

STEERING GROUP MEETING/OPEN FORUM

Minutes of the 22nd meeting – 28th March 2018 (v4fin)

Held in The George Inn, Upstairs Meeting Room, Maulden from 20:00hrs.

Present:	Observers	Apologies
Committee/Working Group Members Alan Plom [Chair / Leader of Infrastructure WGp] Roger Ball [Leader of Environment Gp / Maulden Parish Council (MPC)] Ruth Plom [Social, Educ & Welfare (SEW) Gp] Lesley Illingworth (Minutes Secretary)	David Illingworth Julian Smith Andrew Mortimer Martin Wright Colin Jones Diana Murphy	Simon Barnes } Steering Mark Bingham } Group Sarah Michaels} Members Cllr Philip Jackson } MPC Cllr Phil Allen } Ian Ormrod Mike Browning Mark Hillson Michael Hillson

1. WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS AND UPDATE

- (i) Alan welcomed everyone, especially the 3 ‘new faces’. Apologies recorded, including several Steering Group members, so the scope of the meeting was limited. Although fewer observers than usual (due to Easter), local interest and support continues to grow.
- (ii) Only 2 Working Group members present so a different emphasis given to the agenda. Alan wanted to hear how the 3 ‘new observers’ had heard about the MNP and our meeting, to discuss what the MNP ‘can do for you’, and how to improve communication with residents - of all ages. A Facebook page for Village Events was suggested and updates on planning issues should be posted by the PC.
[ACTION SB/Communications Group to discuss with PC.]
- (iii) Alan described MNP’s website (being improved + MNP’s scope and structure to the new attendees. They did not appreciate that the MNP was a 5-year project, so further communication is clearly needed.
- (iv) MNP’s AGM is on 30th May, but additional volunteers welcome at any time. Leader still needed for the Business/Local Economy Working Group - from anyone who has a local business, but anyone with an interest in any of the key elements covered by the Working Groups, and able to give any time to support MNP activities, would be welcome.
[ACTION: Working Group Leaders to identify specific tasks to advertise for volunteers.]

2. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING (28/02/18)

Last minutes agreed (subject to tidying up the list of attendees) and signed.
[ACTION: AP/RB - Final version to be uploaded to Dropbox and posted on webpage.]

3. MATTERS ARISING

- (i) Min 1(ii) **Parish Council Stakeholder Group** - No information received from PC + Simon and Mark not invited to PC meeting with School Head - as proposed by PC Chair. AP mentioned this in his report to the PC on 26 March + Cllrs Ball and Allen expressed their concern strongly at the MPC meeting too.
[ACTION: AP/RB to raise with MPC Chair, prior to next PC meeting (4th July).]
- (ii) Min 3(i) - **‘Strategic Off-Road Access Link** (from Clophill, Flitton, etc) to Flitwick - No news from the PC on the proposed spur to Maulden.
[ACTIONS: RB to raise at next PC meeting / PJ/MPC to report back to MNP at next meeting.]
- (iii) Min 3(ii) - **Presentation** [by Mike Lake, DLA Town Planning Ltd] - As agreed AP had posted the slides + audio recording of this presentation and the Q&A session on MNP’s to Dropbox.
[ACTION: RB to check / post on website.]

- (iv) Min 4.1(iii) - **Access to MNP Documents** - Access by 'non-members' to documents stored in the 'Dropbox' folder [used by active members to share documents and information] needs to be discussed by the Communications Working Group. Working docs can be in draft and amendments will be visible. An alternative is to restrict access to finalised docs. *'We Transfer'* is an alternative. [**ACTION: SB.**]
- (v) Min 4.1(iv) **CBC Local Plan** - The final Local Plan should be published early summer (May/June).

4. VILLAGE UPDATE

4.1 Green Infrastructure Survey (GIS) [RB]

Roger reported an excellent response with 212 questionnaires returned and 74 on-line after the 1st GIS consultation meeting. At the 2nd meeting, held on 5/3/18, attendees voted on a list of 9 environmental projects that came out of the initial consultation meeting.

