

# MINUTES OF MILLBROOK ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, 11 May 2022

Present: Chris Shrimpton; Jennie Thomas; CBC Councillor Robert Morris, Julie Todd (Clerk) + 9 Members of the Public

## **392. Nomination of Chair**

Ann Summers proposed Christopher Shrimpton, Alyson Smith seconded the proposal. The nomination was unanimously agreed.

## **393. Nomination of Vice Chair**

Mike Edwards proposed Jennie Thomas with Janice Wright seconding the proposal. The nomination was unanimously agreed.

## **394. Apologies**

Catherine Colgan, Liam Colgan, Liz Branscombe, Kate Quinn, Anna Smith, Paul Needham, Roger Evan, Christopher Stokoe, Dominic Holroyd-Thomas, Carolyn Chappell, Ward Councillor Sue Clark, Ward Councillor Ken Matthews and Martin Hughes

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

Martin Hughes sent his apologies as he was suffering from COVID.

## **396. Minutes of Last Meeting – 24 November 2021**

It was proposed by Jennie Thomas and seconded by Aeone Shrimpton that the minutes from the meeting held on 24 November 2021 be signed as a true record with all in agreement.

## **397. Matters Arising**

Traffic Survey in Sandhill Close – authoriser of the survey remains unknown.

HGV Reporting – it would seem that CBC have no method of collecting data or actioning.

Footpaths – Chris Shrimpton recently met with Cllr Clark and CBC Highways on site to discuss continuous footpath along Sandhill Close with Millbrook Proving Ground.

Hedges – Bedford Estates will only undertake one cut a year. Jack Tompkins has cut the hedge by the village sign at no cost.

Pavement + Overgrown Hedges – hedges have been cut back.

Jubilee Tree – an Acer Campestre 'Queen Elizabeth' has been planted on the recreation ground. Thanks were given to Mike Edwards who has been watering the tree regularly. The tree has been registered on the Queen's Green Canopy site. A plaque has been ordered.

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

Cllr Clark submitted following written report:

- Visit in January by EWR senior management. With MP and senior leaders at CBC met parish councillors at each proposed crossing closure to talk through issues.
- Stakeholder group for Marston Vale development has met several times to cover Development Brief, and especially transport/traffic proposals and mitigation. Detail can be shared once consultation starts but plenty of feedback has been given to O&H and Officers by stakeholder group.
- Spent day out with Highways Development Officers last week going round all the villages meeting parish councillors in each location to see traffic issues on the ground. Very useful for the Highways officers to see/hear first hand.
- Also picked up loads of 'housekeeping' jobs and which will work through.
- Met Chris at 8am to observe Millbrook traffic.

- Consultation on all additional Marston Vale information from O&H to my knowledge expected to begin soon - 5 week consultation. (Although sure to be accepting comments for much longer)
- Also expecting application from Prologis re Marston Gate expansion at J13 and Marshall are doing pre application scoping work in advance of their anticipated application to relocate to Cranfield.
- A Forest of Marston Vale policy has been drawn up on development guidance in the first area. It has been published and there will be a consultation in due course.
- Enforcement notices have been issued at Warren Farm. I think 7 in total - will ask Officer if they can send an update. Have promised Chris will visit with him. Hopefully next week.
- Large solar park application in for Brogborough landfill and BB has one for Stewartby too. Some distance from Millbrook but possible visual impact?

Cllr Morris reported:

- Marshall Aerospace are relocating to Cranfield and are looking for local applicants for their 2023 apprenticeship scheme.

### **399. Reports/Updates**

I East/West Rail – Christopher Shrimpton met with Nadine Dorries, MP, Councillor Clark and E/W Rail personnel in January.

II Marston Vale – Christopher Shrimpton and Jennie Thomas have been attending the stakeholder group meetings. All the members from surrounding villages are united in the issues presented by the proposed development – traffic in particular. The aspiration is to stop illegal traffic coming through Millbrook, improve the road infrastructure and make it safe to walk through the village. Concern was expressed that if small pockets of development take place these would not be large enough to command new traffic measures.

III Millbrook Power/Covanta – Jennie Thomas attends CLP meetings and reported that the Millbrook Power construction start is imminent. There is an application to use entrance on Station Lane for construction traffic. Cllr Morris thought this might be the permanent entrance but CLP had been told that traffic would access the site from Covanta’s Green Lane entrance.

### IV Planning Update and Enforcements

- CB/22/01052/VOC The Old Cottage, 42 Sandhill Close – increase in window size. This work has taken place.
- CB/21/02115/FULL Lower Farm – application for 6 dwellings has been granted.
- Village Sign – one of the roundels was stolen so a new sign has been made with a Platinum Jubilee roundel. It was agreed a letter of thanks should be sent to Clifton Parish Council who supplied the template for the Bedfordshire roundel. *Action: Clerk*
- CB/22/01317/FULL Unit 2, Manor Park Farm – part retrospective application for change of use to civil engineering contractors yard. It was agreed MPM would strongly opposed. *Action: CS/Clerk*
- Warren Farm – Cllr Clark and Christopher Shrimpton to visit site – invitation extended to Cllr Morris. A number of units are operating without correct planning and enforcement notices have been issued. Everyone was urged to report any illegal activity.

### V Highways

- BOAT by Center Parcs – currently closed due to misuse. CBC to assess state of surface.
- “Car Park” on Sandhill Close – to install bollards to stop the parking would cost circa £5k. It was agreed to leave it as it is currently.
- 20 mph speed limit on Sandhill Close – it was agreed to write to Cllr Dalgarno requesting a 20 mph speed limit.

MPM – 11/05/22

- Zebra crossing – it was agreed a zebra crossing would benefit Sandhill Close.

VI. Playing Field

An application has been made to Grantscape for funding for the play equipment (renovation of swings and rocking horse, new goal posts and an inclusive roundabout). Decision should be made this month. MPM have been awarded £300.18 from CBC Ward Councillors’ Grant towards the new goal posts. The meeting thanked the Ward Councillors for their kind donation.

**400. 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 2021/21 which were unanimously agreed and duly signed by the Chair.

The financial accounts were circulated prior to the meeting:

Current Account: £17,492.33

Deposit Account: £1,288.97

Payment for insurance (£372.84) was approved.

*Action: Clerk*

**401. Correspondence**

Circulated prior to the meeting.

**378. Open Forum**

Discussed within the meeting.

**379. Any Other Business**

None

**380. Date of Next Meeting**

Wednesday, 2 November at 7.30 pm. The meeting closed at 2050.

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