

**MINUTES of a meeting of Cannington Parish Council held on  
Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> January 2007, in Cannington Village Hall.**

**Present:** Cllr. Locke (Chairman), Cllrs. Allen, Child, Dyer, Edney, Fitzpatrick, Gibson, Lindsay and Sutton and 4 members of the public.

**1/1/07 Apologies for Absence.**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Mrs. Cartwright (leave of absence due to ill health).

**2/1/07 Minutes of the Last Meeting.**

The minutes of the last meeting held on 12 December 2006 in Cannington Village Hall were agreed to be a correct record of the proceedings with the exception of the last sentence of minute 6/12/06(8) which should read 'It was resolved to ask Highways if something, perhaps a no right turn sign from the A39, could be installed at this point'.

**3/1/07 Matters Arising.**

The monthly progress monitor was circulated.

**4/1/07 Police Matters.**

**1. Report of P.C. Foster.**

P.C. Foster was not present. It was agreed to write to Inspector Crocker to re-invite him to a future meeting and express Members disappointment that P.C. Foster has not attended since the November meeting last year. It was also agreed to ask for an update on the position with regard to the recruitment and deployment of PCSOs and whether the clamp down on illegal parking proposed by Inspector hart and P.C.Tully would go ahead. A Member reported that some parking tickets had been issued by P.C. Foster.

**2. Speedwatch.**

Cllr. Allen reported that the Genesis speed detector had been charged and tested and familiarisation was taking place. Speed checks should commence the following week.

**3. Incidents Reported.**

None.

**5/1/07 Planning Matters.**

**1. New Applications.**

APPLICATIONS 13/06/00034 & 35: Refurbishment, improvement of and alterations to Cannington Court, including the replacement of one window with a door, installation of 2 replacement doors in east elevation, demolition of outbuilding and north wing extension for Cannington Centre for land based Studies.

*Support in principal, but concern was raised regarding the lack of additional car parking. Currently the local area suffers from parking problems when College facilities are used for seminars etc. and the increased use of Cannington Court will only add to these unless further parking is provided.*

## **2. Sign, Main Road.**

It was noted that the erection of an unauthorised sign had been investigated and the owner had been asked to remove it by 31 December 2006.

(Cllr Dyer declared an interest in this item and took no part in any discussion).

## **3. Andorra, Withiel Drive.**

The Clerk reported that the planning consent allows the storage of a maximum of 25 caravans at this site. However a Member reported that he had counted 38 caravans on the land. It was resolved to inform the Planning Enforcement Officer of this.

### **6/1/07                      Highways Matters.**

#### **1. Speedvisor.**

It was noted that the Area Traffic Engineer had confirmed that a site adjacent to the Jubilee Gardens would be used for the periodic location of a Speedvisor once the necessary pole has been erected. A summary of the findings will be passed to this Council in due course.

#### **2. Carriageway Markings, Brook Street.**

Members recalled that bollards had been erected in Brook Street opposite the shops to deter pavement parking close to the school entrance and that it was originally intended to install 'zig zag' and 'Keep Clear' markings on the road surface. However after further consideration the Highways Department decided that 'zig zag' markings would hinder shop business. It was noted that the Clerk, following consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman, had written to the Traffic Engineer to express this Council's view that the markings are necessary as a road safety aid bearing in mind the proximity of the school entrance and that child safety must be the priority.

#### **3. Any Other Highways Matters.**

A Member reported that the occupier of 3 Duke Avenue was regularly parking 3 vans on the highway, none of which had road fund licences. It was agreed to pass this information to the Police.

It was reported that some of the street lights around the eastern by-pass roundabout were not working and neither was the new light in Park Lane. The Clerk was asked to report these matters.

### **7/1/07                      Jubilee Gardens.**

Three electricity lines passing over the Gardens are affected by tree growth. Highline Contractors, working for Western Power Distribution, are to cut back the extra growth to protect the cables from damage provided that the Landscape Officer has no objection. It was agreed to accept a quotation from Hi-Line Contractors SW Ltd to crown lift the Manchester poplar on the west side of the Gardens for the sum of £100 plus VAT.

### **8/1/07                      Playing Field.**

A charity football match was played at the Playing Field on New Years Day and the proceeds were donated to the South West Children's Hospice.

**9/1/07 Cemetery.**

The Chairman reported that the Cemetery was in good order but there was bramble and other growth on the yew trees alongside the path. It was resolved to ask Ian Greenslade to trim back any overgrowth.

**10/1/07 Village Hall.**

The Vice Chairman reported that door of the upper kitchen was to be repaired. The Committee was due to meet next week.

**11/1/07 Local Government White Paper – Strong and Prosperous Communities.**

As a result of this White Paper Somerset County Council were proposing a new unitary authority to serve the whole of the existing administrative County of Somerset. However, many parties, including the District Councils and MPs were opposed and Mendip D.C. was suggesting two unitary authorities as a more workable alternative. The County Council were to vote on the proposal on 22 January 2007 and submissions must be made by 25 January 2007. The County Council proposal was likely to cost £20m and must be funded from within the County. External funding and the selling of assets would not be allowed by the Government. The proposal was considered to water down Councillor representation but more duties would be devolved to Parish Councils. Members thought it likely that Parish Councils would become more politicised. It was resolved not to make a collective comment from the Parish Council but that individual members should make their thoughts known individually to the County Council.

**12/1/07 Somerset Association of Local Councils.**

In order to make sure that its thoughts were made known to SALC it was resolved to appoint Cllr. R.M.S. Child as the Council's representative.

**13/1/07 Rights of Way Network.**

The Clerk reported on correspondence from the County Council Rights of Way Team regarding progress with the Rights of Way Improvement Plan. It was agreed to ask Mr. Peter Nurse if he would be prepared to act as the Parish Path Liaison Officer and provide the information requested by the Team.

**14/1/07 Brook Walk.**

It was noted that the periodic Brook Walk was to take place at 9.30am on 16 January 2007. Mr. James Yarham of the Environment Agency would be attending.

**15/1/07 College Liaison Meeting.**

It was noted that the College liaison meeting had been re-scheduled for 4.00pm on 24 January 2007.

**16/1/07 Target.**

Members were reminded that the next edition was shortly to be published. A draft article about the forthcoming election was circulated and agreed.

**17/1/07 Cannington Combined Charities.**

The following were confirmed as the Council's nominated Trustees of the Charities: -