[**ACTION: RB** to ask GST about the report and suggestions for the Question set for the MNP Survey.]

4.2 Report from Maulden Parish Council Meeting (26/3/18)

- (i) **Traffic calming** - MPC discussed the proposed pedestrian crossing' with CBC and Safer Maulden, for match-funding and had allocated £4k. [Originally £5-£6k.] Anti-parking bollards in George Street and extended footpath also proposed. The developers of the adjacent Branksome site declined to contribute. A number of practical difficulties were pointed out at the PC meeting - not least that parking spaces for cars and delivery lorries would be lost - so it is not known if this scheme will go ahead after all. Instead, the PC has allocated its funds to purchase hand-held speed guns for Speed Watch and solar-powered Speed Indication Devices (SIDs, ie 'smiley-face' type signs) which can record speed of vehicles 24/7.
- (ii) **Village Litter Pick** - Volunteers needed on Sunday 4 April, supporting the 'Great British Spring Clean'. Cllr Yvonne Cole coordinating.
- (iii) **School capacity** - MPC held a meeting with Maulden Lower School Head to determine what she considers is needed, but Mark and Simon had not been invited, as proposed by MPC Chair in response to us pointing out that MNP's 'Social, Education & Welfare' Group also needs to know the projected intake and future for the 3-Tier system. Alan had expressed MNP's concern in his report to the PC on 26 March and this was also conveyed firmly at the PC meeting by Cllrs Ball and Allen.
[**ACTION: AP/RB** to discuss this impasse with MPC Chair, prior to next PC meeting (14 May).]

4.3 Latest planning applications

- (i) As Cllr Allen was unable to attend, his report to the PC was summarised by Roger and Alan. There is a noticeable trend in land development speculators using a new tactic of "planning by appeal". The list of applications was similar to last month's, but with a few developments. [nb. Cllr Allen has since supplied a written summary, which is incorporated below]:

1. **CB/17/04583/OUT** - Land adj to 129A and [131 Clophill Road](#) (25 dwellings). Layout amended with an increased minimum 20m buffer zone from Maulden Wood and a new hedge/ trees on the western boundary. MPC has objected on the same grounds. Also noted that Application CB/17/00981/OUT for 21 dwellings on the adjacent field has now received approval from CBC. The cumulative effect of both applications should be considered.

2. **CB/18/00435/OUT and CB/17/00305** - Old Farm, Clophill Road (up to 49 dwellings, including affordable housing). No news on date of appeal lodged on 29/10/2017 for CB/17/00305 but a revised application received for CB/18/00435/OUT attempts to overcome the reason for refusal. One "housing cluster" has been moved to create a wider gap to 'open up the view'. Financial contribution identified too, but MPC has again objected as these changes do not overcome previous objections.

3. **CB/17/03546/OUT** - Land at Clophill Road, nr Burgoincs (50 dwellings). No appeal against refusal yet received but the (Manchester-based) developer's offer to meet to discuss new proposals was declined by MPC, Clophill PC and CBC as they felt this will not resolve their objection, based on a matter of principle in regard to development on this site. An appeal therefore expected soon.

4. **CB/17/03937/OUT** - Land South of Limbersey Lane (14 Dwellings). No further news on this application following MPC's objection last October. No decision likely until May/June.

- (ii) There are potentially 212 dwellings in total: 127+ in current planning applications [not included in CBC's Pre-submission Local Plan] + a further 85 that were included. The other possible sites presented to the PC and MNP Steering Group/Open Forum could increase the number significantly beyond this.
- (iii) At their recent meeting, the MPC stressed that they are not part of any 'consortium' and would be making their own decision on the use or disposal of PC-owned land, for the benefit of the whole village.

5. WORKING GROUP UPDATES

This item was deferred in the absence of other Group Leaders although Roger reported on the Environment Group / GIS activities at 4.1 above.

