



# Cannington Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Cannington Parish Council held at  
**7.00pm on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January 2024 in Cannington Village Hall**

## **MINUTES DRAFT**

### **Present:**

**Parish Councillors:** John Addison, Steve Pettitt, Mike Andison, Shaun Ryall, Colin Allen, Carole Taylor and Jack Popham

**Chairman:** Ian Dyer

**County Councillors:** Mike Caswell and Brian Bolt

**Clerk:** Tina Gardener

**Members of Public:** 10

### **01/01/24 Declaration of Members' Interests**

Chairman Ian Dyer declared an interest in agenda item 05/01/24 – planning application 13/23/00033 for Blackmore Farm (family connection)

### **Public Session**

Items discussed included;

- A member of the public commented on the litter in Marsh Lane.
- Once again there were concerns about dog fouling in the village. In particular in Chads Hill and Marsh Lane. An article will be put in the Target and the Dog Warden will be contacted.
- The planning notice for 13/23/00032 was dated 12.01.24
- The Parish Council has contacted a Planning Consultant to assist with our response to planning application 13/23/00032
- At present the closing date for 13/23/00032 is 6<sup>th</sup> February 2024. The Deputy Clerk is trying to get an extension, but not having much luck as no planning officer has been assigned yet.
- A provisional date of 29<sup>th</sup> January 2024 was agreed for an Extraordinary meeting to discuss the planning application

### **Council Session**

#### **02/01/24 Apologies for Absence**

Apologies were received from Cllr Lisa Evans

#### **03/01/24 Minutes of Meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023**

The minutes of the meeting held on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023 were approved.

#### **04/01/24 Matters Arising**

Cannington Christmas

Concerns were raised about the health and safety aspects of putting up and taking down the lights.

- The Risk Assessment will be revisited
- Consideration to be given for some councillors to undergo Chapter 8 training

*Somerset Cllr Brian Bolt left the meeting*

#### **05/01/24 Planning matters**

##### **New planning**

1. **13/23/00024** – Change of use of agricultural land to secure dog walking area, including the erection of 1.8m high perimeter fence, parking and sheltered area at Little Clayhill Farm, Charlynch. After discussions Cllr Steve Pettitt proposed to support this application. This was seconded by Cllr Jack Popham and agreed unanimously
2. **13/23/00029** – Extension of car park and formation of new access tuck for existing pump track at Rodway Playing Fields (amended application). This was deferred for further consideration.
3. **13/23/00031** – Erection of a workshop on existing front driveway and relocating existing parking bays at Duroc Barn, Blackmore Lane. After discussions Cllr Steve Pettitt proposed to support this application. This was seconded by Cllr Carole Taylor and agreed unanimously
4. **13/23/00033** – Change of use of an agricultural building into a commercial unit with E and B8 use at Blackmore Farm. This application was very similar to the previous application and Cllr Steve Pettitt proposed to support this application. The was seconded by Cllr John Addison and agreed unanimously.
5. **13/23/00035** – Fell Toona Sinesis (T1) to 5cm above ground level, located in Walled Gardens. *For information only*  
*Chairman Ian Dyer and Somerset Cllr Brian Bolt returned to the room at 7.30pm*

##### **Planning decided**

1. **13/20/00020** – Demolition of existing garden room, erection of two storey extensions at Woofington House, Blackmore Lane. **Permission granted.**
2. **13/23/00026** – Retrospective application for formation of new access to 35 Rodway. **Permission granted**

#### **06/01/24 Reports (as applicable)**

1. Highways and Parking Issues
  - Straddling's Hill. Cllr Shaun Ryall reported that there was erosion on the sides of the roads due to the large vehicles using this road. There is grass growing in the middle of the road, it is hoped that a local farmer will scrape the road shortly.

2. Footpaths
  - No response has been received regarding the complaint raised re footpath BW 5/25 Hawkers Lane.
  - The hearing to determine the proposed diversion on BW 5/2 is taking place on 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2024
3. Speed Indicator Device
4. Defibrillator
5. Village Maintenance
  - Concerns have been raised that the dog bins may need to be emptied more regularly.
  - It was agreed to advertise for someone to take on the watering contract for 2024/25.
  - Cllr Mike Andison agreed to purchase 10 bags of salt/grip to replenish the grit bins.

#### 07/01/24 Neighbourhood Plan

- A letter has still to be sent to Nick Tait chasing the progress of the Cannington Neighbourhood Plan. The letter will be copied to Duncan Sharkey (Chief Executive of Somerset Council)

#### 08/01/24 Capital/CIM fund projects

1. Footbridge between Otters Brook and the play area
  - Cllr John Addison agreed to take measurements of the footbridge in relation to the proximity of the main road bridge
2. Pump track
  - This is waiting on planning application 13/23/00029

