



Cannington Parish Council

You are summoned to the Parish Council meeting of Cannington Parish Council at
7.00pm on Tuesday 14th March 2023 in Cannington Village Hall

MINUTES DRAFT

Present:

Parish Councillors: John Addison, Mike Andison, Ian Dyer, Steve Pettitt, Jack Popham, Shaun Ryall, Carol Taylor and Kym Wardhaugh.

Chair: Colin Allen

County and District Councillors: Brian Bolt

Deputy Clerk: Aly Prowse

Members of Public: 3

01/03/23 Declaration of Members' Interests

There were no declarations of members' interests.

Public Session

- Priory Close vehicle parking – issues were raised regarding inconsiderate parking and parking on the grass creating a lot of mud which gets dragged into peoples' houses. The parish council has had a long-standing request with Sedgemoor District Council (SDC) for the redundant garages to be demolished to provide more parking. Cllr Dyer said although focus is currently on transitioning to the Unitary Council, he will make further enquiries to SDC. In addition, the parish council will look at the area to see if there is anything it can do to facilitate an improvement.
- Draft Proposals for changes to the Quantock Coast Benefice and the Quantock Deanery. Rev'd Alison Walters explained that due to financial difficulties post Covid (a £2m deficit) there is a five-year plan to reduce stipendiary clergy from 178 to 150 in each deanery. Briefly, the proposal for this area is that Stogursey and Fiddington will be amalgamated with Alison's current responsibilities of Cannington, Combech and Stockland Bristol. Alison has assured parishioners within these parishes that the plan is feasible and she will make sure there will be no adverse impact to pastoral care and services. We are fortunate that Rev Jan Church will remain as an associate priest. The draft Pastoral Scheme will now run for a 6-week consultation period. If there are no substantial objections, the changes will commence this summer and will be formally in place in the autumn.

Council Session

02/03/23 Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Lisa Evans and District Cllr Mike Caswell.

03/03/23 Minutes of Meeting held on 15th February 2023

The minutes of the meeting held on 15 February 2023 were signed and approved as a true record.

04/03/23 Matters Arising

There were no matters arising from the previous minutes not covered by a separate agenda item.

05/03/23 Planning matters

Planning decided

1. **13/23/00001** – Erection of a single storey extension and dormer window to the South elevation on site of existing (to be demolished) at 4 Teals Acre. **Permission granted**
2. **13/23/00002** – Prior Approval Agricultural to Dwelling. Application to determine if prior approval is required for a proposed: Change of Use of Agricultural Building to 5 dwelling houses and associated works at Chilton Trivett Farm, Blackmore Lane. **Prior approval refused (structural integrity issues).**

06/03/23 Reports (as applicable)

1. Highways and Parking Issues
 - The parish council notified Highways that double yellow lines were incorrectly painted in the High Street layby and requested their removal. Highways acknowledged the error and will correct as soon as possible.
 - Cllrs unanimously supported a proposal to pursue a 20mph speed limit for Cannington. Cllr Bolt suggested liaising with Wembdon parish council who recently received approval for 20mph in Wembdon, also adding it had taken many years to achieve. Aside from the 3 educational establishments in the parish, we will need to ascertain what appropriate justification will be required from Highways.
2. Footpaths
 - Cllr Ryall has raised a defect for re-instatement of the steps and handrail at the footpath from Chads Hill.
 - Cllr Ryall circulated a copy of a draft 'popular walks around Cannington' leaflet featuring 4 walks for Cllrs' consideration. He has obtained a quotation for printing them; 100 copies x 4 walks costing £170 or 200 copies, costing £200. An additional cost may be holders to display them. The Cannington Parish Council website address will be added. Cllrs unanimously agreed to purchase 200 copies of the 4 walks, as proposed by Cllr Dyer and seconded by Cllr Andison.
3. Speed Indicator Device (SID)
 - There are still problems downloading the monitoring data as there is a fault.
 - Cllr Addison asked if in principle the SID could be moved to an alternative location, for example, in the High St between the pedestrian crossing and Chads Hill and Main Rd/Brook St. The SID in its Rodway location is more

or less redundant now. The parish council will contact Highways (the authority to approve positioning of SIDSs) to ask if adding to or relocating the SID is possible.

