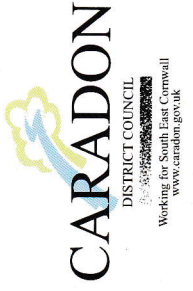




Welcome to Milbrook Village Plan Information Leaflet



CARADON
DISTRICT COUNCIL

Working for South East Cornwall
www.caradon.gov.uk

In this booklet, you'll find the results of the Village Plan Action Day which was held on the 13th November 2004.



Twenty issues were clearly identified as being of most concern to the village from the detailed questionnaire that was distributed in the summer of 2004. On the Action Day, these issues were voted on to get them into an order of priority - which was the most important in popular opinion and should therefore be addressed first?

Happy reading, and if you have any comments or would like to help in any way, please contact the Village Plan Steering Group via the Parish Clerk, Richard Woodley, at the Village Hall.

Tel. 01752 823128

Issue Number One Improving The Lake Area



On the Action Day, this issue was voted important by the most people in Millbrook. 203 people used one of their votes to support action in this area.



The vision is "A well presented lake area for use by the community, encompassing improvements and a clean up".

Comments from villagers include:

"Instead of draining the lake, why not plant a reed bed that will allow the fish to eat the midge larvae?"

"Make the lake tidal, or find another way to get rid of the midges"

"Allow the lake to revert to fresh water to recreate a balanced ecology"

Improving the lake area is now a very high priority as a result of villagers' participation in the Village Plan - look out for action on this issue, and if you can help in any way, please contact the Steering Group.

Issue Number Two

Millbrook's Cornish Identity

This issue is close to most villagers' hearts, with 181 people using one of their votes to highlight their desire for Millbrook to be identified clearly as Cornish in all administrative issues.

The vision is "to ensure that Millbrook remains within the boundaries and control of Cornwall"



This issue has been raised through concern that there are plans afoot to place Millbrook under the control of Plymouth Council for planning and possibly other matters. Some sources say that there are no such plans, some say that plans are certainly under discussion. So there is some confusion about this one.

Comments from visitors to the Action Day include:

"We're a Cornish village - let's stay that way"

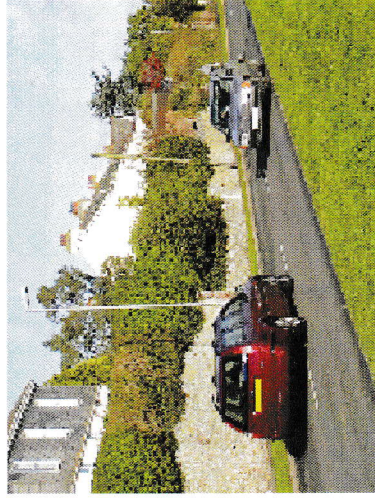
"This is misleading as there are no proposals to move Millbrook under Plymouth City Council; it is more to do with South West Regional Development for housing."

Whatever the truth of the matter is, villagers have spoken in the large majority to oppose any such plans - the clear statement is that Millbrook does not want any control over its planning or administration to be given over to a Devon authority. Closely monitoring and fiercely opposing any plans to move any control from Caradon & Cornwall to Plymouth is right there at

Issue Number Three

Traffic Calming Measures

On the Action Day, 176 people voted this as an issue of importance to them.



The cars in this picture, as it happens, were being driven well and there is no suggestion that the drivers were breaking the speed limit. However, we all know that some drivers consider New Road and other parts of the village to be their own personal race track!

Some comments about this issue from villagers include:

"Need traffic calming on Hounster Hill, someone is going to be killed or badly injured there soon"

"Don't go over the top on traffic calming, we don't want a hideous mess like Craffhole. Speed humps along New Road and a crossing from the doctor's to the village should suffice."

"Weight restrictions and width restrictions on vehicles entering the village needed..."

Traffic flow and speeds are now going to be closely and carefully looked at with a view to planning effective calming measures and creating a safer environment for all in the village.

Issue Number Four Improving Youth Facilities

Well, this is about it for youth facilities in the village: a skate park that's, to say the least, a bit run-down and shabby.



Voted fourth most important by villagers - we seem to be pretty poorly provided with facilities for the young people of our village.

Some comments from villagers include:

“Don’t knock your local teenagers, you’ve no idea how awful they could be.”

“The kids need somewhere to go in the evenings.
Cheap food, drinks and music...”

**The problem of the bored teenager isn’t going to go away, but as a village we have shown that we want to make life better for our youngsters.
Now we need to put ideas into action.**

Issue Number Five A More Visible Police Presence

Many people showed their concern that Millbrook doesn’t appear to have frequent enough patrols or rapid response times.

Some suggestions from villagers include:

“We need more officers on the spot and more community orders...”

“...the village doesn’t need a bigger police presence, just a constable/local officer if needed.”

In general, Millbrook is relatively crime free but it seems that many, if not most, people would feel safer with a higher police profile.

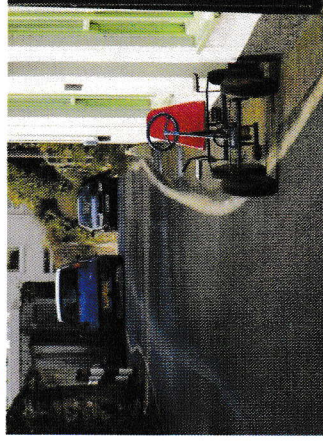
Issue Number Six Parking

The thorny problem of parking, double-parking, no parking and dangerous parking is of major concern to many people.

