

**MINUTES of a meeting of Cannington Parish Council held on
Tuesday, 12th June 2007, in Cannington Village Hall.**

Present: Cllr. Locke (Chairman), Cllrs. Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Laird C. D. Allen, Child, Davey, Edwards, Greenslade and Sutton.

District Councillors Dyer, Edney, Joslin, P.C. Foster and 6 members of the public.

1/6/07 Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. Gibson.

2/6/07 Minutes of the Last Meeting.

The minutes of the last meeting held on 8 May 2007 in Cannington Village Hall were agreed to be a correct record of the proceedings.

3/6/07 Matters Arising.

The monthly financial monitor was circulated.

It was agreed that planning applications would be considered by Cllr Child and 2 Members.

Cllr. Mrs. Allen was nominated as the Council's representative on the Cannington Village Centre Committee.

Cllr. Edney agreed to chase the repair of the broken balustrade rail on the Pack Horse Bridge in Brook Street.

4/6/07 Police Matters.

1. Report of P.C. Foster.

P.C. Foster reported that there had been an increase in distraction burglaries in the Bridgwater area and asked for increased vigilance by the public. The elderly were particularly vulnerable. One resident of Cannington had been robbed twice this year.

Extra staff would be on duty for the Annual Duck Race from 2.00pm until midnight in an effort to prevent a repetition of last year's problems.

He confirmed that Speedwatch 'Tri-signs' were on order and would be distributed when they were to hand.

The Chairman thanked P.C. Foster for his efforts.

2. Community Speedwatch.

The Chairman reported that Cllr. Gibson was willing to continue to organise Speedwatch but had recently been very busy. However he would have more time available from the end of June. He also asked for more volunteers.

3. Incidents Reported.

A burglary at Bowling Green was reported.

4. Duck Race.

The Clerk reported that he had received written confirmation from Inspector Crocker that arrangements for a Police presence at the Duck Race were in hand. Both P.C.s and P.C.S.O.s would be in attendance. Licensed premises were to be reminded of their responsibilities with regard to the sale of alcohol to under age people. The Chairman would be updated on the Police plans for the evening.

5/6/07 **Planning Matters.**

1. New Applications.

It was noted that the following application had been considered by the Planning Committee and its recommendations had been confirmed by the Chairman: -

APPLICATION 13/07/00028/CJM; Erection of a two storey rear extension, partly on the site the existing (to be demolished) and erection of a front porch at 11 High Street for Mr. J. Rayner.

DECISION: No comment.

The following applications had been considered by the Planning Committee and its recommendations were confirmed by the Council: -

APPLICATION 13/07/00026/SJR: Land to the rear of 20 Oak Tree Way to form part of the rear garden for Mr. and Mrs. R. Taylor.

DECISION: Cllr. Child to investigate further as the land is dedicated as part of the public open space set aside as such during the development of the estate.

APPLICATION 13/07/00030/SJR: Erection of a single storey front extension to form porch and cloakroom at 4 Portland Close for Mr. and Mrs. J. Marsh.

DECISION: No comment.

APPLICATION 13/07/0000011/STH: Erection of a replacement dwelling and garage at Heathfield Farm, Fiddington for Mr. and Mrs. D. Buller.

DECISION: Support as the proposal replaces the existing run down structure. It was recommended that a condition be applied to require the existing dwelling to be demolished within 1 month of the new dwelling becoming available for habitation.

APPLICATION 13/07/00031/STH: Erection of a wind turbine at Knap Farm for Mr. C. Day.

DECISION: Referred to Planning Committee for consideration.

2. Consent to Carry Out Works to Trees.

Members noted that consent had been given application 13/07/00023 to reduce one lower limb of oak tree T7 overhanging the garden of 22 Oak Tree Way back to the main stem and to reduce by 2-3m branches of oak tree T8 also overhanging the garden of 22 Oak Tree Way and remove one lower limb back to the main stem.

3. Buildings of Local Interest.

It was noted that Sedgemoor D.C. considering adopting a list of 'Buildings of Local Interest' and asked for assistance in compiling a draft list. It asked for details of any unlisted building dating from before 1700 which are in anything like their original condition and for buildings from the period 1700 to 1840 that survive much in their original condition. Members agreed to consider the matter and notify the Clerk of any such properties so that he could inform the Conservation Officer.

4. Animal Centre, Cannington Centre for Land Based Studies.

The Clerk outlined details of complaints to the Planning Department from residents of Folly Close regarding the level and finish of the new car park and the landscaping of the new Animal Centre.

5. Swang Farm, Cannington.

It was noted that Cannington Cold Store Ltd proposes to install a biogas electricity generation plant and a refrigeration building at its premises at Swang Farm. Cllr. Child reported that he had attended a pre-application consultation meeting in Spaxton as the premises lie within the area of that Parish. The nearest dwellings, however, are in Cannington.

6. Any Other Planning Matters.

A Member asked for details of planning position regarding the developments at Grange Lodge which had taken place over the past year or so.

6/6/07 Highways Matters.

1. Road Closure, Brook Street.

The Council noted that permission had been granted for the Cannington School P.T.A. to temporarily close part of Brook Street for the Duck Race on 22 June 2007 as had been the case in previous years.

