

**MINUTES of a meeting of Cannington Parish Council held on
Tuesday, 12th December 2006, in Cannington Village Hall.**

Present: Cllr. Locke (Chairman), Cllrs. Allen, Child, Dyer, Edney, Fitzpatrick, Gibson, and Sutton. District Councillor Joslin and 2 members of the public.

1/12/06 Apologies for Absence.

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Mrs. Cartwright and Lindsay.

2/12/06 Minutes of the Last Meeting.

The minutes of the last meeting held on 14 November 2006 in Cannington Village Hall were agreed to be a correct record of the proceedings.

3/12/06 Matters Arising.

The monthly progress monitor was circulated and considered.

A member reported that he had telephoned the Anti-social Behaviour Hotline to notify damage to the High Street telephone kiosk but was told by the SDC Duty Officer that he knew nothing about the hotline.

4/12/06 Police Matters.

1. P. C. Foster's Report.

P.C. Foster was not present.

2. Community Speedwatch.

No report.

3. Incidents reported.

It was noted that a break-in had taken place in High Street and an attempted break-in had occurred in Chads Hill.

5/12/06 Planning Matters.

1. New Applications.

APPLICATION 13/06/00031: Erection of a 2 storey extension to the east elevation on site of conservatory and first floor/part 2 storey extension to north elevation at 46 Rodway for Mr. A.T. Thorne.

It was considered that the proposal was over development of the site and was out of scale with the existing building. The design of the proposed balcony was out of character with the rest of the dwelling and that adjoining.

APPLICATION 13/06/00032: Conversion of storerooms within teaching block to form 3 additional classrooms at Brian Galloway Building, Cannington Centre for Bridgwater College.

Support.

VARIATION OF PERMISSION 1/13/98/020: To allow the continued use of land at Spaxton Road for storage, crushing and recycling of hardcore. (County matter).

No objection subject to a condition requiring that noise from any on operations on site shall be inaudible at the boundary of any habitable dwelling.

VARIATION OF PERMISSION 1/13/98/021: To allow the continued importation of waste for restoration purposes to land at Spaxton Road for a period of 10 years. (County matter).

No objection subject to a condition requiring that noise from any on operations on site shall be inaudible at the boundary of any habitable dwelling.

APPLICATION 1/13/06/033: Restoration plan for lorry loading area, with associated weighbridge, access road and office facilities at Coy Farm, Castle Hill Quarry.

No objection.

APPLICATIONS 13/06/00034 & 35: Refurbishment and alterations including replacement of 1 window with door, installation of 2 replacement doors in east elevation, demolition of outbuilding and north wing extension and internal alterations at Cannington Court for Cannington Centre for Land Based Studies.

It was resolved to consider these applications at a subsequent meeting.

2. West Hinkley Wind Farm.

The Clerk reported that West Somerset D.C. had confirmed that a new application for 9 turbines instead of the original 12 had now been submitted. Following discussions with the Chairman he had written to the Planning Officer to restate this Council's concerns regarding the impact of heavy traffic on residents of Cannington and the difficulties of large plant items negotiating the existing road network. A further letter had been sent to Somerset County Council as Highways Authority regarding proposed alterations to the roads, pavements and roundabouts to enable delivery of this equipment and the resultant road safety implications.

3. Garages.

The Clerk confirmed that he had now heard from the Development Control Manager regarding the possibility of using planning legislation to require residents to use garages and off street parking areas associated with their properties to reduce the parking problem in the Parish. It seems that standards are applied to new developments but these do not require occupants to use those spaces as opposed to parking on street. It is therefore a matter of Police enforcement of relevant parking legislation. The planning system cannot be used to control matters which are the subject of separate legislation.

4. Any Other Planning Matters.

It was the current practice to verbally report any planning applications received after preparation of the agenda to the next meeting so that a response could be given within the 21 days required by the Planning Department. A Member queried the legality of this. The Clerk was asked to seek the advice of SALC.

6/12/06 Highways Matters.

1. Road Gullies, Rodway.

It was noted that the road gullies in Rodway are to be inspected and any found to be blocked will be cleared. The contractors working for the College are due to commence work to the defective sewer connection at 26 Rodway within a few weeks.

2. Road Marking, Gurney Street.

The 'Slow' carriageway marking at the approach to the bend in Gurney Street was indeed replaced in the wrong place. It is to be correctly re-instated.

3. 30mph Speed Limit Sign, Main Road.

