

AVON DASSETT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held at the Reading Room on Monday 3rd November 2003

Present L. Hope-Frost, D. Brangwyn, K. Martin, A. Fraser, P. Worrall
Cllr C. Williams & Clerk

In Attendance Bob Butler, Rob and Cathy Husband, Margaret Maughan

- 1) Apologies: I. Seccombe
- 2) Declaration of Interest: None
- 3) Confirmation of Minutes: The minutes were proposed as correct by A. Fraser and seconded by D. Brangwyn. The Chairman then signed the minutes.

4) Matters Arising:

- a) Parish Plan – The chairman read a letter from David and Averyl Van Den Elst suggesting that the parish council should act as the representative for the parish plan. However, Cllr Williams advised that funding through the parish plan system was only available if certain procedures were followed. The problem of lack of kerbing was discussed. A. Fraser confirmed that the Highways Department owned the land outside Jane Starkey's house and therefore it was possible to put tubs or stones on the verge to stop cars parking on the grass. A suggestion was made to erect wooden posts along the verge before kerbing could be done. It was agreed to write to Mervyn Hancock at Warwick CC regarding the kerbing problem. It was also agreed to contact Valerie Ingram at Shotteswell to enquire how to obtain a red telephone box.
- b) Playground – It was confirmed that the cost of any repairs undertaken could be recovered under Section 136. Still awaiting a quote from Paul Ferris.
- c) Skateboard Ramp – An idea was put forward that each week the skateboarders could be taken to a park by taxi, the cost of which would be met by the parish council. Then, after a certain length of time to see whether they were still interested. It was agreed to try to organise a weekly visit after Christmas to Lighthorne or Harbury. A. Fraser agreed to speak to a taxi firm in Arlescote.
- d) Sale of Land – No progress, no longer a council matter.

6) Correspondence:

Planning – An application had been received to fell a birch at 2 Lower Terrace. A decision was to be made after a site visit.

Consent had been received for the following:

Hillside Farm, Knights Farm, Meadow Cottage

*Lily Hope-Frost
1st Dec 03*

A quote had been received from Eradicure for £250. However although this was considered reasonable it decided that the council would try to cure the problem themselves. Diaried for spring.

An inspection report had been received from Stratford DC on the playground. A. Fraser agreed to look at the points mentioned.

A letter had been received from BT regarding the pole.

7) Council Report: Please see attached

8) Financial Statement:

Balances as at close of business on Monday 3rd November

Current a/c £ 22.41 credit

Deposit a/c £ 4234.31 credit

Cheques to be issued:

1) Power	£ 38.88
2) M. Harris	£ 65.00
3) A Del Principe	£ 70.00
4) Clement Keys	£ 141.00
5) A. Fraser	£ 25.44

The payment of the cheque was proposed by A. Fraser and seconded by D. Brangwyn.

£8 had been received from Tony Deeming for the hire of the tables from the Reading Room.

The 2002/03 audit had been signed off by Clement Keys.

8) Any Other Business:

- a) The post master had queried why the coffee mornings were not held on a Tuesday. This was idea was considered unsuitable.
- b) The extension at Pippin Cottage was due to be started shortly, so the rubble should soon be moved.
- c) It was agreed to remove they mound round the slide.
- d) It was agreed to ask Mick to clear leaves going up the hill.
- e) A number of people were worried about the nails left in the field after the bonfire. A. Fraser agreed to clear.
- f) L. Hope-Frost asked for someone to receive e-mails from Neighbourhood Watch. P. Worrall volunteered.
- g) The post master had asked whether the council would consider putting a solid door in the Reading Room. The Royal Mail will not pay and the council agreed it was not justified.
- h) The paint on the Farnborough Road should wear away during the winter.
- i) It was noticed that the totem pole was looking rather faded. It was agreed to ask Pete Wallis if he would be prepared to repaint it in the spring.
- j) It was suggested to consider Thelma Watts for designing a xmas card next year.

9) Questions from the Public:

*Lilly hope - not
12 Dec 03*

- 1) Nothing seems to have been done about the dead branches over hanging the path going up the hill. P. Worrall to chase.
- 2) Along the footpath next to Spikes Cottage part of the church wall has collapsed and the drain cover no longer fits properly. Clerk to contact Thames Water.
- 3) The dogs are running around the village.
- 4) Sandbags to be delivered next week.
- 5) Putting stones on the grass verge may only move the problem, with cars parking further down the village. The problem is parking.

Date of Next Meeting as agreed by all councillors

Monday 1st December 2003 @ 7.30pm in the Reading Room

Meeting closed @ 10.00pm

Lily Hope - 1st Dec 03

Avon Dassett Parish Council Meeting 03.11.03.
District Councillor's Report

1. Decriminalisation of parking in Stratford is proceeding with an expected introduction of implementation in September 2004. Investigations have shown that decriminalisation is a major contribution to reducing congestion. In the core centre of Stratford parking will be limited to 20 mins free time and thereafter high charges will be imposed. The object of this exercise is to persuade the long term parker to move to off-street parking which will be a less expensive option. The delivery of goods and the loading and unloading of hotel visitors using coaches will not be allowed between the hours of 10.00 a.m. and 5.00 p.m.
2. The Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, otherwise known as John Prescott, has decreed that in future all local elections and European elections will be by postal ballot. The English tradition of marking a ballot paper with a cross at a Polling Station has now been declared a thing of the past. I personally regret this abandonment of the democratic process.
3. Meetings are to be held on a regional basis to discuss people's preferences for the options to be considered for next year's Council Tax. For example, we currently are contracted to collect refuse sacks from wherever the householder chooses. Should we implement a kerb side collection we could save £250,000 or 8% Council Tax. It is recognised that, for the elderly and infirm, we would still collect the refuse from a convenient location for the household. It is recognised that in Avon Dassett most people leave their refuse on the kerb side. However, in the north of the district this practice is not popular and the collection of the refuse is accordingly lengthy and tedious. It is hoped to hold a public meeting in Southam and it will be advertised for the local people interested in attending.
4. As a result of efficiencies in the refurbishment of Elizabeth House some 10,000 sq.ft of office space will be made available at an economic rent to charities such as Citizens' Advice Bureau; Meals on Wheels Services and Relate. Previously, these charities received significant grants from the District Council supporting their activities. Should the charities take up the offer of subsidised rent the grant support would be discontinued.

CRW
03.11.03.