

**MINUTES of a meeting of Cannington Parish Council held on  
Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> July 2006, in Cannington Village Hall.**

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

District Councillor Joslin and 2 members of the public.

Prior to the commencement of the meeting the Chairman informed Members of the recent death of Mr. Len Oliver, a former Member of this Council. A minute's silence was held as a mark of respect.

**1/7/06 Apologies for Absence.**

An apology for absence was received from Cllr. Mrs. Cartwright.

**2/7/06 Minutes of the Last Meeting.**

The minutes of the last meeting held on 13 June 2006 in Cannington Village Hall were agreed to be a correct record of the proceedings.

**3/7/06 Matters Arising.**

The monthly progress monitor was circulated. It was resolved to write to the Assistant Area Highways Manager to determine when the repairs to the subsided trench in Rodway were to be carried out.

**4/7/06 Police Matters.**

**1. Report of P.C. Tully.**

P.C. Tully was unable to be present.

**2. Illegal Parking.**

The Clerk reported that Inspector Hart had confirmed that he was working with P.C. Tully to devise an action plan to combat illegal parking in Cannington. He is of the opinion that a period of education should be followed by enforcement. Members welcomed the initiative.

**3. Vandalism at St. Mary's Parish Church.**

The Vice Chairman outlined recent cases of vandalism in the Church. As a result the Rector and Churchwardens had taken the decision to lock the Church. All events had been reported to the Police and the anti-social behaviour 'hotline'. A CCTV system was now under active consideration. The Chairman agreed to raise the possibility of linking the system to the College CCTV system.

**4. Community Speedwatch.**

It was agreed to ask P.C. Tully to purchase a 'speed gun' on behalf of the Council at a cost of £710.00 plus VAT.

**5. Annual Duck Race.**

Members and residents were extremely disappointed at the lack of Police support during and after the Annual Duck

Race which took place on Friday 23 June 2006. Over 100 young people came to the village bringing alcohol with them. The result was that residents had to endure a night of drunkenness, shouting and screaming, vomiting in the street, vandalism and general loutish behaviour. Members were told that the Council had written to the Sector Inspector requesting a Police presence as there had been minor problems last year. Members of the PTA Committee rang on the day of the event on two occasions. A WPC who attended a 999 call to deal with a young person who was drunk and had cut his wrists said that she was not aware of the event.

It was resolved to make a formal complaint to the Chief Constable with copies to the Chair of the Police Authority and Ian Liddell-Grainger MP.

## **6. Noise from the Friendly Spirit.**

The Clerk reported on correspondence from the Licencing Manager of Sedgemoor D.C. He is to raise the problems with the Licensees.

### **5/7/06 Planning Matters.**

#### **1. New Applications.**

APPLICATION 13/06/00019:                   Erection of 3 pairs of semi-detached houses, formation of access, turning area and provision of parking spaces and garages on land north of Withiel Drive for Mr. S. Maidment and Mr. A. Buttle.

*Support.*

#### **2. Applications Approved.**

Members noted that the following planning applications had received approval from the Development Control Committee:

13/06/00004.   Barn west of Rodway.                   Retention of agricultural building.  
13/06/00013.   Land west of 28 High Street.           Formation of access and alterations to wall to allow access to new dwelling.

#### **3. Consideration of Planning Applications.**

It was resolved that all planning applications should be considered by at least three Members. As well as those considered at Council this policy would apply to applications requiring a response between meetings.

#### **4. 10a-12 High Street.**

The Clerk updated members on the response to District Councillor Joslin regarding this Council's concerns regarding the lack of a planning application in respect of the extension of these premises and the change of use of the bed-sit room to a kitchen. The letter merely restated the Planning Officer's position outlined in the Clerk's report to the last meeting of this Council in June.

### **6/7/06 Highways Matters.**

#### **1. School Warning Sign, Brook Street.**

The Clerk reported that the Traffic Engineer had reported the corroded column of the sign to the Street Lighting Section.

## **2. Motor Cyclist Warning Signs, Sandford Hill.**

The Clerk reported that the Traffic Engineer had told him that the sign is not DOT approved and therefore cannot be a permanent fixture. It was erected originally in an attempt to cut motor cycle accidents on the A39. Accidents had indeed reduced so that it is proposed to remove it permanently at the end of the summer.

## **3. Pavement Obstructions, High Street.**

The Chairman reported on discussions that he had held with the Assistant Area Highway Service Manager. Mr. Hackling was to write to all businesses reminding them of their legal responsibilities with regard to obstructing the pavements with signs, displays, flower tubs and seats etc. and Councillors resolved to ask him to remove offending obstructions if his requests are ignored.