The Traffic Engineer has confirmed that the speed limit signs in Main Road near to the roundabout are in fact enforceable but a matching replacement sign is to be erected. This may take up to 3 months.

4. Pre-salting of Roads.

The Clerk outlined the revised County policy for the pre-salting of roads in bad weather. The A39, Main Road, Brook Street, Fore Street, High Street, Rodway and Combwich Road to Hinkley Point would be treated.

5. Sewer Blockage, Main Road.

The Clerk reported that the highway sewer in Main Road near to the junction with Brownings Road was blocked causing storm water to flow along the gutter. Repair work was due to start within 2 weeks.

6. Pavement Obstructions.

Members noted that inspections of advertising signs etc. outside premises in High Street had been carried out but no pavements were obstructed, so no action could be taken. The Assistant Highway Service Manager suggested that this Council, in the first instance, may wish to take up such matters informally with offenders.

7. Speedvisor Sign.

The Speedvisor sign was set up in Brook Street near to the entrance to the College glasshouses because the proposed sites in Rodway and further south in Brook Street were unavailable. The Rodway site was obstructed by roadworks and the mounting pole adjacent to the Jubilee Gardens had not yet been erected. The sign was due to be set up again in Rodway on 18 December 2006.

8. Any Other Highways Matters.

A Member reported that he had witnessed an incident which resulted in an accident near miss in Main Road. A vehicle travelling west attempting to turn right from the A39 Main Road into the Grange turned across the face of east bound traffic the leading car was forced to brake hard to avoid an accident. It was resolved to ask Highways if something, perhaps carriageway lane markings and warning signs could be installed to improve safety at this point.

7/12/06 Jubilee Gardens.

The Chairman reported that the Brook had been dredged and it was coping well following prolonged rain.

8/12/06 Playing Field.

The Clerk reported that he had examined the lease of the Playing Field and no covenant imposed any restrictions on the erection of a fence to prevent dogs gaining access to the playing area. He had written accordingly to the Grants Officer.

9/12/06 Cemetery.

It was noted that the mole treatment had commenced and the ivy had been removed from the Cemetery Lodge.

10/12/06 Village Hall.

The Vice Chairman reported that the Village Hall Committee AGM had taken place on 28 November 2006 and was poorly attended. The Committee had 2 elected Members compared with the Charity Commissioners requirement of 6.

The Committee had invited tenders for re-decoration and proposed to accept the tender in the sum of £3700 from the contractor who had carried out previous decoration work. The Committee proposed to seek grant aid for the work but wanted to book him to carry out the work during school holidays, so asked if the Parish Council would underwrite any shortfall in funding. This was agreed.

11/12/06 Brook Walk.

It was noted that Brook Walk was arranged for 9.30 am on Tuesday 16 January 2007. Mr. James Yarham of the Environment Agency would be in attendance.

12/12/06 College Liaison.

A liaison meeting with the Principal of Bridgwater College was to be held at 2.00pm on Tuesday 9 January 2007 at Cannington College.

13/12/06 Local Government White Paper – Strong and Prosperous Communities.

A NALC briefing paper on the main points of this document was circulated along with information from Somerset County Council, Ian Liddell-Grainger MP. It was resolved to discuss the matter at the next meeting so that the Chairman could fully reflect the Council's views at the special Cluster Group meeting on 11 January 2007 at Enmore.

14/12/06 Financial Matters.

1. Monthly Financial Monitor.

The monthly financial monitor was circulated.

2. Precept 2007/8.

The Clerk reminded Members that the precept for the next financial year has to be set at the January meeting. Members were asked to consider whether any particular projects should be included in the budget.

3. Accounts 2005/6.

The revised accounts for the year 2005/6 were approved.

4. Payments Due.

It was agreed to pay the following outstanding accounts: -

Clerk.	Salary, November 2006.	£373.99
Clerk.	Expenses, November 2006	£ 58.33
Unipar Services.	Genesis Radar Speed Gun Kit	£849.53
Wessex Water.	Water rates, Pavilion.	£ 21.95
A.J. Bullen.	Audit fee.	£298.80
M. J. Locke.	Re-imburement for Christmas lights.	£141.15
Cannington Villagers.	Grant Christmas tree and lights.	£358.85

15/12/06 Documents Received.

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

Thatch.	Somerset Community Council.
Local Development Framework Core Strategy.	Sedgemoor D.C.

David Ayres - Clerk to the Parish Council - 24 December 2006