

MINUTES OF MILLBROOK PARISH MEETING

Wednesday, 29 March 2023

Present: Chris Shrimpton; Jennie Thomas; Ward Cllr Sue Clark; Ward Cllr Robert Morris, Julie Todd (Clerk),
14 Members of the Public

415. Apologies

Martin Hughes; Gary Summerfield, Alyson Smith.

416. UTAC

Martin Hughes, Managing Director – UK Test Services was unfortunately unable to attend the meeting. Chris Shrimpton, Jennie Thomas and Ward Cllr Sue Clark had a meeting with UTAC re heavy vehicles driving through the village and the reporting process. It was agreed that reports should either be made to the security gate or the lorry owners/company contacted. CBC are currently trialling enforcement cameras – it was agreed Millbrook would benefit greatly from these cameras.

417. CB Ward Councillors' Report

Ward Cllr Clark said it had been a pleasure getting to know the parish, representing Millbrook and will continue to do her utmost with the big issues – EW rail and Marston Valley development.

Chair Chris Shrimpton thanked both Ward Councillors for their support and hard work on behalf of Millbrook.

Marston Valley – the traffic issues raised in the stakeholders' objection have all been accepted by CBC who have asked OH for further modelling. Traffic counting is currently in progress and it was agreed that Millbrook should be formally identified as a rat run with few safe places for pedestrians to cross the road. In 2018 6.5k vehicles drove through the village and it was agreed that it would be good to be able to compare the figures with the 2023 survey.

418. Minutes of Last Meeting – 9 November 2022

It was proposed by Jennie Thomas and seconded by Aeone Shrimpton that the minutes from the meeting held on 9 November 2022 be signed as a true record with all in agreement.

419. Matters Arising

399 - BOAT has been resurfaced and is now open.

420. Reports/Updates

I. Planning

CB/EN/19/0500 – Warren Farm - breach of planning control on the land - Stationing of residential caravan and commercial activities on LDCE storage part of site adjacent to public footpath. Subject to appeal – awaiting decision. A new building has been erected without planning permission. MPM drew this to the attention of CBC Enforcement on 22/01/23 – awaiting action.

CB/21/02984/VOC - Unit 2, Manor Park Farm - Appeal Reference: APP/P0240/W/22/3294262 – “allowed with conditions”. Three new planning applications have been subsequently filed (from October 2022) – awaiting decision from CBC Planning.

II Traffic Calming

Speedwatch – no update.

CBC Dustcarts – dustcarts are driving through the village on non-collection days. Clerk to report to Craig Siddle, CBC.

Action: Clerk

III Play Equipment

The Clerk reported that a new goal post has been installed together with the inclusive roundabout and the repairs to the rocking horse and swings have been made. Thanks were given to Grantscape (Rookery South), Millbrook Village Hall and Central Bedfordshire Ward Councillors' Grant for their generous donations which made this work possible. The asset register has duly been updated.

Tree Survey – it was agreed to accept RGS Arboricultural Consultants' quote of £375 + VAT. Clerk to pass on details to Village Hall for possible survey of their trees. *Action: Clerk*

IV Rookery South Ltd

Encyclis is the new name for Covanta. The new visitor centre is now open and if anyone would like a tour to contact Jennie Thomas.

V Millbrook Vale Sub Station

Work has started on the compound in preparation for the build of the new sub station.

421. Finance

Current Account: £19,516.48

Deposit Account: £2,692.64

The financial accounts including Overview of Spend were circulated prior to the meeting together with the following report:

- The main expenditure this financial year has been the new inclusive roundabout, replacing the goal posts and repairs to the swings and rocking horse. Total cost: £10,614. Thanks to Grantscape, Millbrook Village Hall and CBC Ward Councillors' Grant we received a total of £8,914.18 in grant monies.
- Grass cutting was less than previous years due to the hot summer (£990 compared to £1,275 for 21/22).
- 23/24 items for expenditure: tree survey + recommended tree works; Coronation memorial; highways, recreation ground fence.
- Insurance – premium likely to increase by approx. £75.
- Internal audit – use Jane Webb again

Invoice agreed for payment: RPM Ltd – inclusive roundabout £6,774.

422. Ampthill and Flitwick Green Wheel

Jennie Thomas attended a meeting re the Green Wheel – a project to include all walking, cycling and riding routes in and around Ampthill and Flitwick. Millbrook is on the NW end. Points highlighted: Station Lane cycle lane; CP round path should be multi-use; Warren Farm – HGV usage causes potholes and very narrow by alpaca field, Church Path designated as a cycle route – questioned whether suitable (surface and steepness); Sandhill Close has 5 crossing points; UTAC to station multi-use path, no kerb between the road, verge and footpath along the A507 from Millbrook roundabout to the Westminster Pond corner.

423. King Charles III Coronation

It was unanimously agreed to add a Coronation roundel to the village sign.

Action: Clerk

424. Flitwick Banking Hub

With the closure of Barclays in Flitwick there will be a “pop up” Barclays bank in the Rufus Centre 3 days a week but without cash facilities. Chris Shrimpton and the Clerk attended a meeting held by Flitwick TC (FTC) re proposal to apply for a banking hub in the old Barclays bank premises which are owned by FTC.

425. Correspondence

Circulated prior to the meeting.

426. Open Forum

Church Path is overgrown and needs clearing. Greensand Trust to be approached re undertaking this work.

Action: Clerk

427. Matters to be Brought Forward to Next Meeting

None

428. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday, 7 June 2023 at 7.30 pm. The meeting closed at 2054.

Signed Date