



# Cannington Parish Council

**MINUTES of the Meeting of Cannington Parish Council held on  
Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> January 2009, in Cannington Village Hall**

## **MINUTES**

### **Present:**

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

Three members of the public were in attendance.

*During the Public Session, the following topics were voiced:*

*One member of the public asked if she could help to raise the profile of Cannington Park by creating a website which could also be linked in with the Cannington website. The Council had no objections to this idea.*

*Cllr. Edney asked if the Council would give thought to this year's nomination to the Child of Cannington Award before the Councils AGM. Nominations should be given to Fr. Peter Martin or to himself.*

### **1/01/09 Apologies for Absence**

District Cllr's. Dyer & Joslin

### **2/01/09 Minutes of the Last Meeting**

The minutes of the last meeting held on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> December were signed as being a true record.

### **3/01/09 Matters Arising**

The Clerk read a letter he had received from "First bus" which gave encouragement as to a new bus stop near the Red House. However, "First Bus" would have to consult with County Hall regards the site and any Health and Safety issues.

The Clerk read a letter from the college regarding the lights being left on at the college assault course. The Head of Land Based Studies, Mr. Jeremy Kerswell, asked if he could be kept informed if and when the lights were being left on outside the normal working times. This was agreed.

### **4/01/09 Police Matters**

1. Police report.

There was no police presence at the meeting

2. Incidents Reported.

It was reported that one retailer in the village was broken into during the month.

3. P.A.C.T.

Nothing to report

4. Community Speedwatch.

Cllr. Mrs. S. Allen reported that people undertaking the speedwatch must be properly trained by the police and that a suitable date was being undertaken for this training. It was noted that the Council had been sent a full list of dates of when the S.I.D.s would be in the village

### **5/01/09 Highways Matters**

1. General highway matters

It was noted that the street light in Withiel Drive as well as the one on the lane from Toll House Road to Fore Street was not working and that the Clerk would contact Highways concerning this matter as well as the others that have still not been corrected. **Action Clerk**

The Clerk read a letter he had received from Highways concerning the road surface at Sandford Corner and that he had been in contact with them concerning the state of the road surface on the south roundabout and broken posts at Southbrook on the island.

The Clerk was asked to write to Highways concerning the encroachment of public land from number 20 Brownings Road. **Action Clerk**

One member of the Council was concerned about dog fouling on the newly planted area at the south entrance to the village, The Clerk was asked to contact the Dog Wardens and to look at the cost of placing a dog bin in that vicinity. **Action Clerk**

2. Fly Posting and unauthorised signs.

A letter of protest was read out from twelve retailers in the village who disagreed with the Councils original proposal for unauthorised signs in which they asked for permission to place up to three signs per retailer on the Highways. It was pointed out that the Council could not give permission as it was against the Highway Law to place anything on the Highways. But it was generally felt that their letter was a positive step forward. It was proposed to write to them individually to thank them and to give encouragement for their efforts. **Action Clerk**

### **6/01/09 Emergency Plan**

Dr. D. Temple reported that the data collection had now been completed and that he had been in touch with the college as to the use of the facilities in a case of emergencies and that he was awaiting their response.

**7/01/09 Parish Footpaths**

The Clerk read an email he had received from Mr. Richard Lane the Council's Footpath Officer. In which he stated that 95% of the footpaths were in good condition but he had received some complaints re the stile at BW1 opposite Jubilee Gardens and asked if it could be changed to a kissing gate? The Council noted his letter and that he would make further enquires with Somerset County Council.

**8/01/09 Jubilee Gardens**

Cllr. Mrs. L. Laird reported that the post, upon which the proposed new sign would be fitted, had been inspected when the Christmas lights were going up and it was found to be sound and in a stable condition. She reassured Members re the possibility of squeaking.

**9/01/09 Playing Field**

Cllr. C. Allen reported that he had been promised £250 from Bridgwater Wolves the next Sunday. (18.01.09) Cannington FC will now be playing all their home fixtures at Cannington playing field.

He reported that the pavilion had undergone an annual electrical inspection test and that a safety certificate had been given. It was noted that as from now it is a three year inspection. Added work is needed on door lighting and electrical trips at a cost of £290. The Council agreed for this work to commence.

**10/01/09 Cemetery**

Cllr. Edwards reported that a site meeting had been held today (13.01.09) during which the builder was asked to clear the rubble away and re-soil and turf up to the new path and tidy up the few gravestones that had been moved. The total cost of the work is to be £7570.00. The tarmacadam would be laid on Thursday (15.01.09). A new surface is needed for the path from the entrance up to the new path as the present one is pitted and could pose a safety issue, it was agreed to try and spot fill the defects until funds became available to resurface this area. Cllr. Locke reported that a large trailer had made tracks on the grass on both sides of the path and that Grandfield & Son were the last users of the cemetery. The Clerk reported that he had been in contact with them and they have promised that it should not happen again and apologised.

**11/01/09 Village Hall/Cannington Village Centre**

Cllr. Greenslade reported that the CVC are now a sub-committee within the Village Hall Committee. The ongoing situation regarding the caretaker's house is being monitored.

**12/01/09 Affordable Housing**

Cllr. Child reported that there was nothing to report due to illness.

**13/01/09 Village Brook**

The Clerk read a letter he had received from the Landmark Trust and the Environment Agency concerning ownership of the weir and the cleaning out. The Council decided to monitor the situation but were generally pleased with the progress.