6. PROJECT PLAN & FUNDING

- (i) Alan reported that MNP had initially been charged VAT by GST for the GIS project. This had not been quoted originally so had not been included in our bid for funding. We also discovered (too late) that if MPC had held the funds (as originally planned), then they could have claimed the VAT back. Also, as we had deferred BRCC's Survey until 2018-19, the funds for that project had to be returned. This left MNP in a difficult position, but fortunately GST agreed to absorb the VAT.
- (ii) The Government's funding scheme is extended for 4 years and we will have no problem getting it again. The downside is that there is a new website and submission procedure to contend with.
- (iii) MNP's Project Plan needs to be updated before we can submit another bid for funding. This needs to be discussed and agreed by the Steering Group/Working Group Leaders.
[ACTION: Working Group Leaders to propose activities requiring funding in 2018-19 and timeline.]
- (iv) Cllr Allen had previously requested a summary of the MNPs activities and achievements to date. AP pointed out that he had presented an update on actions since Jan 2017 in his slides at the first GIS Consultation meeting in January, and also in the Parish Magazine since. Roger presented Alan's detailed summary and list of action points to the PC at their meeting on 26 March.
[ACTION: AP will use this as a basis for the next article in the Parish Magazine (NB. Unless someone else volunteers to write it?) and it will then be posted on the website.]
- (v) The Action Points presented to the PC included the urgent need for effective liaison to be established with the PC on 'Social Education and Welfare', and 'Regulation' matters. This was borne out by MNP not being involved in the School meeting/Stakeholder Group.
[ACTION: RB/PJ to discuss and resolve.]

7. WHAT NEXT? [SUMMARY OF URGENT ACTIONS]

Minute	Action	Who
1(ii)	Communications Group to discuss use fo Facebook (again) and liaise with PC.	SB
1(iv)	Identify specific tasks to advertise/involve volunteers.	WGp Leads
2	Revised final minutes to be filed in Dropbox and posted on our webpage.	AP/RB
3(i)	Exclusion from School meeting/formation of Stakeholder Group to be raised with MPC Chair before next PC meeting (14 May).	AP/RB
3(ii)	Check if any progress on spur to Off-Road Access Link from Clophill, Flitton, etc to Flitwick + Report back to next meeting.	RB/PJ
3(iii)	Check/post Mike Lake presentation and audio recording on website.	RB
3(iv)	Access to MNP Dropbox and FaceBook Group to be discussed by Comms WGp	SB
4.1	Request GST report and suggestions for Questions for the MNP Survey	RB

4.2(iii)	Discuss impasse over liaison with MPC Chair, prior to next PC meeting (14 May)	AP/RB
6(iii)	Identify activities requiring funding in 2018-19, produce timelines and revise Plan.]	WGpLeads
6(iv)	Produce Update article for Parish Magazine and post on the website.	AP/RB
6(v)	Need to be involved/informed about School and PC Stakeholder Group.	RB/AP/PJ
8(i)	To develop Policy to comply with GDPR for discussion at the next meeting.]	AP/SB

8. AOB / Date of next meeting

- (i) **Data Protection** – We need to adopt/state our Policy to protect ‘Personal Data’, under the General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR) by 25 May 2018. Although we have only collected individual’s email addresses for the purposes of developing and sharing information on the Neighbourhood Plan, and we do not share this information with other organisations for marketing purposes, etc, we are still required to set up a system to enable people to ‘opt in’ to receiving email communication and also have the facility to ‘opt out’. Alan had carried out some research and tabled a draft Statement of Policy - this will need to be considered at the next meeting.

[**ACTION: AP/SB** to discuss how to progress this for discussion at the next meeting.]

- (ii) **Next meeting** - Wednesday 25th April at 8pm, Upstairs in The George, as usual. Anyone with an interest in development and planning in Maulden are welcome to attend.

There being no further business, the meeting finished at 10:00 pm.