



# Cannington Parish Council

## MINUTES of the Meeting of Cannington Parish Council held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> December 2009, in Cannington Village Hall

### MINUTES

#### Present:

Cllr's. C. Allen, R. Allen, Mrs S. Allen, Andison, Child, Davey, Greenslade, Mrs. L. Laird, Locke (Chairman), & Sutton

Approximately 55 members of the public were in attendance

The only topic brought to the attention of the Council were concerns at the proposed build at Hinkley Point and the implications of developments caused by this in the village. The concerns were:

1. Cannington will cease to be a "village"
2. Traffic problems on the A39 – It is at present too overcrowded as is on the NDR in Bridgwater. This in turn will create "rat runs" through the villages and lanes
3. The ideal route would be a path north of Bridgwater to the Power station but EDF Energy have ruled it out as being too expensive – but that should not influence Cannington's decision and it should not be their problem
4. EDF Energy are after the cheapest option and will "give" the village "sweeteners" such as Village Halls etc.
5. The residents are being treated like pawns in this "big" game
6. The consultation period is too small a time for residents to gather their thoughts and arguments together and to construct a response suitable to the topic.
7. A member of the public asked if the date could be brought back in order to give the villages more time. It was pointed out that this was a Government initiative/document and therefore the date could not be changed
8. It was asked if the Council had seen the plans before the meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup> November and the Chairman replied that each Member of the Council had received the policy consultation documents on 16<sup>th</sup> November and this had in turn been put on the website that day
9. It was alleged that this was consultation for the sake of consultation and that it was being treated like an exercise and nothing more
10. There was a suggestion that money should be spent on energy efficiency measures on each house in the village
11. There were concerns of possible drainage/flood risks with the proposed building on the south (Can A). The Chairman reported that this had been mentioned to the Environment Agency who in turn stated that they would be consulted if a planning application were to be submitted and act upon it in turn to ensure a safe environment for Cannington
12. Some members of the public thought that the village does not need a village centre and it would be a waste of public money
13. It was pointed out that this (Can A) would be no more than an industrial site and that it should be built on a "brown site" in Bridgwater not in a village "green site"
14. It was made known that there was a to be a public meeting in the Village Hall on the evening of Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December at 6.00pm organised by a member of the public

The Chairman stated that he would move item 16 of the Agenda to item 3 on the Agenda and that the wording stated on the Agenda might not be adhered to but that was up to the Council to decide.

The Open session finished at 7.45

#### **1/12/09 Apologies for Absence**

District Cllr's Dyer and Joslin

#### **2/12/09 Declarations of Members Interests**

Cllr. Child declared an interest on Item 19 as did Cllr. Greenslade who also stated Item 20

#### **16/12/09 Hinkley Point**

Cllr C. Allen gave a brief report as to the current situation at both the power stations at Hinkley Point

The Chairman gave a brief synopsis of the three meetings recently held. The first at Bridgwater College, 27<sup>th</sup> November, the Consultation day with EDF Energy 28<sup>th</sup> November 2009 and lastly the EDF Energy meeting with the Parish Council 1<sup>st</sup> December 2009. Cllr Davey asked if the forthcoming meeting with the College could be put back to 6.30pm in order for him to attend. This was agreed and the Clerk was asked to do this. **Action Clerk**

After discussion it was agreed to formulate a questionnaire to be circulated to all those listed on the Electoral Roll. It was also agreed to hold a Public Meeting in the Main Hall of Bridgwater College's Cannington Centre to declare the results of the questionnaire. This was proposed by Cllr. Sutton and Seconded by Cllr. Davey and carried unanimously. **Action Clerk**

#### **3/12/09 Minutes of the Last Meeting**

The Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2009 in Cannington Village Hall were signed as a correct record

#### **4/12/09 Matters Arising**

The Clerk read letters he had received from Highways, English Heritage and that the contract for the hedge had been awarded.

**5/12/09 Police Matters**

**1. Police report.**

There was no police presence at the meeting due to the Quantock Cluster Group meeting at Over Stowey

**2. Incidents Reported.**

The Chairman read out an incident report he had received from the police in which it was reported that there was three burglaries other than a dwelling; two incidences of causing alarm or harassment; one theft in a dwelling; three incidences of criminal damage/other criminal damage; one theft from a motor vehicle; four thefts (not classified) two incidences of possession of Cannabis

It was reported that the police had arrested three well known suspects while on patrol in the early hours of the morning in Cannington

**3. P.A.C.T.**

Nil

**4. Community Speedwatch.**

Cllr. R. Allen reported that due to the inclement weather there had been no speedwatch during November/December but that it would resume after Christmas

**6/12/09 Highways Matters**

There was general concern about the state of the bus shelter in Brook Street and that the bus shelter in the High Street was not always being locked at night. It was decided that the Clerk would look into both these problem areas. **Action Clerk**

**7/12/09 Parish Footpaths**

Nothing to report

**8/12/09 Jubilee Gardens**

Cllr. Mrs. L. Laird reported that the Council are awaiting permission from SDC to fell the Italian Black poplar tree

**9/12/09 Playing Field**

Cllr. C. Allen reported that thanks to Cllr. Anderson the rubbish at the pavilion had now been removed

**10/12/09 Cemetery**

Cllr. Anderson reported that the disabled access ramp was now completed and that the gate would be re-hung shortly. Also that the lock had been put back on the main gate and that the litter bins are now in place.