4. Village maintenance
 - Litter bins for Rodway – we are waiting a response from Clean Surroundings regarding the location of the bins.
5. Police and Crime Commissioner meeting held on 7th March 2023
 - Cllr Andison reported this was a well-attended and useful meeting. He requested better cooperation between the Police and parish council, requesting attendance at the parish council meetings at least 2 or 3 times per year. Some of the key messages included:
 - A 60-page booklet was issued detailing the various crimes and how crime is committed
 - The importance of crime prevention and the need for communities to be vigilant
 - A & S is in the process of recruiting 450 Police Officers that will see its numbers increase to 3285
 - There are 30 active County Lines in Somerset
 - The illicit drug market in the UK is valued at £10b per annum
6. Hinkley Point SSG held on 24th February 2022 – Cllr Allen was unable to attend the meeting. The minutes will be circulated when they are received.
7. Otters Brook trees – Six Alder trees and one Ash tree are to be removed to the ground as they are not in a healthy condition and could be unsafe if they were to come down in bad weather. Cllr Addison advised they will grow again from the base. 3 quotations are to be obtained for this work.

07/03/23 Neighbourhood Plan

The consultant has responded to the latest submission, some amendments were made and returned. The next stage will be to submit the Plan to the new Unitary Council (Planning North) for consideration. When approved, it can then go out to Referendum. The Chair thanked Cllr Taylor for her help with the Plan.

08/03/23 Capital/CIM fund projects

1. Footbridge between Otters Brook and the play area
 - The quotation received from Cockwood Fabrication Limited was unanimously agreed as it was cheaper than the other quotation, plus it is good to support local companies. However, we will need to confirm the tender price as it was only valid for 21 days as at 7.2.23. A Flood Risk Activity Permit (FRAP) will not be required but an exemption certificate will be, which is a far simpler process. This will include the Contractor's name, a plan and a grid reference. An environmental assessment will be required as a part of the FRAP.
2. Pump track
 - The recent survey confirmed the playing fields are badger free.
 - At the meeting with Scott Mason on 6.3.23, he suggested we could create additional parking by removing the grass banks and to relocate the scout hut. A separate access to the pump track could then be achieved within the current footprint, using the existing entrance. Scott advised it unlikely we would obtain planning permission for an additional access. He advised we should not permit parking on the field. A draft plan of the proposal was circulated to Cllrs. Cllrs unanimously agreed we should pursue these proposals as it would be the best outcome all-round as it will create circa 20 additional parking spaces (thus ensuring no parking in the village) the field would not be damaged and the access to the pump track can be easily accommodated.
 - A meeting will be arranged with EDF to discuss the proposals and then a planning application will be prepared.
 - Regarding the scout hut, Cllr Taylor advised there are discussions ongoing trying to establish what assets exist e.g., camping equipment, to hand over to the new leaders.
3. Safety surface in front of Pavilion
 - It was agreed that this would not be pursued for the time being.

09/02/23 Financial Matters

1. **The Payments** - The following cheques were approved for payment:

Name of Payee	Description of cheque	Cheque	Amount
Additional payments made since the last meeting: -:			
Cannington Village Hall	Hire of Parish Community Room (£230.00) and Council monthly meeting (£20.00) March 2023	S/O	£250.00
BT	Phone & broadband services March 2023	DD	£55.25
Heart Internet	Exchange mailbox March 2023	DD	£12.00
Tina Gardener	Clerk's salary for February 2023 incl arrears	Tfer	£1,297.18
Aly Prowse	Clerk's Salary for February 2023 incl arrears	Tfer	£721.63
EDF	Electricity for Rodway Pavilion	Tfer	£1,869.64
Payments for approval:			
Greenslades Grounds Maintenance	Grounds maintenance for February 2023	3931	£1,008.35
Rob the Web Guy	Website hosting and annual maintenance for one year	3932	£440.00

2. **The accounts for February 2023** were previously circulated to all councillors and were agreed as a true record.
3. **The budget statement for February 2023** had previously been circulated to all councillors. The balance at 28 February 2023 was £234859.14 which includes reserves of £219447.87.
4. **A Finance and Staffing Committee meeting** will be arranged as soon as possible to discuss in particular, the rising costs of goods and services together with additional works undertaken that were not previously identified. See also minute 11/03/23 item 3.
5. **Clerks' increment backdated to 1st April 2022.** Councillors unanimously agreed to award both clerks one increment back dated to 1.4.22.
6. **Grant Applications**
 - Cannington Target – the quarterly publication is delivered free of charge to all houses in the parish. Costs are met from advertising. Currently there is a deficit of circa £250 per edition. It was noted that the number of houses has increased significantly as well. The treasurer's view is that to try and increase fees for local advertisers and increase the number of adverts, would have a negative impact on the magazine, hence the grant application of at least £1500. Councillors unanimously agreed to award a grant of £1750

as proposed by Cllr Andison, seconded by Cllr Addison.

