



# Cannington Parish Council

Annual Parish meeting held at  
**7.00pm on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> August 2022 in Cannington Village Hall**

## **Present:**

Colin Allen, Shaun and Mary Ryall, Gina Bryant, Emma Otley, Trish Meadows, Gary and Sharon Lush, John Addison, Ian Dyer, David Langley, John Edney, Geoff Parle, Brian Bolt, Andrew Vickery, Mick Franks, Mike Andison, Alison Waters, Chris and Nisha Ley, Jon, Maisey and Millie Ley, David and Alice Greenslade, Sara Jones, Hannah Jones, John Harbour, Beverley Hurchfield, Angela Underwood, Carole Taylor, Elizabeth Lewis, Ann Cowling, Kate Slade, Kym Wardhaugh, Steve Pettitt and Tina Gardener

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and said it was probably the best turn out ever. This is the first time we have been able to hold the meeting in this format since 2019. There was no meeting in 2020 (due to Covid) and the meeting held last year was included within the monthly PC meeting.

## **Apologies:**

Apologies were received from; Jean and Colin Fitzpatrick, Betty Edney, Jason Gunningham, Andy Berry, Doreen Bunch, Emily Le Maitre, Lisa Evans, Jack Popham, Stephen Ford, Keith and Diane Coleman, Rob Smith, Yeo Valley, Lynne Fackrell and Mike Caswell.

## **Minutes of the meetings held on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2019 and 9<sup>th</sup> November 2021**

The minutes of the meetings held on 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2019 and 9<sup>th</sup> November 2021 were approved.

## **Colin Allen -Chairman's Report**

**The financial position** of the Parish Council is very healthy. The precept for the Parish has remained the same for ten years, this wouldn't have been possible without the various grants and funds available to us.

### **Elections**

- The Parish Council elections took place in May and 3 of our existing councillors decided not to stand for election. The remaining 7 councillors stood for re-election along with 10 others. It is the first contested election since 2009 and Cannington along with 2 other villages were the only contested ones. It is good for Democracy

### **Highways**

- **Traffic Calming** As previously reported five of the existing speed cushions will be extended across the width of the road and a further two will be constructed.
- **Speed Indicators** It is hoped to have these up and running again shortly.
- **A39 Improvements** Following a spate of accidents near Cannington Enterprise improvements to signage and road layout will be undertaken.
- **Parking** continues to be a problem within the village in particular around the centre of the village. The Parish Council will work closely with Highways, SDC and EDF to try and find ways to alleviate the problems
- **Rodway Junction with Fore Street** A recent accident was reported and a number of near misses. Discussions to take place with Highways to improve the junction if possible.

### **Playing Field**

- We are looking to make better use of this very attractive facility. Villagers have been asked to forward ideas and we are hoping to hold an open day in September.

### **Queens Platinum Jubilee Celebration**

- This was a great success and was very well supported. Thank you to everyone who helped with the organisation and preparations. A number of people have asked for a similar annual event.
- The village was well decorated with bunting and flags and all those who took part in Cannington in Bloom's initiative of a planted tea set. It all brightened up the village.

### **Otters Brook**

- The ground near the brook has been cleared of rubble and brambles and flattened and sown with wildflower seeds, additional seeds will be sown in the autumn.
- It is hoped for a footbridge to be installed giving pedestrian and additional and safe access to the children's play area.

### **Allotments**

- There are only 2 people currently on the waiting list for an allotment
- Additional plots were investigated at Court Orchard. Councillors decided not to pursue this at present on the basis of cost and need.

