

MINUTES OF MILLBROOK ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday, 8 May 2024

Present: Chris Shrimpton; Jennie Thomas; CBC Councillor Mark Smith, Dan Wigglesworth (Vital Energi); Martin Hughes (UTAC); Julie Todd (Clerk) + 20 Members of the Public

454. Nomination of Chair

Sir Timothy Clifford proposed Christopher Shrimpton, Ann Summerlin seconded the proposal. The nomination was unanimously agreed.

455. Nomination of Vice Chair

Aeone Shrimpton proposed Jennie Thomas with Julia Shayler seconding the proposal. The nomination was unanimously agreed.

456. Apologies

Ward Cllrs Susan Clinch and Gary Summerfield, Roger Evan, Theresa Evan and Paul Needham.

457. Vital Energi – Rookery South Heating Project

Update given by Dan Wigglesworth, Pre Construction Director (Heat Networks), Vital Energi:

- Looking to submit planning permission for heat transfer station on Rookery Site in the summer
- Having talks with Universal Studios and Marston Vale Village developer
- System would be able to supply Center Parcs, Universal Studios, UTAC, Marston Vale Village and Millbrook

458. UTAC

Update given by Martin Hughes, Group Health, Safety & Facilities Director:

- Good Q1
- Company is expanding into Italy and Romania
- Rural environment project – wild flower meadows, trees planted and installing solar panels
- Very happy to support the fete
- Low loaders coming through village – 90% of regular deliveries come via approved route. Likely the offending lorries are from Europe and directed down Sandhill Close by their satnav. UTAC have a process in place re offenders.
- Schedule of events to be sent to Jennie Thomas

460. Minutes of Last Meeting – 8 November 2023

It was proposed by Jennie Thomas and seconded by Aeone Shrimpton that the minutes from the meeting held on 8 November 2023 be signed as a true record with all in agreement.

461. Matters Arising

445. Warren Farm Enforcements – See 462 IV.

445. Sandhill Close 20 mph Petition – Mike Edwards attended the Traffic Management Committee meeting together with the Ward Councillors. Funding for any speed limit changes/surveys/signage is allocated in a “minor schemes” budget. CBC says *“The Millbrook petition request for a review of the speed limit on Sandhill Close will be considered following a review of available data and site visits. We may need further speed surveys and this can be carried out as soon as we have availability with our contractor.”*

426. Open Forum – Church Path – CBC Row Office Michelle Flynn reports that *“this is on this year’s Annual Plan list. There is a lot of work to do there to deal with tree issues on the banks, secure the banks from further landslip and restore/replace the revetment boards. If it cannot be done this financial year, it will be on next year’s list as we do not have the revenue budget to cover such large jobs.”*

440. Open Forum – Sandhill Close “Layby” – Chris Shrimpton met with Bedford Estates (BE) re fencing in the “layby”. BE do not want this as this space could be used for loading timber.

448IV. Recreation Ground – work carried out: multi play equipment new ramp and climbing wall dismantled, rope walk dismantled; 2 seats replaced on child’s swing. Tree works – working party have undertaken most of the work – to be finished in the autumn.

461. CB Councillor’s Report

Cllr Smith reported:

Ward Councillor Grant – each councillor will have £2,000 in grant monies to award to local projects.

CBC 2024/25 Budget – passed.

462. Reports/Updates

I East/West Rail – Jennie Thomas reported that there is a presentation at Marston Community Centre. The line is back to full service.

II Marston Vale New Villages – No updates to report.

III Rookery South ERF - Nothing to report.

IV Planning Update and Enforcements

- Warren Farm – currently there are 2 appeals. APP/P0240/C22/3299811 TM Plant Hire (plots 6, 7 and 10) is a written appeal and CB/EN/19/0500Rye Demolition (plot 9) is a public appeal. Representations were made by Ward Councillors and Chris Shrimpton. Awaiting outcome on both appeals.
- Dellfield Farm – 2 applications have been turned down. Clerk to write letter to CBC Enforcement requesting confirmation that activities on the site are lawful. It has been reported that there is a gate across the public footpath which is locked at night diverting the footpath onto private land.
- CB/23/03875/LDCE Brumfields – refused.
- CB/23/01830/FULL Fox Covert Farm – dismissed.
- CB/22/03464/FULL Sopwell Fields – going to appeal.
- Church Lane road sign – this has been removed.

V Highways

- See 461 above.
- Sandhill Close Hedges – BE will only undertake one cut per year. It was agreed these need to be cut back all year round and a quote should be obtained from Neil Gates. **Action: Clerk**

VI. Recreation Ground

- Grass cutting – cost has risen by £5 to £95 per cut.
- Fencing – two quotes were obtained it was agreed to accept Ben Palmer’s quote. The Village Hall will be invoiced for the post and rail section which falls on their land.
- Play equipment – it was agreed the rope walk should be replaced and funding sought from Rookery South Community Trust Fund. **Action: Clerk**
- Safety inspection of play equipment will take place in June.

463. Finance

2023/24 Annual Return

All paperwork was circulated prior to the meeting.

- I. Accounts y/e 31 March 2024 carrying forward £15,611. Parish Meetings should keep up to one year’s precept in reserve (£6,000).
- II. Internal Audit Report – received and noted.

- III. Annual Governance Statement – was approved – proposed by Aeone Shrimpton and seconded by Jennie Thomas and unanimously agreed. Chris Shrimpton duly signed.
- IV. Accounting Statements – were approved - proposed by proposed by Aeone Shrimpton and seconded by Jennie Thomas and unanimously agreed. Chris Shrimpton duly signed.
- V. Certificate of Exemption – was approved - proposed by Aeone Shrimpton and seconded by Jennie Thomas and unanimously agreed. Chris Shrimpton duly signed.
- VI. 2024/25 Finances – reserves earmarked for tree work (£400), replace rope walk (£3,000), recreation ground noticeboard (£400), Sandhill Close hedge cutting (£500), extra cost of grass cutting (£75) + repairs to play equipment identified in 2024 report.

464. CBC Local Transport Plan

Circulated prior to the meeting and unanimously approved.

Action: Clerk

465. Millbrook Parish Meeting – The Future

After many years’ service, both Chris Shrimpton and Jennie Thomas would like to step down next year as Chair and Vice Chair. If nobody is willing to fill these positions, Millbrook would probably fall under Amphill TC. Cllr Smith to investigate.

Action: MS

466. Correspondence

Circulated prior to the meeting.

467. Open Forum

- Bus stop on Woburn Road. **Action: MS**
- Dustcarts re again coming through the village on Tuesdays. Clerk to write to CBC. **Action: Clerk**
- Footpaths are overgrown. Clerk to follow up. **Action: Clerk**
- Performance cars driving through village from Caffeine & Machine. It was agreed to write to the owners re road being inappropriate (speed bumps). **Action: Clerk**
- D-Day – Amphill are having a beacon lighting ceremony and fish and chips @ Parkside Hall.

468. Date of Next Meeting

Wednesday, 13 November at 7.30 pm. The meeting closed at 2114.

Signed Date