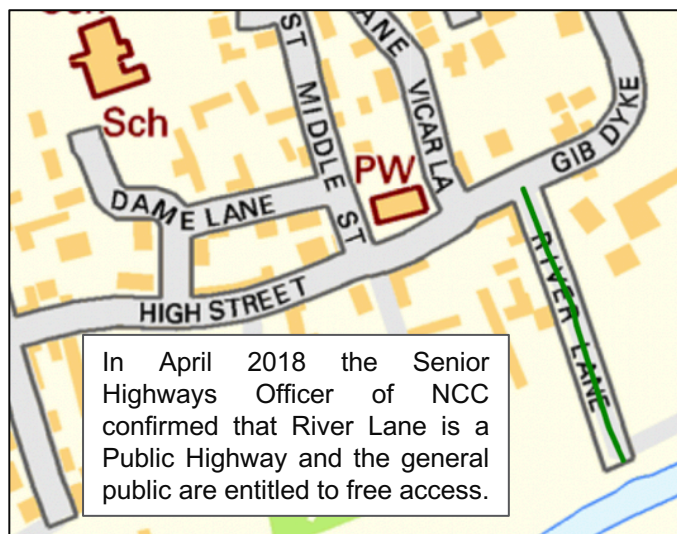




The Parish Council has been asked to clarify the status of River Lane and confirm whether or not people are permitted to access the river from here. To clarify: River Lane is a Nottinghamshire County Council (NCC) adopted highway and not a private lane.



The walking path and public right of way along the river goes from the first stile on River Lane to the second stile only. Over the years, this has been used as a turning circle for heavy vehicles visiting the river, which often causes the ground to be churned up and which the Rivers Authority tells us is a contributory factor to the degradation of the river bank.

Between the second and third stile is a Permissive Path (not a Right of Way), which means that the landowner gives permission for the public to use it and can withdraw that permission if they choose to do so because of damage or misuse of their land.

After the third stile, the land along the flood bank is private land for the rest of its length. Again, there is no statutory right of way on this land. The owner has allowed it to be walked by the general public for many years, but has become increasingly unsettled by the behaviour of some.

Access to the River Idle from the end of River Lane is allowed, but is problematic. Though the river bank is not equipped as a launch and landing point, people have lifted small vessels in and out for many years. This is also contributing to the erosion of the river bank.

The villagers of Mission and users from other parts of Misson Parish have regularly reported degradation of the riverbank, and more regularly, since early 2018.

The picture below illustrates the amount of bank that has broken away in one year. The original banking met with the land shown in the bottom left of the picture, but has systematically been degraded to create the basin seen here.



Misson Marine Club (MMC) offered to provide resources and labour of a team of retired engineers to work with the Environment Agency and Severn Trent Water and find a solution to the problem. Sadly, NCC could not agree to this course of action at the time.

The search for resolution goes on. Lockdown has introduced many new users to this lovely amenity. It would help matters if we could all take care of it and deter others who would use it in such a way as to damage it.

The Parish Council will look at refreshing the leaflet marking out local walks and reprinting an updated version, so that local residents can safely enjoy our shared countryside.