### **Trees**

- Three alder trees in Jubilee Gardens need to be removed, one is dead and the other two are diseased. Planning permission has been agreed and the contract has been let.
- The Oak tree at the War Memorial needs trimming and again planning permission has been agreed and the contract let.
- Two new trees have been planted in Jubilee Gardens to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee and several trees planted in the cemetery
- The Yew trees in the cemetery need to be reduced in height and width to ensure clear access for pedestrians and vehicles

### **Buses**

- We have a representative on the Somerset Bus Partnership who are trying improve the bus services

### **Planning Issues**

- A new co-op store and 5 dwellings has been granted permission (next to Irvines garage) and building is due to start late summer, early autumn
- Grange Meadows development of 73 homes, including 23 affordable is progressing well, 11 have been sold and the first occupancy will be this month. It is anticipated that building work will be completed in August 2023. Prices range from £180k to £490K. The affordable homes will be handed over to Aster Housing Association when completed.
- Planning permission has been granted for solar panels at Yeo Valley. There was a reduction in the original application to improve the visual impact.

#### **Cannington in Bloom**

- Judging day was on 12<sup>th</sup> July
- The Cannington in Bloom committee, volunteers, businesses and villagers did an excellent job in making the village look great and make everyone proud to live here.
- Here's hoping we get another gold when the judges announce their decision in October.

#### **Christmas**

- Is it too early to mention Christmas?
- A Christmas festive decoration competition is being planned for both houses and businesses. Prizes will be awarded to the winners and judging will take place on 17<sup>th</sup> December

#### **There is lots of other work going on, just to mention a few**

- A new plaque for the war memorial has been ordered. A new home will need to be found for the old one.
- A new flagpole has been erected in Jubilee Gardens and therefore only the Union Flag will be flown at the War Memorial
- A long overdue new notice board has been ordered for the High Street.
- The community payback service work in the village on a Wednesday and you may have seen them in their Hi-Viz jackets. They have been doing great work, weeding, painting and litter picking. We most also thank the band of people who regularly litter pick in the village, it is very much appreciated.
- The Neighbourhood plan has been completed and we are just finishing off the supplementary information before submission to SDC

#### **Thank you**

- As always, a huge thank you to all councillors, old and new, and to the clerks who are always extremely busy

#### **Presentation of the Child of Cannington Award**

Alison Waters presented this year's Child of Cannington Award to David Greenslade. David was a councillor for 12 years who went above and beyond what was expected, always available in an emergency, he was also a scout leader until it folded.

#### **Presentation of prizes for the front garden, hanging baskets, allotments and commercial premises competition**

Steve Pettitt (on behalf of Cannington in Bloom) presented the following prizes.

##### Front Garden Competition

1<sup>st</sup> Prize – 19 Toll House Road, 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize – 7 Rodway, 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize – 18 Folly Close

##### Hanging Baskets Competition

1<sup>st</sup> Prize – Putsom's Cottage, 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize – 30 Oak Tree Way, 4 Conway Road

##### Allotments – Plot 27

##### Commercial Premises – Friendly Spirit

The standards were so high that a number of highly commended certificates were awarded

#### **Reports from village groups**

##### **Alison Waters – St Mary's Church**

Back to full services, including weddings, christenings etc. The Christmas tree festival was very successful and this will be repeated again this year and also considering a flower festival. The church is still without an organist and choir. Major works to the works needs to be undertaken but this will depend on funding. When work was carried out in the 1950's to make it water-tight caused damage to the stonework.

##### **Alison Waters – Cannington Combined Charities**

Over the last year the charity has been very busy giving out grants to help with the cost of hospital stays, grocery bills, fuel bills and school uniforms. Every application is treated with the strictest of confidence. Alison would like to pay tribute to the Village Agents, Jo Pinnel and Sarah Bennett who worked alongside the church and URC to provide help during Covid.

##### **Alison Waters – School Governor**

All activities at the school are back to normal post Covid. The school PTA is back in operation raising funds for the school.

##### **Alison Waters – Youth and Children**

The church will be taking over the babe and tots group from September. With collaboration from other groups the church hope to set up a youth club (it will not be religious) but will be able to use their safe guarding policies etc.

