

**MINUTES of the MEETING of MISSON PARISH COUNCIL
Held on Wednesday 5th March 2014**

Councillors Present: A Cameron, Cllrs R McIlroy, V Shilling (Chairman), C Stringer, J Sutherton, E Vallance, A Woolliams

Also attending (item 5): David Hounsell & Mark Rees, Tesla Exploration International Limited
Jerry Field, Egdon Resources UK Ltd

Public Participation Over 50 residents attended.

- A resident queried what the Highways vans seen around the village were doing. The vans were thought to belong to the seismic survey team.

(1) Apologies for Absence. District Cllr A Simpson, County Cllr L Yates

(2) Declarations of Disclosable Pecuniary & None Pecuniary Interests. Cllr Sutherton declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in agenda item 7c) the 3-D seismic survey by Tesla Exploration.

(3) Minutes of the Meeting 5th February 2014. Council **resolved to** approve the minutes as a true record.

(4) Matters Arising from Minutes of Last Meeting not on the Agenda. None

(5) Presentation on the 3-D seismic survey for shale gas exploration within the parish. *This item was taken during public participation to allow for public questions.*

Jerry Field of Egdon Resources delivered a presentation on the geology of the area & the 3-D seismic survey process including the following points:

- The first seismic survey (2-D) of the Gainsborough Trough area took place in 1958 & identified the Bowland Shales as a rich source of oil and gas.
- The oils trapped **between** sedimentary rocks have been extracted in the Gainsborough area by the companies IGas & Dart Energy over many years. However, quantities of oil & gas remained trapped **within** porous rocks & these can now be extracted by hydraulic fracturing (fracking).
- The rock bearing shale gases expected to be found within Misson parish are around 2 – 2.5km below the surface, a further 1300m below the coal measures.
- 3-D seismic testing is currently the most accurate means of recording the rock structure below the land surface. Sound waves from a source (detonation) point to receiver points are measured in three dimensions. Around 3,000 seismic source points will be drilled (1,500 drilled so far). The maximum depth drilled is 8 metres, with most being less than 6m. Drill points can be up to 25m from property or 50m from sensitive sites such as listed buildings. Nodes – yellow cannisters the size of a brick - are installed every 50m. These are passive, tracked via GPS & record the sound waves. All the drills are made before the charges are detonated. Detonations over 10 – 14 day period before the sensors are removed for analysis.
- There is the potential for ground movement from the seismic testing but sources will be a safe distance from sensitive sites. The process should not register on the Richter Scale – in comparison the earth tremors that put a temporary halt to fracking in Blackpool measured at force 2.4R.

Residents questions & concerns included:

- Is fracking suitable for an area already mined?
- Hydraulic fracturing is an embryonic industry which has to work out solutions to problems as they occur – mistakes are bound to happen with potentially far reaching consequences.
- BAT – Best Available Technology – has let this community down badly so far.
- There are plenty of massive mistakes made in the oil industry (which is the industry developing fracking) – what's to stop them in future? *Answer: we believe on-shore fracking will be tightly regulated with Environment Agency & HSE Permits & reporting.*

- Concern over the volumes and toxicity of the water used to fracture the rock, it's source, transport & disposal issues. Water security & availability should be an equal concern to energy security.
- Quality of life, good health & well-being are more important than any compensation money the development could provide. *Compensation & on-going payments for exploration are unknown but could amount to £100k for a well and 1% of any production profits.*
- Tesla confirmed that they had a substantial number of landowner consents to proceed with the survey & any subsequent planning application for a test well. Without landowner consents Tesla confirmed that they could not have proceeded & would need to redesign the exploration survey.
- *Tesla suggested it may take 6 months for data analysis to identify any suitable test well sites & 1 – 2 years to achieve planning & Permit consents.*
- The Chairman raised a concern from a resident dog walker who had felt threatened & intimidated by a Tesla security operative when walking on public rights of way. Tesla suggested this was unlikely behaviour from their security team & had reported the incident to the police. Residents could report incidents & contact Tesla via the number on their information leaflet. It was then apparent that no leaflets had been delivered to residents, for which Tesla apologised. *The Chairman thanked the speakers for their presentation & response to public questions before reconvening the business meeting. The majority of residents took their leave, along with guests.*

(6) To review progress with odour reduction at Tunnel Tech.

The TTCC made their report as follows:

- A demonstration was planned to raise the profile of the issue with BDC Members attending the BDC Council Meeting at Retford Town Hall, 6th March – all welcome to attend.
- There has been no enforcement of the Permit conditions. BDC appear to be in a state of limbo, waiting for TTN to install the abatement enclosures that should have become operational from November 2013 at the latest.
- Cllr Cameron reported that he was still investigating legal options available to ensure BDC met their Duty of Care and enforced their own Permit conditions. **Cllr Cameron**
- The clerk reported that:
 - Local Ombudsman support could be sought only after having exhausted the BDC complaints procedure.
 - MPC has no 'pursuit cover' within their insurance. Cllr Cameron thought this could be purchased for a reasonable cost.