**11/12/09 Village Hall/Cannington Village Centre**

Cllr. Greenslade reported that a new committee had been formed

**12/12/09 Parish Community Room**

The Chairman reported that the room is being cleared of the stored items and furniture left there, that a telephone line had been installed, a post box had been sited on the outside wall but there was no electric to the room at the moment. He reported that the Council had made enquiries with EDF Energy, concerning the additional work load put upon the Clerk and Council caused by the build at Hinkley Point and the implications this is having upon the village as to whether they could help financially as they have done with SCC and SDC. EDF have said that they might be able to help but not until after January 17<sup>th</sup> 2010

**13/12/09 Village Brook**

Cllr Davey reported that the brook is flowing freely but it was reported that the weir was becoming blocked. **Action Clerk**

**14/12/09 Allotments**

The Clerk reported that only seven allotment holders had not paid as yet but they have until the end of the month until they are in arrears.

**15/12/09 Cannington Tourism**

Cllr. Mrs. S. Allen reported that a ninth walk had now been published

**17/12/09 The proposed Pharmacy/Village Shop**

Cllr. Anderson reported that the shop had not as yet been sold and had been put back on the market.

*Cllr. Locke declared an interest in the next topic and left the room. Cllr. C. Allen took the Chair*

**18/12/09 Cannington Villagers**

It was agreed to grant a request for £250 towards the cost of Cannington Christmas. Proposed by Cllr. Sutton and seconded by Cllr. Child and carried unanimously. It was noted with thanks that again the College had donated the tree.

*Cllr. Locke returned and re-took the Chair*

*Cllr's. Greenslade and Child declared an interest in the next topic and left the room*

**19/12/09 Appointment of a Nominative Trustee to Cannington Combined Charity**

The Chairman read a letter he had received from the above committee and after a brief discussion it was decided to accept the recommendation made by the Committee. It was proposed by Cllr. Locke and seconded by Cllr. Sutton that Mrs. Janet Jenkins be elected. This was carried unanimously.

*Cllr's. Greenslade and Child returned*

*Cllr. Edney left the meeting & Cllr. Greenslade left the room*

**20/12/09 Planning Matters**

After discussion and viewing of the plans and application it was decided to offer "No Observation" to the planning Application 13/09/00029/STH to build a wind turbine at Hensfield Farm, Park Lane. This was proposed by Cllr. Child, seconded by Cllr. Sutton and carried with one abstention. This was the only planning application this month

Cllr's Mrs. S. Allen and R. Allen left the meeting. Cllr. Greenslade returned

**21/12/09 Financial Matters**

- 1. Payments Due.** – The cheques below were signed, cheque stubs and invoices initialled by Cllr's Mrs. L. Laird and Child. There was also two late cheques signed both payable to Greenslade Grounds Maintenance for work on the Playing Field, Cemetery and Jubilee Gardens for the previous month - £94.30 and £389.23

| Name of Payee   | Description of cheque   | Cheque No. | Amount          |
|---|---|------------|-----------------|
| <b>Additional payments made since the last meeting: -</b> |   |            |                 |
| Cannington P.C.C.   | Section 137 (Church Clock repair)   | 2119       | <b>£ 500.00</b> |
| EDF Energy  | Pavilion electricity  | 2120       | <b>£ 20.14</b>  |
| Cannington P.C.C.   | Handouts re EDF Energy  | 2121       | <b>£ 29.40</b>  |
| <b>The following payments are due: -</b>                  |   |            |                 |
| D. J. Hatherley   | Clerk Salary (November)   | 2122       | <b>£ 616.50</b> |
| D. J. Hatherley   | Clerk Allowances (November)   | 2123       | <b>£ 62.95</b>  |
| D. J. Hatherley   | Clerk's back pay – 9 months @ £6.10   | 2124       | <b>£ 54.90</b>  |
| Bridgwater Electrical Services                            | New shower in Pavilion  | 2125       | <b>£ 245.00</b> |
| D. J. Hatherley   | "Sign of the Times" - Letterbox   | 2126       | <b>£ 91.63</b>  |
| D. J. Hatherley   | Viking Direct - Paper   | 2127       | <b>£ 40.51</b>  |
| A. T. Thorne  | Ramp for cemetery   | 2128       | <b>£ 475.00</b> |
| M. J. Locke   | Christmas lights <a href="http://www.christmastimeuk.com">www.christmastimeuk.com</a> | 2129       | <b>£ 92.54</b>  |
| Wessex Water  | Pavilion  | 2130       | <b>£ 20.26</b>  |

- 2. Monthly Financial Monitor**  
Cllr. Sutton circulated the report

- 3. Precept**  
Cllr. Sutton reminded the Council that the Precept will be set at the next months meeting and asked for expected project and budgets for each department to be with him before the next meeting.

**22/12/09 Documents Received for Councillors' perusal**

The following documents were noted

- ✘ Quantock Hills Joint Advisory Committee – November
- ✘ Quantock Hills "Update" - News for Autumn/Winter 2009
- ✘ Avon & Somerset Police Authority October Newsletter
- ✘ S.C.S.N. (Somerset Community Safety Newsletter) – autumn 2009

**23/12/09 Any items for next months Agenda**

Nil

The meeting concluded at 21.05

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Chairman's signature

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Date