



The Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Miserden Parish

Held 4th May 2022 in Whiteway Colony Hall

01.2022	<i>Present:</i> Chairman Martin Ractliffe, Councillors Gideon Duberley, Kevin Allin, Clerk Gwen Durland, residents of Whiteway Colony, Miserden, Sudgrove and The Camp.
02.2022	<i>Welcome and Thanks</i> This council supports the citizens of Ukraine. Those gathered unanimously agreed. Chairman Martin Ractliffe welcomed all to the Annual Meeting of the Parish. MR thanked members of the council for their service to the community, the clerk to the council and Wishanger resident Bob Reade for his assistance to the clerk and council in getting the books up to date following a long vacancy of a clerk in the run-up to the pandemic.
03.2022	<i>Precept</i> Precept was raised for 2022-2023 by 5%; however, it was noted no raise in precept had occurred since 2019 and the rise was needed to keep in line with inflation and rising costs.
04.2022	<i>Resignation of Vice-Chair Coles-Jones</i> MR thanked former Vice-Chairman of the council, Russ Coles-Jones for his 20 years of service and presented him with an engraved silver tankard from the Parish Council.
05.2022	<i>Casual Vacancy</i> There is now a casual vacancy on the council, and it was explained to those present that if anyone was interested in serving on the council, they should write to the clerk and post to Arreton Cottage, Miserden, as the post would need to be filled as soon as possible.
06.2022	<i>Parish Post</i> The Parish Post continues to have a vacancy for editor. It was explained that the lack of spring issue was due to this vacancy, but hopes for a larger 'bumper' edition including Jubilee photos and articles would be published later in the summer. MR thanked the volunteer distributors of the Parish Post for their continued work delivering to the entire parish on foot each quarter.
07.2022	<i>Congratulations to Jonathan Cobb</i> Shop owner of Miserden Stores and Post Office, Jonathan Cobb, received a British Empire Medal in the New Year's Honours of 2022 for his dedication to the community of Miserden and surrounding villages, and his tireless work during the pandemic. As the nation was in lockdown and his wife and co-owner of the shop, Laura, was shielding due to her immune system vulnerability, it meant he single-handedly kept the community in supply of food and essentials during the long months of lockdown, often travelling miles each day at the crack of dawn to bring supplies in, and then make deliveries throughout the parish. It was unanimously expressed by those gathered how much we appreciate and value Jon and Laura, and felt the award was much deserved.
08.2022	<i>Miserden Library</i> The Miserden Library received a grant from the Build Back Better scheme by the UK government after the pandemic. The £500 grant will be used to improve the library and bring in new reading material.
09.2022	<i>Miserden Cricket Field</i> The Council expressed its disappointment and concern over recent news from the Miserden Estate that the lease of the cricket field at Miserden by local cricket clubs was now discontinued. A formal decision regarding the future use of the field has yet to be decided, and no planning permission filed for change of use to date, but it had



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	<p>been communicated to the council that a wedding and events venue was likely to be future use.</p> <p>Members of the community present expressed great concern about noise levels from such events, traffic on the dangerous corner, and parking, noting that the 'road' leading to the field is actually classified by Gloucestershire Highways as a restricted byway, and the Highways Act of 1980, ss. 43 and 50 prohibit the use of motorised vehicle usage.</p> <p>Several members of the community suggested a 'town hall'-style meeting with Nicholas Wills of Miserden Estate. MR to propose such a meeting, and the council will host as appropriate if Mr Wills is agreeable.</p>
10.2022	<p><i>Road Safety</i></p> <p>Condition of the roads around the parish continue to top the list of complaints to the council. The edges of the road at The Spekes corner were noted to be eroding away. As this corner belongs to Highways, they are responsible for repairing, not the Miserden Estate.</p> <p>Speed of traffic through the villages continues to be of concern. It was noted that Highways has re-painted the 'SLOW' on Main Road near Lypiatt Farm, and have added additional road narrowing signage on the Edgeworth end of that stretch of road. Speed checks have periodically been carried out in front of New Inn House at The Camp.</p> <p>The safety mirror located at the crossroads of Calf Way and Honeycombe Lane in The Camp has been down for some months, following the rotting of the wooden mounting pole. A new metal pole and brackets have been purchased, and the parish council members are working with homeowners in the crossroads area to find a suitable site for relocation and erection of the mirror as a matter of priority.</p> <p>The council continues to liaise with the Highways department and Gloucestershire County Councillor Sue Williams continues to support Miserden Parish in the endeavours of traffic calming and road safety throughout the villages.</p>
11.2022	<p><i>The Platinum Jubilee</i></p> <p>MR thanked volunteers from the Jubilee Planning Committee for their work in planning varied events for the people of the parish, and getting the Events Guide printed and distributed in a timely manner.</p> <p>A road closure order has been obtained from Stroud District Council for the Jubilee Street Party on the 2nd June, and events at Whiteway's Family Fun Day on the 4th June were being finalised. It was noted that at time of printing the events guide, the events at Whiteway had not been decided by the residents of the Colony, therefore the timings printed in the program were meant to be used as a guideline only. Final timings and events would be forthcoming via flyers and social media advertising.</p>
12.2022	<p>MR concluded the parish business portion of the evening and invited those gathered to enjoy complimentary wine, juice, and cakes.</p>
13.2022	<p>Deb Hannis performed folk song and music for those gathered to enjoy for the remainder of the evening.</p>
14.2022	<p>Next Annual Parish Meeting to be set for spring 2023.</p>

Minutes approved _____

Date _____