



Cannington Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of Cannington Parish Council held at
7.00pm on Tuesday 12th March 2024 in Cannington Village Hall

MINUTES DRAFT

Present:

Parish Councillors: John Addison, Mike Andison, Shaun Ryall, Colin Allen, Michael Featherstone, Carole Taylor, Steve Pettitt and Jack Popham
Chairman: Ian Dyer
County Councillor: Mike Caswell
Clerk: Tina Gardener
Members of Public: 8

01/03/24 Declaration of Members' Interests

Public Session

Items discussed included:

- A member of the public congratulated Aly Prowse (Deputy Clerk) for the excellent planning response for 13/23/00032 for Brymore Way.
- Pump track – long decisions took place about getting the right type of pump track and to make sure there were elements in it that would satisfy all age groups.

Council Session

02/03/24 Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Lisa Evans and Brian Bolt

03/03/24 Minutes of Meeting held on 12th February 2024

The minutes held on 12th February 2024 were approved

By permission of the Chairman agenda item 07/03/24 2. was brought forward in the agenda, as most members of the public were attending for this item.

07/03/24 Pump track

Lengthy discussions took place regarding this item. There were concerns raised that this was first discussed more than a year ago and progress had been stalled waiting for a planning application to be approved. It was not feasible to have vehicular access to the track and an alternative pedestrian access will now need to be sought. The location of the pump track has moved to the top left corner of the field and can be a maximum of 50m X 30m. Cllr Jack Popham proposed that the 3 previous contractors are approached, with the specifications we want included and with a budget of £150,000. This was seconded by Cllr Mike Andison and agreed unanimously.

04/03/24 Matters Arising

A question was raised why the Neighbourhood plan was no longer an agenda item. This will be included on future agendas. *Post meeting note for clarification. An email was sent to Nick Tait and copied to Duncan Sharkey, Somerset Council on 16th January 2024, raising the Parish Council's concerns that no progress has been made. A response was received on 29th January 2024 from Nick Tait and he apologised for the delay in progressing the SEA Screening Report that is required as part of the submission bundle that will be formally consulted upon. He hopes to be able to progress that and issue for formal consultation to the appropriate bodies shortly and finalise within the next couple of months He will need to provide the consultees with 5 weeks to respond to the draft screening report.*

05/03/24 Planning matters

New planning

There were no new planning items to discuss

13/23/00032 – Brymore Way

There was no progress to report on this application

Planning decided

There were no decisions to report

06/03/24 Reports (as applicable)

1. Highways and Parking Issues
 - Kings Head car park
 - A meeting was held on 14th February 2024 with Duncan Harvey to discuss the garages in Northbrook area.
 - They are considering plans to knock down garages in Grange Close and Priory Close and build affordable homes.
 - The garages in Northbrook are not suitable for houses and would be willing for the Parish Council to knock down 21 garages and use it for parking. There is EDF funding available for this project.
 - The area in front of the garages is in a bad state of repair and the Clerk will ask if any temporary repairs can be carried out as it is a safety issue.

- Footpaths – It was agreed to purchase additional equipment for footpath clearance, estimated costs were £450.
 - Footpath BW5/2 (part diversion) – The Planning Inspectorate has approved the diversion of this footpath.
2. Speed Indicator Device
 3. Defibrillator
 - The defibrillator in Brook Street has been taken on 2 occasions, but wasn't needed to be deployed.
 4. Village Maintenance
 - Dog bins – it has been confirmed that dog mess can be put in to domestic black bins and litter bins.
 - The watering contract will be let to David Howe and will cost £70 per watering
 - Grit bins – The Clerk had contacted the Health Centre and they would be happy for the Parish Council to purchase a bin for their car park. The Clerk will order 5 bins at a cost of £795 plus VAT and Cllr Mike Andison kindly agreed to dispose of the old ones.
 - Purchase of bowser – after discussions Cllr Steve Pettitt proposed we purchase a water bowser at a cost of £4,180.83 plus Vat. This was seconded by Cllr Carole Taylor and agreed by a majority.
 - It was agreed to purchase shrubs for the area by the highway at the bottom of Clifford Park. This will cost approximately £500; this can be funded by the EA Compensation Fund. It was also agreed to replace the wooden fence at the top of Lovers Walk.
 - Cleaning of War Memorial – The quote has been accepted and the Clerk will chase for a start date.
 5. Meeting with Clean Surrounds held on 21st February 2024
 - Cllrs Ian Dyer and John Addison and the Clerk met with Duncan Lane and Scott Mason
 - Grass cutting – It was noted that Clean Surroundings do not have the personnel to carry out all the grass cutting and even if we wanted to pay for extra work, they would not be able to honour it. They were unable to fulfil their obligations last year. They will continue to cut the grass at Schoolfields and Clifford Lodge.
 - Brook Street play area. Due to the ongoing budget issues with Somerset Council, they are looking to off load their liability for maintaining play areas. Ideally, they would like us to take full ownership, but this could come with considerable cost. The inspections alone could cost between £2,000 to £3,000 per annum. Currently they do not have the finances to replace defective items and they would be removed. It was agreed not to pursue this currently, as we would need to look at the future financial implications.
 6. The LCN Highways Working Group meeting was held on 29th February 2024 and attended by Cllr John Addison. It was a useful meeting and a number of Highway representatives were in attendance. The notes of the meeting have been circulated.