#### 09/01/24 Financial Matters

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

Name of Payee	Description of cheque	Cheque	Amount
<b>Additional payments made since the last meeting: -</b>			
Cannington Village Hall	Hire of Parish Community Room (£230.00) and Council monthly meeting (£20.00) January 2024	S/O	<b>£250.00</b>
Heart Internet	Exchange mailbox January 2024	DD	<b>£12.00</b>
BT	Phone & broadband services January 2024	DD	<b>£61.67</b>
Tina Gardener	Clerk's salary for December	Tfer	<b>£1,165.05</b>
Aly Prowse	Clerk's salary for December	Tfer	<b>£452.07</b>
Triscombe Nurseries	Trees for Cemetery	Tfer	<b>£1284.00</b>
Shaun Ryall	Keys for Pavilion	Tfer	<b>£13.50</b>
EDF	Electricity supply to Jubilee Gardens	Tfer	<b>£82.17</b>
Greenslades	November Grounds Maintenance £1,871.10 and Roundabouts £264.00	Tfer	<b>£2,135.10</b>
HMRC	PAYE	Tfer	<b>£1,121.98</b>
<b>The following payment is due:</b>			
Tina Gardener	Office expenses	Tfer	<b>£21.50</b>

2. **To agree accounts for December 2023** had previously been circulated and were agreed as a true record. The balance at 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 was £384,881.93 including reserves of £343,289.98.
3. **The Budget Statement for December 2023** had previously been circulated to all councillors
4. **The Finance and Staffing meeting** was held on 8<sup>th</sup> January 2024. The Clerk had produced a forecast to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 and produced a draft budget for 2024/25, the budget was increased by £10,000 to allow for any costs that be incurred from services currently being carried out by Somerset Council, which the Parish Council may need to take on. It is anticipated that the Revenue reserves at 31.03.24 would be £20,284.34 and the net budget for 2024/25 would be -£23,446.49. To remedy this it is recommended to transfer the Capital Reserve Balance of £12,568.27 to Revenue Reserves and Increase the Precept by £10,000 to £50,000. This would give a Revenue Reserve of £19,405.18.  
*Post meeting note - a repayment of £6,436.59 VAT due was not taken in to consideration. So, the new Revenue Reserve balance is £25,841.77*
5. **Precept for 2024/25** - After consideration of the above Cllr John Addison proposed to set the Precept at £50,000. This was seconded by Cllr Carole Taylor and agreed unanimously. It was noted that the precept has been at its current levels for 12 years.

*Somerset Cllrs Brian Bolt and Mike Caswell left the meeting*

#### 10/01/24 Correspondence and matters to discuss

1. Somerset Council – Asset and service devolution
  - Grass cutting – It was agreed to go out to tender for all grass cutting (previously the responsibility of Somerset Council)
  - Childrens' play area and Homes in Sedgemoor – It was also agreed to go out for a separate tender for this grass cutting.
2. War Memorial
  - Plaque – Cllr Mike Andison has treated the plaque with a coating.
  - War Memorial cleaning – A quote has been received for £800 plus VAT to steam clean the War Memorial. Cllr Mike Andison proposed to go ahead with this quote. This was seconded by Cllr S Ryall and agreed unanimously.
  - Cllr Colin Allen reported that the Tommie had been broken again.
3. Target submission due
  - Items for the article include; dog fouling, watering contract, precept increase and future vacancy for a Parish Clerk.

4. Henry Rogers Almshouse
  - A letter has been received stating that the Chairman and Clerk both want to retire. We will wait for their next Trustees meeting before any action is considered.
5. Parish Council vacancy
  - Cllr Kym Wardhaugh has resigned from the Parish Council meeting with immediate effect. She was thanked for her service to the Parish Council.
  - The Clerk will contact Somerset Council and display the statutory notice. If no election is requested then it is hoped to co-opt at the next Parish Council meeting.

**11/01/24 Posts of Responsibility** – reports where applicable

- a. Allotments –Deputy Clerk.
  - A contractor has been instructed to remove additional trees on the West and North boundaries.
  - A number of plots have become vacant, fortunately we have a waiting list. Some plots may need additional clearing before they can be relet.
- b. Brook – Cllr Ian Dyer
  - Brook clearance
- c. Bus Partnership – Cllr Jack Popham
- d. Cannington in Bloom – Clerk and Cllr Steve Pettitt
  - Cannington in Bloom have been invited to enter Britain in Bloom
- e. Cemetery – Deputy Clerk and Cllrs Ian Dyer and Mike Andison
  - Tree planting has been carried out by Cllr John Addison and his students.
  - Consideration must be given to getting the weeds removed from the walls and for the walls to be repointed where necessary.
- f. College – Chairman Ian Dyer
  - Work on Court House will commence within 2 years
  - A planning application is imminent for a GPS mast in the compound on the Downs.
  - The College is seeking Parish Council help for Heritage Funding.
  - The Clerk will remind the College that the annual meeting is outstanding,
- g. Jubilee Gardens– Cllr John Addison
  - It was agreed to remove the wooden fence around the Black Poplar
- h. Playing fields/amenities – Cllrs Jack Popham and Lisa Evans
  - There is a leak in the Pavilion roof, Cllr Colin Allen agreed o contact a builder
- i. Village Hall – Cllr Mike Andison
- j. Youth – Cllr Lisa Evans

**12/01/24 Matters of Report**

1. EDF Community Forum meeting to be held on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2024. Cllrs Shaun Ryall and Steve Pettitt will attend.
2. Dowsborough LCN meeting to be held on 31.01.24. Chairman Ian Dyer will attend

**13/01/24 Items for the next meeting**

- Dog bins

**14/01/24 Date and Time of next meeting**

The next Parish Council meeting will be held on 7.00pm on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February 2024 at Cannington URC

The meeting closed at 8.35pm

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