2. Road Closure, Park Lane.

It was also noted that Park Lane was to be closed between Park Farm and the Granary for 5 days commencing 25 June 2007 to allow Western Power Distribution Ltd. to erect poles and re-route the electricity power line. Access to properties would be maintained at all times.

3. A39 Western Roundabout, Cannington By-pass.

The Clerk confirmed the Somerset Highways were to investigate the cracks in the tarmac of the roundabout and notify this Council of the results. A Member reported that a similar situation existed at the eastern roundabout. The Clerk agreed to notify Highways.

4. Traffic Calming.

Councillors noted the contents of correspondence with the Area Traffic Engineer regarding traffic calming in Cannington. It was agreed to seek a meeting with him on his return from leave. It was agreed that Cllr. Edney should be invited to attend.

A Member asked when the portable Speedvisor unit would next be located in Cannington. The Clerk was asked to enquire.

7/6/07 Jubilee Gardens.

The Clerk reported that 3 quotations had been received to repair the western boundary wall between the Turnpike Bridge and the entrance to the northern section. It was resolved to accept the quotation of Erwin Rhodes Contracting Ltd. in the sum of £1400 plus £245 VAT, making a total of £1645.

8/6/07 Playing Field.

The Chairman reported that the signs prohibiting dogs on the playing area have been received and will be erected shortly. A meeting of the Playing Committee and user was to be arranged. The grass alongside

the new fence and outside the Pavilion had not been properly cut by Bridgwater College. It was agreed to withhold payment until the mowing was carried out.

9/6/07 Cemetery.

The Chairman reported that after the recent rain the water butt was now full.

10/6/07 Village Hall.

No report.

11/6/07 Cannington Village Centre.

Cllr. Child confirmed that at a meeting on 5 May 2007 a constitution for group was agreed. Cllr. Mrs Allen informed the Council that a questionnaire to all users of the Village Hall had been designed to try to assess the needs of groups in the village. Members of the Group were in the process of visiting halls in the area to get an idea of facilities and methods of management.

12/6/07 Local Government White Paper – Strong and Prosperous Communities.

It was agreed to adopt the revised Code of Conduct for Members including paragraph 12(2).

The Clerk explained that Sedgemoor D.C. were expanding the size of the Standards Committee and wished to include 2 Parish Councillors. It was agreed that Members should notify the Clerk of anyone they wished to nominate.

13/6/07 Litter Bin, Bus Stop, Rodway.

It was agreed to accept the quotation from Sedgemoor District Council for the installation of a litter bin at the bus stop on the east side of Rodway. The Clerk was asked to notify Sedgemoor that a planning permission exists to remove part of the front boundary wall of 2 Rodway.

14/6/07 Application for Licence for Single Event at Horn Hill Farm.

The Chairman outlined the current position with regard to this event. It was his understanding that the application was likely to be withdrawn before the meeting of the Licencing Panel on 15 June 2007.

15/6/07 Affordable Housing.

Following completion of the recent Rural Housing Survey it was decided to set up an Affordable Housing Committee to work with Mr. Duncan Harvey of Sedgemoor and Mr. Karl Hines of Somerset Community Council to progress the matter. Cllrs. Mrs. S. Allen, Mrs. Laird, C. Allen, Child and Davey were appointed as members.

16/6/07 Financial Matters.

1. Monthly Financial Monitor.

The monthly financial monitor was circulated.

Cllr. Sutton advised that the accounts were due at the auditor by the end of June.

2. Payments Due.

It was agreed to make the following payments: -

Clerk	Salary, May 2007.	£373.99
Clerk	Expenses, May 2007.	£ 58.33
M.J. Locke.	Supply & fit chain & padlock to gates at Playing Field.	£ 25.00
Greenslades Grounds Maint.	Grounds maintenance, April 2007.	£391.82
Greenslades Grounds Maint.	Grounds maintenance, May 2007.	£407.09
Wessex Water.	Water rates, Pavilion.	£ 20.20
Mrs. P.M. Locke.	Annual Parish meeting expenses.	£ 51.43

17/6/07 Any Other Previous Matter Previously with the Chairman.

A Member reported that he had received a complaint that silver birches on the highway verge near to 17 and 19 Lonsdale Road had grown very tall and were affecting TV reception. The Clerk is to report the matter to Somerset Highways and Sedgemoor District Council.

The Clerk reported that all allotment rents had now been paid.

The Chairman told the Council that the sum of £750 was available to the Parish Council in the form of a grant from County Councillor J. Edney.

It was noted that a resident had again repainted the interior of the bus shelter in Brook Street and the Chairman had asked the Clerk to pass on the gratitude of this Council to him.

The Council was told that noise from music events in the Friendly Spirit had on occasions been a problem to local residents. The Clerk is to inform the Licencing Officer.

A Member informed the Council that the telephone box in High Street was in a poor condition. Glass was broken and repainting was required. It was agreed to notify BT.

A Member suggested that a group photograph of Councillors published in Target would help residents to recognise their representatives. This was considered to be a good suggestion.

Advertising boards outside commercial premises causing an obstruction were still a problem at times. It was agreed that it may be useful to prepare a code of practice.

David Ayres - Clerk to the Parish Council - 14 June 2007