*Cllr. J. Edney left the meeting*

**14/01/09 Allotments**

The Clerk reported that there was only two outstanding rents not paid for this year; one because the tenant wrote the cheque out to the wrong person and the other, the tenant has moved and the Clerk has not got her new address.

**15/01/09 Cannington Tourism**

Cllr. Mrs. S. Allen reported that she is after sponsorship for the new walks leaflets which are due out in two months time.

**16/01/09 Report on Hinkley Point**

Cllr. C. Allen reported that as from 5<sup>th</sup> January British Energy became part of the EDF group.

**17/01/09 Telephone kiosk in the High Street**

Nothing to report

**18/01/09 War Memorial, cemetery and Jubilee Gardens**

This is in the hands of Pardoes solicitors and that registration is progressing.

**19/01/09 Review of Bus Services in West Somerset**

The Clerk read part of a letter explaining the proposed new timetabling for route 14

**20/01/09 East Street parking**

After discussion, during which it was noted that the PSCO's are making regular patrols during the day and that yellow lines where on the corner of Portland Close, it was decided to seek advice from Highways as to parking and access for emergency vehicles. **Action Clerk**

**21/01/09 Bowling Green**

The Clerk re read the letter he had received from Tim Mander at Sedgemoor District Council and discussion took place over the cost, need and local requirements. It was agreed to seek advice from the Highways but a motion proposed by Cllr. C. Allen and seconded by Cllr. W. Sutton and carried unanimously not to carry this project any further unless a solution can be found from Highways that would satisfy all. **Action Clerk**

**22/01/09 "Target"**

The Clerk summarised the article he had written for the next edition of the Target. A grant request for £500 was refused due to financial restraints but will be discussed at the next meeting

**23/01/09**

**Appointment of Nominative Trustees to Cannington Combined Charity**

Cllr's. Greenslade and Child declared an interest and therefore left the room during the forthcoming debate. The Chairman read the letter he had received from Fr. Peter Martin that asked the Council for nominations. Cllr. Locke proposed Alice Greenslade to be a Trustee on this Combined Charity. This was seconded by Cllr. Sutton and carried unanimously. **Action Clerk** to write a letter to Fr P. Martin

**24/01/09 Planning Matters. (Please see Appendix (B))**

Cllr. Child reported that there had been four applications during the past month. He stated concern that planning application 13/08/00035/STH had been started before the application had been approved.

Thanks was voiced to Cllr. Davey for giving up his time to help explain application 13/08/00036/RM. He took no part in the discussion as to the application itself.

**25/01/09 Financial Matters**

**(1) Payments Due.** – The cheques were signed, cheque stubs and invoices initialled by, Cllr's Mrs S. Allen and Child

Name of Payee	Description of cheque	Cheque No.	Amount
<b>Additional payments made during December: -</b>			
Sedgemoor Community Transport	Grant ( <i>Cheque signed by Cllr's Child and C. Allen</i> )	2010	<b>£ 100.00</b>
<b>The following payments are due: -</b>			
D. J. Hatherley	Clerk salary (December)	2011	<b>£ 610.48</b>
D. J. Hatherley	Clerk Allowances (December)	2012	<b>£ 62.33</b>
D. J. Hatherley	Clerk's back pay to October 1 <sup>st</sup> 2007 = three months	2013	<b>£ 597.06</b>
Sedgemoor District Council	Quarterly lease of land at Sharks Lane	2014	<b>£ 65.00</b>
BT	Parish phone, quarterly bill	2015	<b>£ 65.42</b>
Greenslades Grounds Maintenance	Cemetery and Jubilee Garden work for December	2016	<b>£ 299.33</b>
Greenslades Grounds Maintenance	Playing Field work for December	2017	<b>£ 44.85</b>
Pardoes Solicitors	Professional fees in respect of the land registry of War Memorial, Cemetery & Jubilee Gardens	2018	<b>£ 173.75</b>
Bridgwater Electrical Services	Safety checks and new lights and one shower unit in the pavilion	2019	<b>£ 415.00</b>

**(2) Monthly Financial Monitor**  
The monthly statement was circulated at the meeting.

**(3) The appointment of an Internal Auditor**  
It was noted that Mr. Barry Knox has been appointed our Internal Auditor for the next financial year

**(4) Precept to be set for the financial year April 2009/10**  
Cllr. W. Sutton circulated two scenarios of predictions. One giving a figure left by undertaking all the projects on the "list" and one giving none. After discussion it was agreed to keep the precept at the same rate as last year; £20,000. This was proposed by Cllr. Davey, seconded by Cllr. C. Allen and carried unanimously. It was agreed to look at cost cutting measures at the next meeting. Cllr. Greenslade agreed to look at Greenslade Grounds Maintenance budget re the Cemetery and Jubilee Gardens for the next year. It was made clear that if the bill was to increase the Council would have to go out to tender to obtain three quotes.

**26/01/09 Documents Received for Councillors' perusal**  
☆ "THATCH" The Rural Community Magazine for Somerset was taken by Cllr. Laird

**27/01/09 Risk Assessment**  
The Clerk gave a brief "PowerPoint" presentation to explain the new Risk Assessment Sheets.

**28/01/09 Any items for next months Agenda**  
Nil

The meeting closed at 21.43