

**MINUTES of a meeting of Cannington Parish Council held on  
Tuesday, 14<sup>th</sup> March 2006, in Cannington Village Hall.**

**Present:** Cllr. Locke (Chairman), Cllrs. Allen, Child, Edney, Gibson, Lindsay and approximately 45 members of the public.

**1/3/06 Presentation by Messrs. Struck and Rowlands of the Environment Agency.**

Mr. Peter Struck and Mr. John Rowlands outlined the background to the designation of Cannington Brook as a critical ordinary watercourse and its subsequent enmainment and transfer to the Environment Agency. Although the Agency can carry out work to the banks and watercourse the legal responsibility for maintenance still lies with the riparian owners.

Over recent months the section of Cannington Brook between the Creamery and Gurney Manor Mill has been brought up to EA standards. The course has been cleared, growth along the banks cut back, trees and branches likely to impede flow have been removed or cut back as necessary. Finance has been set aside for annual maintenance.

Riparian owners have to obtain permission before carrying out work to the banks or outfalls.

The existing flood relief scheme is not up to the current standards of the Agency but was unlikely to qualify for funding to improve it for some considerable time.

It is proposed to arrange for an annual removal of aquatic weed and the banks to be kept free of excessive growth and trees kept cut back. The main problem seems to be at the flood relief scheme crossing of the A39 near to Grange Lodge. Because of design faults one of the culverts takes most of the flow whilst the other tends to silt up. A team of workmen will check this and other critical points on the system during times of heavy flow. The boards near to the Creamery used to control flow are to be investigated in due course. The present system of moving them manually has health and safety implications.

The study carried out by consultants looked at the history of flooding, hydraulics and dynamics but the proposals which came out of the study do not score enough points to warrant capital works. However the scores by DEFRA change annually so it is possible that at some time in the future Cannington's score may reach the target level.

**2/3/06 Apologies for Absence.**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs. Mrs. Cartwright, Dyer, Fitzpatrick, Sutton and District Councillor Joslin.

**3/3/06 Minutes of the Last Meeting.**

The minutes of the last meeting held on 21 February 2006 in Cannington Village Hall were agreed to be a correct record of the proceedings.

**4/3/06 Matters Arising.**

The monthly progress monitor was circulated

**5/3/06 Police Matters.**

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

P. C. Tully was unable to be present but the Chairman reported that he had met him and been informed that the proposed re-organisation of the police beats had been postponed and was unlikely to take place before 1 April 2007.

## **2. Incidents Reported.**

No incidents had been reported since the last meeting.

## **3. Community Speedwatch.**

Cllr. Gibson reported that the Road Policing Unit was still hoping to arrange a census on Rodway.

### **6/3/06 Planning Matters.**

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

*APPLICATION 13/06/00008: Change of use of ground floor from shop to Chinese restaurant and takeaway for Mr. J. A. Crabtree.*

It was resolved to object to this application on the following grounds: -

- **INADEQUATE CAR PARKING.**

During the evenings and weekends on street car parking in East Street is more than fully occupied by residents living in the area. There is no capacity for additional parking that will be required by customers to these premises.

- **ROAD SAFETY.**

The rear access to the premises for the takeaway is dangerous. Sight lines are completely inadequate for vehicles leaving site and several collisions have occurred. Furthermore it is dangerously close to the sharp bend at the junction of Fore Street, Brook Street and East Street which has very limited visibility for traffic turning right from Brook Street into East Street and has been the scene of accidents over the years.

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

It was noted that the following application has been approved by the Development Control Committee: -

13/05/00036	Land at Manor Farm, Gurney Street.	Change of use and conversion of barn to 2 holiday lettings.
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#### **3. Applications Withdrawn.**

Members noted that the following applications had been withdrawn: -

13/05/0001     Housing development at Withiel Drive (outline).

13/06/0005     Erection of side attached garage, rear conservatory and extension and Formation of vehicular access and parking at 9 Main Road.

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

The Clerk reported that a planning application was submitted in early January for the development but as the plans were inadequate it could not be registered. A Planning Contravention Notice was served on 9 February 2006 requiring the owners to respond in writing to a number of questions within 21 days. Such a notice is normally a prelude to formal enforcement action. As no response has been received follow up action is to be taken.

#### **5. Any Other Planning Matters.**

Cllr. Edney reported that the appeal against refusal of planning permission for the composting plant at Claylands Corner had been upheld on appeal.