##### **Sara Jones – Cannington Pantomime**

There will be a streamlined pantomime next year. Rehearsals will be reduced to weekly from twice weekly and the performances will be reduced from 5 to 3. Fund raising has been an issue for the last 2 years but going forward it will include bingo, quiz and Christmas grotto weekend.

Sara requested that the Parish Council had a PC representative for all village groups and not just youth. This will be considered by the PC at a future meeting.

##### **Angela Underwood - Brownies**

Angela gave a report on behalf of Lynne Fackrell who was unable to attend. The Brownies have had a very busy summer term taking part in a lot of outdoor activities including using the local park and MUGA, pond dipping in the brook, sandcastle competition at Burnham and kayaking on the canal (made possible with funding from the Flower Show). Said goodbye to a lot of the older girls but have a lot of new members starting in September.

**Angela Underwood – Cannington Bellringers**

Meet regularly on Tuesday evenings for practice, and managed to recruit 3 new members who are progressing well. Continue to ring for significant events including weddings and marriage blessings by prior arrangement. Also ring for certain national events such as platinum jubilee. Also enjoy social events including a trip to Hollywood bowl followed by pizza and a trip to Lundy Island with other bellringers to ring in the church there.

**Gina Bryant United Reformed Church**

The activities are covered by the article in the Target. The minister has recently and the youth worker has moved on. Covid highlighted the lonely and isolated elderly with mobility issues. The lunch club attracts 80 plus people but this is limited by the transport that is available. They are in need of more volunteer drivers. It would be great if a similar scheme to the Otter Wheels volunteer car service in Combech could be set up.

**Kate Slade – Village Hall**

Recently lost Scouts, Kickboxing and Babes and Tots bookings. They still have regular bookings from the Brownies, keep fit, WI, Parish Council and ad hoc party celebrations. Recently had a travelling theatre company perform Black Adder. Need to try and make more people aware the village hall is here for hire. Sara Jones has kindly agreed to be the new chairman. An open day is planned on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2022 from 1pm to 3pm to showcase the hall for user groups, craft businesses etc. The village hall is unique in having a house (recently refurbished for new tenants) which provides rental income and the community room rented by the Parish Council. This provides regular income. Following the current hot weather, a ventilation system will be on the agenda.

**Kate Slade – Cannington Christmas**

During covid it wasn't possible to have the usual stalls and so no income was generated. If it is to continue more volunteers are required to organise the event. There is not enough money to fund the Christmas trees this year. Need to decide if people still want a Christmas Fayre or would they prefer a Carol Service. Consideration to be given at the next Parish Council meeting.

**Shaun Ryall – Target**

The Target is your magazine and contributions are welcome from everyone, including celebrations, awards etc.

**Shaun Ryall – Monthly quiz**

A monthly quiz is held on the last Sunday of the month and proceeds go to village groups.

**Steve Pettitt – Cannington in Bloom (CiB)**

CiB is a small social group who meet regularly for 'Weedy Wednesdays' and 'Sustainable Saturdays'. Fund raising includes buckets of bulbs at Christmas and donations from plant sales and seed swaps. New volunteers have come forward this year to help. Receive great support from Fiona Stanley and Brymore School who make the compost and grow the flowers. Wooden planters have been replaced this year with planters that have water reservoirs. The Parish Council supported us by purchasing 3 of the planters and CiB purchased another 5. The village looked brilliant for judging day and we have to wait until 13<sup>th</sup> October for the results. Thanks go to the Parish Council for their support, Ian Dyer for watering, Greenslades Grounds Maintenance, the Community Payback Service and all the volunteers. Fingers crossed for October!

**John Edney**

It is important that we remember our chairman Clin Allen who has been in the position for over 10 years and is highly regarded. As the village grows with more houses it creates more responsibilities.

As there were no other speakers the Annual Parish meeting concluded and refreshments were enjoyed courtesy of Ian and Ann Dyer, Blackmore Farm.

Meeting closed at 8.05pm.

Signed.....

Dated.....