Cllr Brian Bolt left the meeting

07/03/24 Capital/CIM fund projects

1. Footbridge between Otters Brook and the play area
2. Pump track – discussed earlier in the meeting.

08/03/24 Financial Matters

1. **The Payments** - The following 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 2024	S/O	£250.00
Heart Internet	Exchange mailbox March 2024	DD	£12.00
BT	Phone & broadband services March 2024	DD	£61.45
Cannington URC	Rent for meeting held on 12/02/24	Tfer	£30.00
Tina Gardener	Clerk's salary for February 2024	Tfer	£1,165.05
Aly Prowse	Clerk's salary for February 2024	Tfer	£452.07
EDF Energy	Electricity supply for Jubilee Gardens	Tfer	£184.43
Harry Brooks	Allotments – remove trees from West and North boundaries	Tfer	£760.00
The following payments are due:			
Greenslades Grounds Maintenance	Grounds maintenance for February £1,559.25 and roundabouts £220	Tfer	£2,135.10
John Addison	Stakes for trees	Tfer	£27.98
Shaun Ryall	Chainsaw safety helmet and oil	Tfer	£40.99
Victim Support	Donation (agreed after minute 09/03/24)	003941	£200.00

2. **The accounts for February 2024** were previously circulated to all councillors and were agreed as a true record. The balance at 29th February 2024 was £381,164.43 including reserves of £343,029.78
3. **The Budget Statement for February 2024** had previously been circulated to all councillors

09/03/24 Correspondence and matters to discuss

1. Somerset Passenger Solutions – request for a memorial bench. It was agreed that a bench could be sited in the brook area, near the existing bench.
2. Somerset Council - Highway Maintenance Devolution. The proposed budget savings will not come into force until 01.04.25. This has been circulated to all councillors.
3. St Margarets Hospice – letter of support for HPC grant funding. The Clerk has written a letter of support.
4. Cannington Yarn Bombers (CYB)– D Day Commemorations. CYB are contributing 2 panels depicting the US 535th camping at Brymore. The panels will be taken to Normandy.
5. South West Heritage has added the site of the old ford in Jubilee Gardens to its Local Heritage List for Somerset
6. Victim Support – A request has been made for a donation. Cllr John Addison proposed a donation of £200. This was seconded by Cllr Steve Pettitt and unanimously agreed.

10/03/24 Posts of Responsibility – reports where applicable

- a. Allotments –Deputy Clerk.
 - The quarterly inspection of the allotments is now due.
 - All tree works to the boundary have now been completed
 - New posts and numbers for the plots are outstanding.
- b. Brook – Cllr Ian Dyer
 - Brook clearance
- c. Bus Partnership – Cllr Jack Popham
- d. Cannington in Bloom – Clerk and Cllr Steve Pettitt
 - CiB has decided to enter Britain in Bloom this year. A community meeting will be arranged at Blackmore Farm to gather ideas and volunteers
 - Some of the containers need replacing and it was agreed for the Parish Council to purchase them and add them to our Asset Register. CiB will be able to make a sizeable donation.
 - Work is required on the roundabouts to remove the brambles
 - Some planting has been undertaken and the summer plants are being grown at Brymore.
- e. Cemetery – Deputy Clerk and Cllrs Ian Dyer and Mike Andison
 - Cemetery walls – quotes are to be obtained for repointing.
 - The walls have been cleared of ivy
 - The Deputy Clerk has produced new procedures for the cemetery, (previously circulated to all councillors) this is to make sure we conform with our legal obligations. New fees were also circulated to all councillors. Cllr Colin Allen proposed to accept both the new procedures and fees. This was seconded by Cllr John Addison and agreed unanimously.
- f. College – Chairman Ian Dyer
 - The planning granted for 2 houses on Rodway will commence shortly.
- g. Jubilee Gardens– Cllr John Addison
 - The height of the hedge under the barrier baskets in Jubilee Gardens has been reduced
- h. Playing fields/amenities – Cllrs Jack Popham and Lisa Evans
 - Fixtures for 2024/25 season. Requests have been received from 2 teams to play on a Sunday. The Clerk will check whether it is morning or afternoon games. If there is a clash the clerk will randomly select a team.
- i. Village Hall – Cllr Mike Andison
 - The next meeting is on 29th March
 - They have just undergone a Community Council audit
- j. Youth – Cllr Mike Andison
 - Cllr Mike Andison kindly volunteered to take over responsibility for Youth
- k. Planning –
 - Cllr Michael Featherstone kindly agreed to join the planning subcommittee.

11/03/24 Matters of Report

- 1. EDF Transport Forum meeting to be held on 14th March 2024
- 2. Dowsborough LCN meeting to be held on 18th March 2024
- 3. Annual meeting with Bridgwater and Taunton College to be held on 17th April 2024

12/03/24 Items for the next meeting

14/03/24 Date and Time of next meeting

The next meeting will be held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 9th April 2024 at Cannington Village Hall

The meeting closed at 8.45pm

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