

# *Swavesey Parish Council*

## **Minutes**

Parish Council Meeting, held at The Memorial Hall  
Monday 11 October 2004, 7.30pm

### **A Discussion with Representatives from Marshall Specialist Vehicles, Cambridge on Proposals to relocate to a site near Swavesey**

#### **PRESENT**

Mr M Johnston (Chairman)

Councillors : A Day, J Dodson, J Foster, P Marriott, J Tait

Clerk : Mrs L Miller

Parishioners : 4

Mr J Barker, Company Secretary, Marshall Group of Companies

Mr D Hayman, Associate Director, Green Issues Communications

Mr S Sillery, Partner, Bidwells Property Consultants

#### **APOLOGIES**

Swavesey Parish Councillors: R Owen, J Shepperson, S Rogers, W Wright  
Mr R Marshall, Marshall Group of Companies

#### **AGENDA 2**

##### *Declarations of Interest*

No declarations were made.

#### **AGENDA 3**

##### *Discussion*

The Chairman welcomed Mr Barker, Mr Hayman and Mr Sillery to the meeting. Mr Barker gave apologies from Mr Robert Marshall who was abroad on business and unable to attend the meeting.

Mr Barker gave a background presentation on the Marshall Group of Companies and in particular the Specialist Vehicles Division. Mr Barker explained that the present Marshall site around the Newmarket Road area of Cambridge has been identified as future housing development land and therefore the Marshall Group is investigating possible sites for relocating the business from the Newmarket Road. This meeting is to present to the Parish Council the very early plans to relocate the Specialist Vehicles Manufacturing Division, a paint shop facility and new Training Centre to a site within Swavesey Parish. The land identified is a 25 acre site, alongside the existing Buckingham Business Park. Mr Barker stressed that discussions are still at a very early stage, no land has yet been purchased and no planning application has been submitted. After these first discussions with the Parish Council, Marshalls will then hold discussions with the local Planning Authority, Environment Agency and the Highways Authority, as well as with other neighbouring Parish Councils.

The proposed site would comprise the business park element together with a wide landscaped boundary including a balancing pond and wildlife area. Mr Barker added that Marshalls would wish to ensure the development was well landscaped, they would also look at 'green' travel plans and local employment. If the project went ahead, present proposals would be to have the business

up and running with all employees on site by 2007/2008. The site would employ approx 350 employees.

The Chairman thanked Mr Barker for his presentation and firstly wished to say that Swavesey is presently included in much existing and potential local planning and development issues including: planning issues with G Wimpey UK Ltd following recent residential development, Guided Bus proposals, A14 traffic problems, Ramper Road and A14 related problems, Traffic Calming, Longstanton residential development, Northstowe development, potential Wind Farm, future housing development, to list but a few.

Mr Barker added that Marshalls would look to continuing interest in the local community, the company presently supports and sponsors many community activities and facilities both in Cambridge and local villages and would look to continue this with Swavesey. The Parish Council is welcome to contact Teversham Parish Council to find out their relationship with Marshalls. With regard to A14 improvements and access into a new business development, Marshalls would include consideration for this in any planning proposals.

Mr Sillery invited Parish Councillors to visit the existing Marshall Specialist Vehicles site to see the type of business being carried out and understand more on what facilities would be moved to and provided for at a new site. The Chairman replied that the Parish Council would try to arrange a suitable date to visit – the Clerk to make the arrangements.

Mr Barker outlined why Swavesey has been chosen for possible relocation. 10 sites were initially considered in the M11/A11/A14 areas. The main factors leading to further investigation of the Swavesey site included looking at where existing staff live, transport links and size of plot required.

The proposed Marshall business park would be approximately the same size as the existing Buckingham Business Park. Building heights would be similar to 2-3 storey business units, there would be no aircraft hangers or aircraft on the site.

Other questions raised were:

With regard to the wildlife site, how would neighbouring farmland be protected from rabbits? Mr Barker replied that this would be investigated but certainly fences and protection of some description would be installed.

What timescale is being looked at on progressing plans, etc? Mr Sillery replied that an outline application could be submitted by the end of the year. Detailed plans would then follow on from that if outline permission granted.

The Chairman thanked Mr Barker, Mr Sillery and Mr Hayman for being able to attend the meeting and the Parish Council would await further information.

There being no further business, the meeting was declared closed at 8.20pm.

Signed & dated, Chairman

**Minutes approved & signed as a correct record by the Parish Council on 25 October 2004**