MPC discussed their options & **instructed** the clerk to invite Mr Ladyman to the next meeting. **Clerk**

(7) Planning:

a. Planning decisions:- None

b. Planning applications:- **14/00168/VOC** - variation of condition 2 of P/A 32/11/00009 at Barn at Millhouse, Top Street, Misson. MPC made no objection & no comment. **14/00078/FUL** - erection of a detached dwelling, land at Carlton House, Station Road, Misson. MPC objected to the application and made the following comments:

- The proposed dwelling does not appear to comply with BDC LDF Core Strategy & Policies with regard to construction partially outside the development boundary; policy DM2 & DM3 hierarchies, Misson affordable housing needs (BDC policy CS8) & conditions within the related Appeal Decision report.

c. To consider any other Planning Matters:-

- Misson Site Allocations Consultation & Neighbourhood Planning event - Wednesday 12th March between 5pm – 8pm. Members thanked Cllr Simpson for the printing of individual notification letters for households, & personally delivering the letters across the parish to ensure the maximum resident involvement. Cllr Shilling will help set up the hall & attend from the opening, other Members attending as available. **Chairman**

- Members noted BDC rural conference workshops on 26th March, 6.30pm at Retford Town Hall with a planning theme.
- Members reviewed the information provided by the Tesla & Egdon presentation on the 3-D seismic survey. A variety of views were expressed by Members, whilst recognising the majority of residents attending did not support exploration for shale gas or oil within the parish. Members **agreed** to defer making a response to Hanson's with regard to MPC view until they had received information from the exploration licence holder IGas, & 'Frack Free Nottinghamshire' group at the NEBF meeting on March 18th at Idle Valley Nature Reserve.

(8) Neighbourhood issues

- Misson Community Association had received a request to hold an autumn Bird Show in the Centre. This activity is prohibited within the lease agreement & MCA requested MPC consider amending the lease. MPC **requested** MCA investigate the opinions of other Centre users. **MCA**
- The clerk reported that the Lengthsmen would be undertaking siding work and tidying along Bawtry Road area of the village during the week. This will be the last task from the Harworth team. Harworth & Bircotes TC will not be offering the service in 2014-15 as they are fully engaged within H&B. There was no decision from NCC as to further funding of the scheme.

(9) Communications including BDC & NCC Broadband Scheme updates

- The meeting on 11th February with BDC Project Officer, Dan Watson, Ian Lord & the Rev J Strickland confirmed that a series of masts arranged on the church tower should give superfast microwave broadband coverage to 90-95% of the village. BDC have calculated installation costs at around £1,400 & annual running costs at circa £250. BDC will attend the Planning event to publicise the potential scheme & assess parishioner interest before looking to set up a 12-24 month agreement with the church authorities.
- A letter explaining the 'connectivity issues' which NCC believes should exclude Misson from the NCC Rural Broadband Scheme was received just prior to the meeting. Members will review & make comments at their next meeting. **Members**

(10) Road Safety, Highways & Parish Paths

- Members were delighted with the installation of the inter-active road sign on Bawtry Road and hoped the outstanding white lining jobs would be undertaken quickly.
- Members reviewed a pre-order consultation for a new/re-establishment footpath in Misson Springs & made no comment at this time.

(11) Policing. No report at this meeting.

(12) Financial reports.

- The clerk presented the financial statement to 28th February 2014 and Council **resolved** to accept it.

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|--|-------------------|
| MPC current account balance @ 28/02/14 | £ 4,044.19 |
| MPC deposit account balance @ 28/02/14 | <u>£10,507.61</u> |
| Total funds | <u>£14,551.80</u> |

- Members **approved** the appointment of Mr Philip Dennis as Internal Auditor for 2013 -14.
- Members **agreed** to book two places on the NALC Insurance, banking & investment workshop.
- Members **deferred** a decision on Misson Cemetery Fees for 2014 -15 for further comparators that Cllr Woolliams will provide. **Cllr Woolliams**

(13) Cheques

Council **resolved** to **approve** the following cheques for payment:

| Chq. No | Item. | Amount. |
|---------|-----------|---------|
| 000819 | S A Scott | £304.54 |
| 000820 | Notts ALC | £ 20.00 |

(14) Correspondence. There was no additional correspondence.

(15) Council confirmed date of next meeting as Wednesday 2nd April 2014 at 7.30pm.