- A further grant application is anticipated from Cannington United Reformed Church for IT equipment following some funding received towards the salary of a part time Children, Youth and Families worker.

10/03/23 Review of risk assessments

This is still outstanding. The Chair and Vice-Chair agreed to undertake this before the next meeting.

11/03/23 Correspondence and matters to discuss

1. South West Ambulance contract for defibrillator at Bus Shelter ends on 2nd July 2023
This will be discussed in detail at the April meeting.
2. Concerns raised about the brook being blocked to the north of the old bypass
Cllr Ryall will investigate the issue and report back to Council.
3. Review of temporary office closure
The Deputy Clerk advised this has been working well. The clerks are on top of normal 'day to day' work, plus inroads have been made into additional and longer-term projects. The Chair advised that the existing arrangement will remain in place until the Finance and Staffing Committee meeting has been held. The Chair will visit the office once a week.

12/03/23 Local Community Networks (Unitary Council)

Dist. Cllr. Bolt advised his meetings' schedule for 2023/24 identified 28 evening meetings per month and foresaw difficulties to fulfil his attendance at the various committees; although he said it will be necessary to let things run for 6 months.

Cllr Bolt left the meeting at 8.35pm

13/03/23 King's Coronation

Cllr Pettitt gave a brief presentation of the plans and schedule for Cannington coordinated by the sub group; fortnightly meetings will be held. Various activities are starting to be booked and confirmed. The event, to be held on Sunday 7 May, will be advertised in the next Target. The sub group particularly requested mementos for school children to commemorate the occasion such as medallions or coins. Following an email from the PTA, it was agreed the parish council will discuss with the PTA if it is interested in providing something along these lines as a joint effort, and/or to ensure no duplication of what each other is doing.

14/03/23 Posts of Responsibility – reports where applicable

- a. Allotments – Deputy Clerk and Cllrs Shaun Ryall and Mike Andison
The allotment management policy will be reviewed. This will include a rent increase and the need to start charging a refundable deposit subject to an allotment being left in a satisfactory condition when a tenant vacates a plot. A quarterly inspection of all allotments will take place in April.
- b. Brook – Cllr Ian Dyer
Brook clearance – Cllr Taylor will be completing a FRAP for this work but it is hoped it can be completed under an exemption certificate. An environmental assessment will be required as a part of the FRAP.
- c. Bus Partnership – Cllr Jack Popham
Since combining with the Transport Forum Cllr Popham cannot attend as he works during the day. We are awaiting a response confirming if the meetings are to continue to be held in the afternoons. Cllr Popham added that the he would like to continue with the Bridgwater focus group as it is of 'local' interest to us, whereas the County group include towns such as Frome which is of little interest.
- d. Cannington in Bloom – Clerk and Cllr Steve Pettitt
Cllr Pettitt has approached Bridgwater Technical College regarding Court Orchard. He hopes to receive a response soon.
- e. Cemetery – Deputy Clerk and Cllrs Ian Dyer and Mike Andison
The costs and charges will form part of the review within the new cemetery procedure due to rising maintenance costs of the cemetery.
- f. College – Chairman Colin Allen.
It is hoped a meeting with the college can be arranged soon. Cllr Taylor requested the Chair raise the vehicle speeds and driving behaviours of some of the students as they approach and drive into the farm at Rodway.
- g. Jubilee Gardens– Cllr John Addison
Noting to report
- h. Playing fields/amenities – Cllrs Lisa Evans and Jack Popham
The Chair is going to review who has access to the pavilion due to the rising cost/usage of electricity, as for example, heating has been left on together with the poor state of cleanliness the building is left in at times.
- i. Village Hall – Cllr Kym Wardhaugh
Cllr Wardhaugh was unable to attend the last meeting. She will forward the minutes when they are issued.
- j. Youth - Cllrs Kym Wardhaugh and Lisa Evans
There was nothing to report

15/03/23 Matters of Report

1. EDF Transport Forum to be held on 16th March 2023
2. Delegation from Holland on HPC visit 20th to 22nd March 2023
3. Nigel Cann, Delivery Director for HPC will be moving to Sizewell C on 1st April 2023. Rob Jordan has taken up the role of Project Construction Director

16/03/23 Items for the next meeting

1. Extend the existing wooden fencing either side of the bridge in Jubilee Gardens as a safety requirement.
2. Apologies for absence were noted from Cllrs Steve Pettitt and Kym Wardhaugh

17/03/23 Date and Time of next meeting

The next meeting will be held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 11th April 2023 in Cannington Village Hall

The meeting closed at 9.20pm

Signed..... Date.....