



Cannington Parish Council

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held at
7.00pm on Tuesday 10th March 2015 in Cannington Village Hall

MINUTES DRAFT

Present:

Parish Councillors: Mike Phillips, Mrs Lynda Laird, Mrs Sheila Allen, Brian Stother, Alan Beasley, Alan Davey, Lawrence Greenslade and David Greenslade.

Chair: Colin Allen

Sedgemoor District Councillors: Mrs Ann Bown and Ian Dyer

Somerset County Councillor: John Edney

Clerk: Patricia Willis and Tina Gardener

Members of the public: 7

Also in attendance: Frazer Greenshields EDF, PC Rob Jacobs and PC Tony Freeman

Public Session

Frazer Greenshields from EDF gave a report on the progress on the refurbishment of Cannington Court; an interesting construction phase is coming to an end. It is hoped that works will be completed by the end of May or beginning of June 2015 and Cannington Court will be operational by July 2015. When it is running to capacity there will be a maximum of 150 people using the training facility. Parking is a major issue in Cannington and the Court has parking facilities for 42 vehicles of which 5 will be allocated for staff. Where possible people will be bussed onto site. EDF has obtained a premises licence, alcohol will be available only for residents of Cannington Court and there will be no live music after 11.00pm. There will be limited use for non-residents. Bridgwater College will have access up to 25% of the capacity. There will be approximately 40 staff. Fraser apologised for the parking issues in Bowling Green and they have been working with their contractors to minimise disruption.

PC Rob Jacobs and PC Tony Freeman attended the meeting and gave apologies from PCSO Georgina Long. There have been only 2 minor incidents in Cannington in the last month. There have been a number of break-ins to sheds and greenhouses in the area. The public are reminded to be vigilant and report any suspicious behaviour. A member of the public questioned the police on parking issues, the police were unable to answer the question as the Police Crime Commissioner is already dealing with this matter and a report is being prepared.

A member of the public raised concerns about the Parish Council's response to planning application 13/15/00001 regarding the handling of waste.

With agreement from Chairman Colin Allen, Cllr Mrs Lynda Laird read out the following statement;
The persistent questioning of the integrity of me and fellow Councillors is totally uncalled for. We do not only meet to sit around the table once a month. We all have delegated responsibilities as well as overall Parish matters to do deal with which can take up a lot of our time. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman take on a lot more responsibilities than the rest of the Councillors. Our time is both voluntary and valuable particularly for those of us who work full time. We do not hold secret meetings as implied. All Parish matters are reported at Parish Council meetings once placed on the agenda. Otherwise our hands are tied as no matter what decisions we make at Parish Council level, the majority have to be passed either to Sedgemoor District Council or Somerset County Council, everything takes time to be resolved. Finally constant sniping on the social media aggravates matters unnecessarily when it is far better to talk face to face and try to sort out problems or actually attend Parish Council which is the reason why we are elected to represent the whole village.
This statement was reiterated by Cllr Mrs Sheila Allen, Cllrs Mike Phillips, David Greenslade, Alan Beasley and Alan Davey made similar comments. Cllr Brian Stother stated that criticisms made by people should be explained and the reasons for the frustration relates to lack of communication. We should look to how the communication can be improved through the website. Cllr David Greenslade stated that we are under immense pressure and it would be impossible to record every meeting and conversation. A member of the public stated that if people weren't happy then they should stand for election to the Parish Council.

Council Session

01/03/15 Apologies for Absence There were no apologies for absence

02/03/15 Declarations of Members Interests There were no declarations of members' interest

03/03/15 Minutes of Meetings held on 10th February 2015

The minutes of the meeting held on 10th February 2015 were approved with 3 minor amendments.

04/03/15 Matters Arising

1. 04/02/15 Parish notice boards - The revised planning application has now been sent to SDC Planning.
2. 04/02/15 Lengthsman - The Parish Council will need to make a formal application to EDF.
3. 04/02/15 Black Poplar - The felling work on the Black Poplar has now been completed. George Pope and Robin Phipps were thanked for providing photographs of the event.
4. 04/02/15 Website - Cllr Mrs Lynda Laird is progressing with the website and will report back to the next meeting.
5. 04/02/15 Bank repairs, Jubilee Gardens - The grant application has been completed and sent to Viridor Credits. A decision on the grant is expected early May 2015.
6. 04/02/15 Playing Fields - Progress on purchase. The Clerk has sent an offer of £40,000 to Tim Mander SDC on 18th February 2015 and is still awaiting a response.
7. 04/02/15 Rights of Way improvement plan - Cllr Alan Davey has looked at the consultation and forwarded a précis of the plan to all Councillors and no response was required.

