

MISSON PINFOLD FINALLY RESTORED!

Misson Parish Council commissioned Philip Rowell, a professional and renowned hedge layer, to restore and rejuvenate the Pinfold hedge in the village of Misson. The hawthorn hedge was historically maintained by laying and therefore restoring the hedge in this way not only acknowledges the village heritage but also allows the hedge to return to a healthy condition and provide a dense habitat for a variety of wildlife.

Misson Pinfold dates back to at least the mid-1700s. Historically, pinfolds were found in nearly every village and were well used areas where stray animals were kept until their owners claimed them for a fee payable to the Pinder. Over the years the use and utility of pinfolds changed, some disappeared altogether but many just fell into disrepair and became neglected, overgrown and unsightly. This was the case with the Misson Pinfold until 2018 when it was generously gifted to the Parish Council to be restored and used by the people of the Parish. Teams of volunteers and the Lengthsmen spent many backbreaking days clearing the area of rubbish and vegetation after which Hanson's kindly installed a traditional 5-bar gate.

The recent hedge laying process drew much attention and Philip Rowell was very generous in sharing his knowledge with both adults and children about his work. Comments from residents have been overwhelmingly positive and children from Misson School have already shown an interest in the area. Groups visited whilst the work was ongoing and the school look forward to using it as an outdoor learning space in the future.

The Pinfold is now a protected green space within the Misson Conservation Area. The completed restoration work has turned it from a village eyesore into a beautiful open space that all the village can be proud of and enjoy.

