that time. The project list will be reviewed at each meeting.
- **Do we wish to appoint a further Locum or recruit a permanent clerk at this time.** It was agreed that, at this time, the best course of action for Misson Parish Council was to concentrate on the work agreed at Minute 4a above and comprehensively address the legacy administrative matters through a schedule of focused projects. The programme (of projects) to be reviewed at each Parish Council meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.25pm.