05/03/15 Planning matters

New planning applications

1. **13/15/00003/SH** – Erection of a single storey extension with balcony above to north elevation at 46 Rodway Hill, Cannington, TA5 2PJ for Mr A Thorne. After discussion it was proposed by Cllr Mrs Lynda Laird to support the application as there was no visual or environmental impact. This was seconded by Cllr Mrs Sheila Allen and agreed unanimously.
2. **13/15/00006/STP** – Retention of Conservatory to rear (NW) elevation at 14 Teals Acre, Cannington, TA5 2JP for Mrs E Douglas. After discussions Cllr Alan Beasley proposed to support the application providing the neighbour's issue of privacy is addressed. This was seconded by Cllr Alan Davey and agreed by all except Cllr Mrs Lynda Laird who abstained.
3. **13/15/00007/RM** – Retention of overflow parking area at Carpark, Blackmore Farm, Blackmore Lane, Cannington, TA5 2NE for Mr I Dyer. After discussions Cllr Mrs Sarah Jansons proposed to support the application; this was seconded by Cllr Mrs Lynda Laird and agreed unanimously. The Council would recommend that all buses exit Blackmore Lane from the A39 to the west of Cannington towards Minehead.

Planning applications under consideration

1. **13/15/00001/LE**– Change of use, conversion and two storey rear extension of building from ground floor Post Office and related storage area and first floor flat to ground floor restaurant and kitchen and first floor flat and office and staff rest room for use by restaurant staff at Cannington at Cannington Post Office and Stores, High Street, Cannington for the Spice Merchant.

06/03/15 Neighbourhood Plan Update

The NHP Steering Group has refined its Aims and Objectives based on the concerns and feedback from the consultations and the review of the Local Development Framework and Core Strategy;

1. To ensure that Cannington develops at an appropriate rate and scale based on its role and function.
2. To revitalise and enhance existing open spaces and to help facilitate greater public access to the countryside for all.
3. To safeguard the rural characteristics of the approaches to the village.
4. To support the delivery of new housing only at the rate which meets the needs and context of Cannington as a Key Rural Settlement.
5. To strengthen the resilience of the existing transport and utility infrastructure networks.
6. To help sustain and improve village facilities for existing and future residents.
7. To protect existing green spaces, the countryside setting and to support nature conservations.
8. To require all new development to be of the highest design quality and to ensure it respects the existing built form.

The Steering Group are continuing to analyse the consultation data.

07/03/15 Cannington Bypass Update

Currently drain excavation and surfacing is being carried out at the southern end of the bypass. The footpath is still to be completed. There will be no traffic signals at the northern end of the bypass on Rodway until after the B station outage is finished towards the end of April 2015. There will be temporary road closures in Chads Hill and Sandy Lane during the summer.

08/03/15 Flood Alleviation Scheme Update

The planning application for the Flood Alleviation Scheme should be submitted to SDC Planning shortly. The Environment Agency has had a meeting with SCC who are happy with the proposals. Concerns were raised that a local landowner is not being compensated for the loss of land during construction.

09/03/15 Traffic Calming Consultation.

Cllrs Mrs Lynda Laird and Mrs Sheila Allen have produced a report on the Traffic Calming consultations held on 6th and 7th February 2015 which has been circulated to all Councillors. There was one minor amendment relating to Park Lane. The Clerk will put the summary on the notice boards and the full report will be available on the website. Cllrs Mrs Lynda Laird and Mrs Sheila Allen were thanked for all their hard work in producing the report. It was agreed to send a copy of the report to Alyn Jones SDC and Ross Edwards EDF.

10/03/15 Highways and Parking Issues

A request has been made to County Highways for a dropped curb on the pavement at Teals Acre by the junction with Brook Street.

The early morning traffic movements by tankers from Castle Hill Quarry are not included in the operating licence of the quarry.

A loose hydrant cover at the bottom of Rodway near the entrance to Bridgwater College has been reported to Wessex Water. The Anti-Skid surface has now been laid in Fore Street and Brook Street.

A bollard has been replaced in Jubilee Gardens and reflectors have been placed on both sides of the bollards.

11/03/15 Rodway Playing Field Skate-Park

Chairman Colin Allen and Vice-Chairman Mike Phillips met with Scott Mason SDC at the playing fields to discuss the proposed skate park. Concerns were raised about the location and whether it would be used. The land where the Old Scout used to be situated opposite the Cemetery was suggested as an alternative site; this will be investigated. Children and Youths will need to be canvassed.

