**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING**

**HELD at The Granary Room, Grove Wood Road, Misterton at 7pm on Tuesday 10th May 2022**

**Present**: Peter Marsden, Chairman of Misterton Parish Council,

A. Harrison Clerk to the Council.

9 members of the public were present

1. **MINUTES OF THE LAST ANNUAL PARISH MEETING (5th May 2021)**

The minutes of the last Annual Parish Meeting were provided for those present.

**Resolved**: That the minutes be approved as a correct record.

1. **REPORT OF THE CHAIRMAN OF THE PARISH COUNCIL**

Chairman, Peter Marden provided the following report:

This time last year we were still being restricted by the Covid virus and our annual meeting was via Zoom. I am pleased to say that we are now getting back to normal and meeting face to face. Our meetings are every two months and we are now at the Stables which are more spacious than the Church Rooms.

We increased our precept this year after two years of no increases in order to make some inroads into our 5 year plan. Included in this are the provision of a village hall, relocating the Misterton Centre and work to the wall and fence of the Cemetery.

Our project for this year was the refurbishment of the sports pavilion which is now being used by clubs using the sports field. We have also cleared all the grass cuttings and debris accumulated over several years from the area adjacent to the Bowls Club and reseeded. A structure has now been completed for placing and storing grass cuttings.

We were able to hold the Christmas Lights Switch on again this year and it was a very successful night with a good turnout who enjoyed more stalls, the Salvation Army music and free mulled wine. We are hoping to better it this year.

Unfortunately we had to cancel the Village Gala due to the uncertainty of Covid restrictions but it will be held this year on July 2nd.

The CCTV cameras are up and running at Jubilee Gardens and Church Meadow Gardens but unfortunately we still haven’t managed to install the sports field camera due to problems finding an internet connection but hopefully this will be rectified soon.

We have increased the number of litter bins throughout the village and hoping to have a new defibrillator installed at the Red Hart.

The Community Library is now open again but with restricted hours and our thanks go to the Volunteers who have worked so hard to keep this service available to the public. More Volunteers are still needed but recruitment is slow at the moment.

The 2022 Senior Citizens Christmas Lunch was cancelled due to the uncertainty of Covid restrictions. To compensate all those who had booked to attend, Nikki and her team of helpers were able to deliver them all a dinner.

The Youth Club unfortunately had to be close for safety reasons and has moved across into the adjacent building. We hope that remedial work will start later this year to their building and other buildings in the vicinity.

In May 2021, the Parish Council set up, jointly with West Stockwith Parish Council, a Green Working Group. So far they have reviewed glass and textile recycling, promoted use of Bassetlaw Freegle, written to the County Council about the small range of items that can be recycled, promoted correct waste disposal, investigated the possibility of public electric vehicle charging points, promoted reduction in food waste and looked at what the forthcoming implementation of the Environment Act may mean for us. The Green Group has also promoted the planting of wild flower seeds for pollinating insects by providing free packets of seed to be collected from The Misterton Centre.

The Community Garden is now up and running and is a lovely space for people wanting some solitude.

We are looking forward to the Platinum Jubilee in the long bank holiday weekend in June, the Gala on July 2nd and the Christmas lights switch on 2nd December.

Our thanks go to our Staff Natalie Palmer who is our Administrator for the Misterton Centre and Library and has done great job in co-ordinating the Library Volunteers. Brian Alvy who is our Groundsman continues to keep the village tidy. We very much appreciate their hard work over the last year.

Thanks again must go to Angela Harrison, our Village Clerk, from myself and all of the Parish Councillors for her hard work in guiding us through another successful year. Thanks also for co-ordinating and setting up the zoom meetings for the Parish Council and the various Working Groups.

I hope that we now can begin to resume a more normal village life and enjoy all the facilities that we have available

1. **REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND LOCAL ORGANISATIONS**

**a) MISTERTON BURIAL COMMITTEE**

Chairman of the Burial Committee, Alan Stead reported as follows:

The number of burials over the last 12 months has seen an increase from 10 the previous year to 14 for the year 2021/22, although the number of memorials has been very much in line with previous years. A total of three reserved plots have also been sold during the year, again much in line with previous years.

Maintaining the grounds of the cemetery, remembrance garden and western end of the churchyard is our largest single expenditure. We have recently enlisted the services of a grass cutting contractor following Stuart Moody’s decision to resign his position back in February when he planned to spend more time with his grandchildren. Unfortunately this wasn’t to be and Stuart died a couple of months later. I’m sure everybody’s thoughts are with Shirley, Greg and Lorna at this sad time.

We have also employed a part time caretaker, Dave Smith, who was for many years the caretaker at Misterton Primary School and he is responsible for keeping the cemetery and the memorial garden clean and tidy.