## **4. Any other Highways Matters.**

The Clerk reported that Sedgemoor was willing to empty a dog waste bin at the junction of Chad's Hill and Park Lane if the Parish Council funded the initial installation costs. It was resolved to go ahead.

Following the complaints of litter in High Street and Rodway the Clerk reported that the Operations manager had arranged for site inspections to be carried out and the problems were to be highlighted on the job tickets so that operatives are fully aware of the problems.

The Assistant Area Highways Service Manager has investigated the problem of blocked road gullies in Rodway. Apparently when 26 Rodway was connected by the College to the foul sewer, about 15 years ago, the highway sewer was damaged. The sewer connection is to be made good later in the year and the highways sewer will be repaired. However a Member reported that other gullies in Rodway were also blocked. The Clerk was asked to bring this fact to the attention of Somerset Highways.

## **7/7/06 Jubilee Gardens.**

It was agreed to allow the use of the Gardens for an open air service by the United Reformed Church on 17 September 2006. ( Cllr. K.W.W. Dyer declared an interest in this item and took no part in the discussion).

## **8/7/06 Playing Field.**

The Chairman reported that the grass on the banks had not been cut for some time and the grass on the playing area had, on occasions been too long. He was to take up the matter at a forthcoming meeting he was to have with the College. Greenslades Grounds Maintenance were to look at renovating the near goalmouth.

## **9/7/06 Cemetery.**

The Chairman reported that the Cemetery was tidy and in good order. The recent instances of flowers being pulled out of vases and scattered about were originally thought to have been the work of vandals. However crows had been observed as the culprits.

## **10/7/06 Village Hall.**

The Vice Chairman reported that the Committee had written to all user groups to remind them of their obligations to leave the hall in a clean and tidy state. Re-decoration work was due to start on 31 July 2006.

## **11/7/06 Reimbursement of Chairman's Expenses.**

It was resolved that, with effect from, 1 May 2006, the Chairman should be re-imbursed the sum of £200 to cover the expenses incurred during each civic year.

**12/7/06 Risk Assessment and Asset Register.**

These documents for the year 2006/7 were adopted, subject to the inclusion of the War Memorial in the Asset Register.

**13/7/06 Target.**

The Chairman told the Council that he was to produce an article for Target about anti- social behaviour and the new reporting hotline run by Sedgemoor D.C.

**14/7/06 Partnerships for Older People Project.**

The Clerk reported that Mrs. Sue Butler of Age Concern has agreed to give a presentation to the Council at its October meeting.

**15/7/06 War Memorial.**

Cllr Child reported that Messrs. Stooks had completed the cleaning and re-cutting work to the War Memorial. Thanks were extended to Cllr. Child for his work in relation to this project.

**16/7/06 Financial Matters.**

**1. Monthly Financial Monitor.**

The monthly monitor was circulated.

**2. Accounts for 2005/6.**

The accounts for 2005/6 were agreed and it was declared that: -

- the accounts have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations and proper practices;
- an adequate system internal control, including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption, has been maintained;
- steps have been to assure ourselves that there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance with laws, regulations and codes of practice which could have a significant financial effect on the ability Council to conduct its business or on its finances.
- proper opportunity has been provided for electors to exercise their rights in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations.
- an assessment of the risks facing the Council has been carried out and taken steps to manage those risks;
- an adequate and effective system of internal audit has been maintained;
- appropriate action has been taken on matters raised in reports from internal and external auditors; and
- consideration has been given to whether any litigation, liabilities or commitments, events or transactions occurring either during or after the year end, have a financial impact on the Council, and where appropriate have included them in the statement of accounts.

**3. Accounts for Payment.**

It was resolved to pay the following outstanding accounts: -

Clerk.	Salary, June 2006.	£373.99
Clerk.	Expenses, June 2006.	£ 58.33
I.D.J. Greenslade.	Path clearance.	£ 85.00
Sedgemoor.D.C.	Playing field lease.	£ 65.00
M. J. Locke.	Chairman's allowance 2004/5 .	£100.00
Flower Show Cttee.	Grant.	£100.00
M. J. Locke.	Chairman's allowance 2005/6.	£100.00
Stooks Memorials.	Cleaning war memorial & re-cutting inscriptions.	£597.00

**17/7/06 Documents Received.**

It was noted that the following document was available for perusal: -

Draft Statement of Gambling Policy

Sedgemoor D.C.

*David Ayres - Clerk to the Parish Council - 20 August 2006.*