It was also noted that waste soil from the construction of the proposed intermediate level waste storage building at Hinkley Point was now likely to be stored on site and not require removal elsewhere for disposal. Negotiations were in their final stages.

#### **7/3/06 Highways Matters.**

##### **1. Temporary Road Closure.**

The Clerk told the Council that he had been informed that the A39 was to be closed at certain locations between Holford and Williton for 6 weeks from 20 March 2006.

##### **2. Any Other Highways Matters.**

The Clerk reported that the Speedvizer the flashing speed signs located in Axbridge, Shipham and Puriton were installed on a temporary basis. Signs in East Huntspill were erected following traffic calming measures and were expected to be removed later.

#### **8/3/06 Jubilee Gardens.**

No report.

#### **9/3/06 Playing Field.**

It was noted that an amenity grant of £2149.77 had been received from Sedgemoor D.C. An insurance claim for the cost of repairs following the burst water pipe has been submitted to the Council's insurer. Complaints of motor vehicles being driven around the car park at high speed had been received from a nearby resident. The Pavilion has been left in good order by the football teams.

#### **10/3/06 Cemetery.**

Councillors noted that a mole catcher has been instructed to deal with the mole infestation.

#### **11/3/06 Village Hall.**

Cllr. Lindsay reported that the boiler and central heating system was now in full working order. He thanked the Council on behalf of the Village Hall Committee for meeting the cost of the repairs.

#### **12/3/06 Parish Plan.**

Cllr. Child reported on a seminar about youth in villages which he had attended. Arranged by Sedgemoor D.C. it dealt with a number of topics including youth shelters and gave an opportunity for networking.

It was agreed that although the need for a Community Centre had been identified by the Parish Plan, groups in the village should be canvassed about their desires for facilities.

**13/3/06 Walking Guide.**

It was resolved to apply to LAMP for a Leader+ grant to assist with the set up costs to set a tourist forum and as a first project to produce a series of leaflets outlining walks in the area.

**14/3/06 War Memorial.**

Cllr Child reported that he was still awaiting the third estimate for the cleaning of the War Memorial and the re-cutting of the inscriptions. He believed that the County Records Office may have records relating to its original erection after the First World War.

**15/3/06 Affordable Housing.**

The Chairman reported that, following the identification of a need for affordable housing in the Parish Plan, he was to meet Mr. Duncan Harvey, the Policy Officer (Strategy and Enabling) of Sedgemoor D. C.

**16/3/06 Review of Tendered Bus Services in Sedgemoor.**

It was noted that the County Council had invited comments on a review of all bus services which receive financial support and that it was proposed to leave the 14 service between Bridgwater and Williton on weekdays and Sundays unchanged.

**17/3/06 Meeting of Somerset County with Town and Parish Councils.**

The Council noted that a meeting between Somerset County Council and Town and Parish Councils was to be held on 5 June 2006 at the Exchange, Bristol Road, Bridgwater. It is intended to hold these meetings every 6 months to give an opportunity for officers and Members of the County Council, local Police Commanders, and District Council representatives to meet Parish Council representatives and discuss matters of mutual interest. The Chairman agreed to attend.

**18/3/06 Financial Matters.**

**1. Financial Monitor.**

The monthly financial monitor was circulated.

**2. Payments.**

It was resolved to make the following payments: -

Clerk.	Salary, February 2006.	£363.31
Clerk.	Back pay, April- January 2005/6.	£223.10
Clerk.	Clerk, expenses February 2006.	£ 58.33
Greenslades G. M.	Grounds maint. & pitch marking Oct. 05.	£321.10
Greenslades G. M.	Grounds maint. & pitch marking Nov. 05.	£366.93

Greenslades G. M.	Grounds maint & pitch marking Dec 05.	£326.77
Greenslades G. M.	Grounds maint. & pitch marking Feb. 06.	£326.77
Quantock Electric.	Repair boiler relay, Village Hall.	£164.35
Somerset Heating	Replace boiler thermostat, reset isolator & Plumbing on Village Hall boiler.	£565.29
I. D. Greenslade.	Clearing School Path.	£ 40.00
Voluntary Car Scheme. Grant.		£ 50.00
Sedgemoor D.C.	Cemetery business rate.	£239.48
Sedgemoor D.C.	Playing field business rate.	£433.00

*David Ayres - Clerk to the Parish Council - 20 March 2006*