With over 60 trees to maintain in the two locations we were pleasantly surprised how little damage was caused by the storms and unusually high winds we have had since last November. We did however decide to remove large quantities of ivy which were affecting the Irish Yew Trees in the churchyard. We are looking at the possibility of removing a large amount of grave spoil which has accumulated over many years which should free up some space in the south west corner of the cemetery.

There are approximately 95 vacant plots in the cemetery so any expansion of the cemetery into the adjoining field will be at least 8 years away. In the churchyard there are approximately 20 vacant plots in the remembrance garden.

Two members of the Burial Committee resigned last year which coincided with their resignations from West Stockwith Parish Council. I would like to thank June and Peter Ray for their contributions over the years whilst at the same time welcoming new members Sue Harford and Shirley Hauser.

**b)** **NORTH EAST BASSETLAW FORUM**

Councillor Hazel Brand submitted the following report.

The Forum consists of nine parishes across the north-east of the District: Beckingham, Everton, Gringley, Mattersey, Misson, Misterton, Ranskill, Walkeringham, and West Stockwith.

The Forum meets quarterly to discuss issues of common interest, particularly where we can facilitate outcomes in a more efficient manner, or we can influence policies by speaking with a single voice. The Forum is sponsored by Bassetlaw District Council, which provides admin support to the Forum.

The key points at meetings in 2021/22 are:

June 2021

Worksop Town Centre plan

Karen Johnson, Planning Manager, Bassetlaw District Council, outlined the Draft Bassetlaw Local Plan Focussed Consultation (9 June - 21 July 2021). The consultation was focussed on Worksop Town Centre and the Regeneration Plan for the town, with strategies, policies, and 25 site allocations for housing and business.

Community governance review

BDC was undertaking a Community Governance Review and all the Parish and Town Councils in Bassetlaw were contacted. The aim is to look at one or more of the following:

* the creation, merging or abolition of parishes
* the naming of parishes
* the style of parishes (e.g. town, village, community)
* the electoral arrangements for parishes (e.g. size of parish councils, number of councillors, warding arrangements).

Constituency boundary review

The Boundary Commission was carrying out a national review of Parliamentary constituencies. The proposals are based on every constituency having between 69,724 and 77,062 Parliamentary electors (as at 2 March 2020). There were two proposals for the Bassetlaw area:

* the existing Bassetlaw Constituency will be reduced in size with areas such as Sturton, Clayworth, North Leverton, and Wheatley moving into the Newark Constituency
* the new Bassetlaw Constituency would be renamed Worksop and Retford.

September 2021

National Bus Strategy & Rural Transport

Presentation on the new National Bus Strategy which will bring the most major changes to the operation and management of bus services since 1986. £300m has been provided for recovery phase 2021/22 to support services by Local Transport Authorities (LTA), i.e. Notts County Council, that have an Enhanced Partnership (EP) and Bus Service Improvement Plan (BSIP).

* NCC Transport & Environment Committee approved Enhanced Partnership Notice of Intent June 2021
* Bus Service Improvement Plan to be developed by October 2021 and EP Plans and Schemes by April 2022
* NCC has a forum with district/borough councils to assist achieving ambitions. Parallel group with Tram/Train operators
* gap analysis to identify gaps in service – in rural areas it is not sustainable to support services in the evening and Sundays. Seeking to improve rural services.

3,500 people responded to a customer and stakeholder survey. The priorities were more frequent services; easier to understand information; better infrastructure, e.g. bus shelters; better journey times; lower fares; and reliability.

Post-meeting note: an update report on bus services was considered by the NCC Environment & Transport Committee on 4 May 2022. There are to be pilots of demand responsive transport in three rural areas: Rushcliffe, Ollerton, and Mansfield.

Renewal of Public Space Protection Order – dog control

Julian Proudman, Bassetlaw District Council Environmental Team Leader, gave a presentation on PSPOs to control low-level anti-social behaviour in a defined area, e.g. town centres. It is also useful for dog control.

December 2021

BDC’s drive to reduce carbon emissions

Robert Craighead, BDC’s Climate Change Officer, presented the work Bassetlaw District Council (BDC) is undertaking to reduce carbon emissions. The main scheme has been at Kilton Forest Golf Club, which received £320,000 grant funding from the Government’s Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS). It was a whole-system retrofit with an oil system replaced with heat pumps, roof insulation, a centralised hot water system, and double glazing giving a 23% saving in energy consumption, 70% carbon reduction, and financial savings.

In addition, BDC was awarded £70,000 from the Government’s Low Carbon Skills Fund to create Heat Decarbonisation Plans for the 15 most energy intensive buildings. The

Public Sector Decarbonisation Scheme (PSDS) Phase 3 aims to improve building efficiency and replace end of life fossil heating systems. The Queens Buildings decarbonisation project costing £1.4-6m will be grant funded (£1.14m). It includes heat pumps, insulation, double glazing, solar PV, and LEDs to reduce building utilities costs.