“Do not increase parking; we should encourage residents to walk to the village centre and leave the car at home.”

“Stop delivery vans parking outside the Co-Op ... or keep a space for them by extending double yellow lines further up West Street.”

The car is here to stay, but we need to work together with local planners and the Highways Authority to find ways of meeting parking needs without turning the village into a giant car park.



Issue Number Seven Clean and Tidy Public Areas

Keeping Millbrook clean and tidy was a popular topic at the Action Fair.

One comment, summing up many people's thoughts:
"Improved street cleaning needed - too much litter."



Issue Number Eight Environmental Protection for the Tidal Creek

A large number of people want the tidal creek to have some kind of environmental protection.



Some comments:

"...creek is silting up, must sluice at low water using lake if it is to remain navigable."

"Speed restrictions to be clearly shown, to avoid disturbing wildlife."

Issue Number Nine Availability of Locally Produced Food

Some work has already begun to try and set up a regular local farmers' market in the village, but much remains to be done before the idea can become a reality. Many villagers would like to see a market and most say they would use it, so if you can help in any way (and you probably can!) please contact the Steering Group or Parish Council.

Issue Number Ten Recycling Facilities in the Village

Villagers voted this an important issue for improvement as soon as possible.

Much of the village currently enjoys a recycling collection service on alternate Thursdays but some outlying areas have been left off the collection route and have nowhere in the village to take their recyclable waste. Since the removal of the car park recycling facilities, visitors are not provided for.

"If glass recycling is reintroduced to the car park, regular collection is essential to stop a build-up of dumped carrier bags full of bottles."

"Recycling to be developed; at present no recycling available to Anderton or businesses."

Issue Number Eleven Can We Have Mains Gas Please?

This one might be a difficult one to solve, but villagers have voted to make it a priority that pressure be brought to bear on British Gas (or whatever they call themselves now) to supply a mains feed to Millbrook.

One comment was:

"Mains gas is only 1 mile across St John's Lake, they have it - why not Millbrook?"



Issue Number Twelve Better Access to Medical Services

With only the one surgery and Derriford Hospital being so far away, villagers have asked that access be improved with better transport links to hospital. Many residents are keen to have access to a local dentist, and shorter waiting times to see a doctor.

“What about a crossing from the surgery to the Village Hall - very dangerous for elderly people.”

“We need a doctor’s surgery which is open on Saturdays...”



Other Issues that Millbrook Residents Have Identified as Important for the Village

It’s impossible to go into lots of detail in a leaflet like this one; the limitations of space mean that only the twelve most popular issues in Millbrook can be properly highlighted. Of course, there are many other issues affecting our lives here that need addressing and with everyone’s help and plenty of goodwill we can improve Millbrook’s facilities without spoiling its much-loved character.

Lots of other issues have been raised during the Village Plan consultation: the issue of local housing and building is important to many and there have been some “blue sky” ideas put forward.

Here are some examples of suggestions made so far:

“...strict planning controls - stop ugly new houses.”

“More public housing for young people.”

“Village infrastructure cannot support many more houses and cars...”

“No more housing development please, we want a village not a town...”

“Tanyard is not pretty, couldn’t it be a half hour car park?”

“No more street lights - those of us who watch the night sky suffer.”

“Please, please, please can we have some more street lights...?”

There are many, many comments and much support for working at making our village an even better place to live.

All of the Village Plan volunteers have worked hard to get this far and to provide everyone with as much information as possible. The full Village Plan, which will be adopted by Caradon District Council as part of its policy, will be available to view at the Clerk’s office in the Village Hall and copies can be requested. It is also likely to be available on line through Caradon’s website: www.caradon.gov.uk

As residents of Millbrook Parish we have had our say about which issues affect us the most. No-one can promise that all issues can be dealt with either quickly or perfectly, but let’s look forward to working together to make things happen for everyone’s benefit.

To get involved, contact the Village Plan Steering Group with your suggestions or to help with projects. Ring 01752 823128 and speak to the Parish Clerk or leave a message.

The “Top Twenty” most important issues in order of priority, as voted by Millbrook residents, are:

1. Improving the lake area.
2. Millbrook’s Cornish identity.
3. Traffic calming.
4. Improving youth facilities.
5. Increasing police presence.
6. Car parking issues.
7. Clean and tidy public areas.
8. Tidal creek protection.
9. Availability of local produce.
10. Recycling issues.
11. Mains gas supply.
12. Access to health services.
13. Improvements to public transport.
14. Provision of clean and adequate public toilets.
15. Provision of a good range of Adult Education opportunities.
16. Forge stronger links between the community and Millbrook School.
17. Work to improve the skate park.
18. Promotion of Millbrook’s history and culture.
19. Ensure a thriving Computer Centre.
20. Housing (see below).



Purely by the number of votes cast, housing issues should be very near the top of the chart - but the nature of the issue means that it is impossible to give it an accurate placing. Of those who voted in this category 116 were in favour of developing more affordable housing, 79 against any development at all and 5 in favour of an open market.

The quotations in this leaflet are genuine comments from residents who attended the Action Day on 13th November 2004. They do not necessarily reflect the views of either the Steering Group or Parish Council. We have tried to show a range of viewpoints throughout.