12/03/15 Financial Matters

1. **Payments Due** – The following cheques were approved for payment

Name of Payee	Description of cheque	Cheque No.	Amount
Additional payments made since the last meeting: -			
Cannington Village Hall	Hire of Parish Community Room (£230.00) and Council monthly meeting (£20.00)	S/O	£250.00
Patricia Willis	Expenses; HMRC for Tax and NI, via on line banking	002909	£224.29

Patricia Willis	February Salary	002910	£306.28
Tina Gardener	February Salary	002911	£553.75
The following payments are due: -			
Tina Gardener	Expenses. Mileage, Stationery, Refreshments.	002912	£68.67
Post Office Ltd	EDF Energy Pavilion playing fields	002913	£61.56
Rodway Fencing Co.	Bollard repairs with new reflectors Jubilee Gardens	002914	£168.00
Pete Thompson	Electric fittings Christmas lights	002915	£23.99
Sedgemoor Tree Services	Felling of the Black Poplar, Jubilee Gardens	002916	£1,020.00
SDC	Lonsdale Road and Gurney Street dog bins emptying	002917	£122.21
CDF	Return balance of NHP grant not used	002918	£124.76
Greenslades Grounds Maintenance	Grounds maintenance contract for February 2015	002919	£914.03

2. **The accounts for February 2015** have been circulated to all Councillors and agreed as a true record.

3. **Flood Alleviation Scheme account** balance is £40,010.51 and details have been circulated to all Councillors.

13/03/15 Posts of Responsibility – reports where applicable

- a. Allotments – Deputy Clerk.
- b. Brook – Cllr A Davey.
- c. Cannington in Bloom – Cllr Mrs L Laird reported that CiB has a busy calendar of events including their AGM on 25th March 2015 at the URC and weedy Wednesdays start back on 6th May 2015.
- d. Cemetery – Cllr A Beasley. Additional hedging along the right hand side front of the Cemetery will be planted in the next few weeks.
- e. College – Cllr Mrs S Allen has suggested to Bridgwater College that some of their students and staff may wish to volunteer to join the Speedwatch team. The Police have been conducting road safety awareness for the students.
- f. Emergency Planning including flooding – Chairman Colin Allen.
- g. Jubilee Gardens – Cllr Mrs L Laird reported that the last Hornbeam has been removed by Mike Cullen and his students from Bridgwater College. The Clerk has sent a letter to Mike Cullen thanking him. Concerns were raised that ivy is growing up the trunk of the Black Poplar and other trees in the Jubilee Gardens. A Mole Catcher has been instructed to alleviate the Jubilee Gardens of moles. The Clerk will chase SCC Bridges Department regarding the bank erosion and the state of the Turnpike Bridge. A Jubilee Gardens Committee needs to be arranged before the end of April 2015.
- h. Playing fields/amenities – Cllr A Davey. The pump repairs in the pavilion are in progress.
- i. Somerset Association of Local Clerks. The Clerk attended the meeting held on 12th February 2015. Among the items discussed were; Local Government finance settlement council tax support and capping, Local Council award scheme, Clerk's training, Transparency Code and elections.
- j. Speedwatch Traffic monitoring – Cllr B Stother reported that there had been 7 speedwatches carried out in February; there were 45 speeders recorded out of 1,698 vehicles. The top speed recorded was 48mph. The protocol for the Speed Indicator Device would be included on the next agenda.
- k. Village Hall – Cllr D Greenslade reported that the application to the CIM fund was still progressing. Rebecca Miller SDC has offered to help with the application and her contact details were given to Cllr D Greenslade.
- l. Youth – Cllr L Greenslade reported that the youth club continues to do well. There were 12 youths attending at the last meeting.

14/03/15 Matters of Report

The Transport Forum meeting was held on 26th February 2015 and attended by Cllr Alan Beasley. The main points to come out of the meeting were; There are a number of road works to junctions in Bridgwater being carried out which could each take up to 6 months to complete, should these be done sequentially or at the same time. Work on the Cannington Park and Ride scheme could start as early as July 2015. The level of HGV movements is likely to remain constant at 180 per day during March and April 2015. There are two new bus routes from West Somerset.

The Hinkley Point SSG meeting was held on 27th February 2015. Vice-Chairman attended the meeting and reported there are proposed changes to the handling of Intermediate Level Waste at Hinkley Point A. Progress is being made with the decontamination of the Fuel Storage Ponds. The test milling of the pond skips from other sites is progressing. The outage on Reactor 4 at Hinkley Point B is continuing to program. The Station Director apologised for the traffic problems in Cannington when the first abnormal load went through the village. There will be a large Emergency Exercise on 9th June 2015 this will involve all agencies up to Central Government.

The Deputy Clerk attended the training session with Sedgemoor District Council on the elections process and declarations of interests. The Parish Council election packs were distributed at the meeting. Nomination papers are available from the Clerk or the Elections Officer at SDC.

Copies of all reports mentioned in the minutes are available for inspection in the Community Room during normal Parish Council opening hours on Monday, Wednesday and Fridays from 10.00am to 12.00pm.

15/03/15 Items for the next meeting

Speed Indicator Devices protocol

Refresher course for the use of the defibrillator at the Annual Parish meeting.

16/03/15 Date and Time of next meeting

The next meeting will be held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 14th April 2015.

The meeting closed at 9.45pm

Signed Date