Using the On-street Resident Chargepoint Scheme (ORCS), Bassetlaw DC has installed three EVCs at Gateford Road and four at Priors Well Road.

Solar Farm update

Beverley Alderton-Sambrook (BAS), Head of Regeneration, BDC gave a presentation on Solar Energy: there has been an increase in the price of gas used for electricity generation and, by 2030, 50% of electricity should be generated from renewables so solar farms are popular as a source of clean sustainable energy.

There have been numerous policy statements to slow down the effects of climate change. Bassetlaw Council as the Local Planning Authority determines applications for schemes less than 50MW output, those greater than 50MW output are determined by the Secretary of State for Energy. Local communities can plan for suitable sites.

BAS discussed the Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) proposal at Gringley/Clayworth/Wiseton (West Burton 4). There is another NSIP of 500 MW proposed for the Cottam site in Gainsborough.

March 2021

STEP

There was an update on STEP (Spherical Tokamak for Energy Production) proposal for West Burton by Beverley Alderton Sambrook, Head of Regeneration Services, BDC. STEP is a UKAEA (UK Atomic Energy Authority) programme that will demonstrate the ability to generate net electricity from fusion. It will also determine how the plant will be maintained through its operational life and prove the potential for the plant to produce its own fuel. West Burton has reached the shortlist of five sites for further evaluation.

Neighbourhood Plans

At the same meeting, there was a presentation on Neighbourhood Plans and Affordable Housing in village planning processes by Will Wilson, Lead Neighbourhood Planner, BDC.

The minutes of this meeting are not yet available.

Future Plans

A joint meeting with other rural forums with the Police & Crime Commissioner, Caroline Henry, is proposed.

**c) MISTERTON COMMUNITY TRUST**

Peter Marsden, Chairman & Trustee of the Misterton Community Trust provided the following report:

Due to Covid restrictions the Trustees have only managed to meet in person on one occasion in September 2021.

Contact has been maintained by e-mail and phone. Our insurance remains current and funds continue to be invested in low-risk charity investment funds.

The main object of the Charity is the provision and maintenance of a village Hall for use by the inhabitants of the area of benefit without distinction of political, religious or other opinions with the object of improving the conditions of life for the inhabitants.

The Trust would welcome the opportunity to work in partnership with the Parish Council to achieve their aims.

It is hoped meetings will resume more regularly again this coming year.

**d) MAP LTD**

Councillor Hazel Brand submitted the following report.

Misterton Area Partnership Ltd (MAP) is a charitable organisation that aims to promote rural regeneration for the public benefit in the two villages, Misterton and West Stockwith. It is a company limited by guarantee.

MAP’s activities in 2021 were again curtailed due to the Coronavirus pandemic – and the organisations that MAP supports, such as the village gala for which MAP provides use of its bank account, didn’t have events either.

Accounts were filed with Companies House, on time having been approved by trustees. The year saw one death in office of a trustee director and one resignation.

It has been suggested that Misterton could benefit from a community directory of businesses and organisations. This is an initiative that fits with MAP’s objectives and will be discussed with trustees. The last time such a handy guide was published was in 1997, produced by North Notts Community Care Local Partnership Fund. It would be timely to produce a new directory to see which organisations and businesses have survived the pandemic.

Membership of MAP is open to anyone living in the area, including surrounding villages, for a one-off lifetime payment of £1. Members are invited to attend the AGM each year and any other member meetings that are held.

The Company Secretary is Nikki Jaggard-Smith. Thanks to Nikki and the trustee directors for their input.

1. **FINANCIAL REPORT BY THE CLERK**

The Parish Council started the Financial Year 21/22 with a balance of £124,121

Income during the year came to £145,397 including a grant for the NP of £9000, grants for the pavilion and cemetery income of £7,703.. Expenditure came to £134,385

This leaves a year-end revenue balance of £135,134 which includes a library reserve of £1000 and CIL receipts of £707 but no capital reserve as this has now been used on capital projects

In the current year the Parish Council has budgeted to spend just under £113,000 with income also expected to be in the region of £113,000.

The Precept for 2021/22 has been retained at £98,000 which remains the main source of income.

Payments under the General Power of Competence, in respect of matters considered to be for the good of the community, amounted to £2632. This supported the school crossing patrol, British Legion, Bassetlaw Food Bank and the local charity “Help Me I’m Fine”. It also includes the budget for the Christmas lights.

The Council currently have no outstanding loans or creditors.

1. **MATTERS RAISED BY ELECTORS PRESENT**

No matters raised

There being no other matters the meeting was closed at 7.20pm.

Signed………………………………. Dated………………………………………….