

## MINUTES OF MILLBROOK ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, 28 April 2021

Due to Covid-19 restrictions this meeting was held virtually over Zoom

Present: Chris Shrimpton; Aeone Shrimpton; Jennie Thomas; Julia Shayler; Alyson Smith; Roger Evan; Catherine Colgan; Liam Colgan; Ann Summerlin; Jemmie Elson; Stephen McCoy; Hugh South; Martin Hughes (MPG); Julie Todd (clerk)

### 366. Apologies

Cllr Ken Matthews.

### 367. Martin Hughes, Managing Director – Bedford Operations, UK Ceram Millbrook

Business continued throughout the lockdowns with staff working from home – now staff are working a mix at home/in the office. Covid-19 has impacted the event side of the business with just two events in summer 2020. Events are restarting now. The automotive market is in decline and this impacts Ceram Millbrook as research budgets are cut. With the new net zero emission targets, the business is adapting accordingly including low carbon development.

31/01/21 Utac Ceram took over MPG. They are a French company which means a stronger presence in Europe plus the ability to compete with major companies.

The Local Plan looks to the company to provide employment. Although there are plans to grow in the future, currently they are cutting back staff numbers.

Christopher Shrimpton reported a number of trailers with cars going through the village. Martin Hughes agreed to investigate and report back.

E/W Rail – Martin Hughes confirmed visitors use the main railway stations (Flitwick and Milton Keynes) rather than the local stations. The company preferred underpasses as opposed to overpasses which could mean privacy issues.

Christopher Shrimpton thanked Ceram Millbrook for clearing up the Greensand car park – this is now on a roster.

### 368. Election of Chair

Christopher Shrimpton was proposed by Ann Summerlin and seconded by Jemmie Elson. The nomination was unanimously agreed.

### 369. Election of Vice Chair

Jennie Thomas was proposed by Christopher Shrimpton and seconded by Ann Summerlin. The nomination was unanimously agreed.

### 370. Minutes of Previous Meeting – 9 December 2020

It was proposed by Jemmie Elson and seconded by Aeone Shrimpton that the minutes from the meeting held on 9 December 2020 be signed as a true record with all in agreement.

### 371. Matters Arising

Warren Farm – Cllr Clark agreed to visit the site. 28/04/21 No report submitted.

20mph Speed Limit – Cllr Morris to pursue with Cllr Jamieson. 28/04/21 No report submitted.

Marston Valley Stakeholder Group – traffic should be subject of the next meeting.

MPM – 28/04/21

Footpaths – have been cleared.

Hedge – Bedford Estates cut back the hedge. Christopher Shrimpton to discuss with John, Hunter, Bedford Estates possibility of more than one cut per year.

### **372. CB Councillor's Report**

No councillors present and no reports submitted.

### **373. Reports/Updates**

I Local Plan – Jennie Thomas has reviewed the Plan and has drafted a response on behalf of MPM concentrating on traffic in Marston Vale. First 45 houses to be built by end of 2023 and road for construction traffic from C94 will need to be built beforehand. Christopher Shrimpton represented MPM at the inspector hearings which were held virtually.

Roundhouse/Ringworks – Both are of historic importance with the Ringworks having uninterrupted views across Marston Vale. Objections are being made on the grounds of the height of the buildings at Marston Gate which would obstruct these views. Details have been circulated to the village which gives details of how to register objections.

II East/West Rail – Information has been emailed to the village and printed maps and papers are available from Christopher Shrimpton. The proposal is to reduced 10 stations between Bedford and Bletchley to five. Millbrook Station would be closed and combined with a new station at Lidlington. Currently there are 31 crossings between Bedford and Bletchley – for Millbrook proposing either an overpass or underpass. Discussion re whether, as it would be a continuous road, this would increase the traffic through Millbrook. Non statutory consultation ends 9 June 2021 and this will be followed by a statutory consultation.

III Millbrook Power/Covanta – emails circulated to village from Covanta re recent bad smells which came from firing up boiler 2. The process has now been changed and this should not happen with boiler 3. Waste trial runs being in May with some 20 vehicles a day.

#### IV Planning

- CB/21/00639/VOC Warren Farm – MPM objected to this application, copying to the ward councillors. Christopher Shrimpton expressed disappointment that there was no response from the ward councillors and that CBC appeared to be using old images.
- Environment Health have been contacted re the burning of materials/noxious fumes – no reply.
- Warren Farm/Church Access – this access road has very heavy usage – churchgoers, unit and paddock traffic. The condition of the road is very poor.

V Highways – Speeding continues to be an issue together with lorries. Ann Summerlin expressed interest in starting a Speedwatch group.

Car park opposite Old School – this has access to Catherine Walk. The old fence has been taken down. Discussion followed: refencing; making a car park. The meeting agreed unanimously it should not be made into a car park and a fence should be erected. *Action: CS and Roger Evan*

VI Playing Field – Fence needs repairs. It was agreed quotes would be obtained. *Action: CS*

### **374. Great British Spring Clean**

It was agreed Millbrook would participate.

### **375. Village Event**

It was agreed a village event would be excellent to catch up with fellow villagers and meet new residents. Date: Sunday, 1 August – village hall is available.

**376. Finance**

The Annual Internal Audit Report was circulated prior to the meeting together with the Annual Governance Statement, the Accounting Statements and Certificate of Exemption 2020/21 which were unanimously agreed.

The financial accounts were circulated prior to the meeting:

Current Account: £10,985.73

Deposit Account: £1,288.85

Payment for insurance (£340.64) was approved.

*Action: Clerk*

**377. Correspondence**

Circulated prior to the meeting.

**378. Open Forum**

Ward Councillors – the meeting expressed their disappointment and dissatisfaction that no ward councillors were present and no reports/updates had been received. It was agreed to write to the ward councillors.

*Action: Clerk*

**379. Any Other Business**

None

**380. Date of Next Meeting**

Autumn 2021. The meeting closed at 2100.

Signed ..... Date .....