

AVON DASSETT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held at the Reading Room on Monday 1 June 2009

Present J Burgess; S Richardson; A Rutherford; D Hutt*;
Cllr D Booth*; Cllr C Williams*; Clerk
* arrived late – apologies issued in advance

In Attendance J D Davies; PC Rod Joy**; Section Officer Jacquie Stimson
(Special Constabulary)**; A A Mitchell**; D A Mitchell**;
S Sartori**
** part attendance

1. Apologies: L Hope-Frost

2. Declaration of Interest:
S Richardson declared a prejudicial interest in item 4.k) Clerk's Replacement.

3. Confirmation of Minutes:
The minutes of the previous meeting were approved as correct by A Rutherford and seconded by S Richardson; they were then signed by J Burgess.

4. Matters Arising:

a) Community Policing/Neighbourhood Watch (NW)

The Parish Council urges all residents to report to police all serious incidents and breaches of public order offences that are witnessed in the village. (See item 8.a) below.)

b) Post Card Competition

There were 11 entries to the competition which was judged on 31 May at an exhibition held at St John the Baptist Church. Thanks expressed to Cllr David Booth who presented the prizes and to Jill McLean and Roger Newman for judging the competition. Congratulations to Graham Rice, Sandra Rice, Andy Rutherford, Sarah Rutherford and Sara Lyth who each won a £20 prize. 4 winning photographs will be used as postcards to promote Avon Dasset and a fifth photograph will be used for this year's Christmas card.

c) Traffic and Roads

Traffic – the next scheduled visit by the mobile camera is 21 July 2009.

Roads – requested repairs are still outstanding. No response has been received from County Highways.

d) Drainage Issues

No update on requested works.

e) Playground

Inspection Report: The remaining works to fulfil inspection report obligations will be completed in the near future.

Improvements: Despite further written communication, no response has been received from the land owner regarding the request to extend the lease.

f) Reading Room

Floor: Repairs to the floor will commence on 10 June 2009.

Land Registry: In the absence of necessary documents it was agreed to pursue a claim for possessory freehold. J Burgess committed to supply a copy of the deed of gift to S Richardson in order that the registration can be progressed. **Action: J Burgess/S Richardson.**

Broadband Connection: S Richardson has completed the necessary application to BT.

g) St John's

- Work has commenced to tidy the cemetery. Cllr Williams confirmed that SDC will undertake a further 2 days' work prior to the launch event.
- An exhibition of the photographs for the Post Card competition was held on 31 May 2009.
- Arrangements have been made with the bell-ringers to ring the bells at 6.30 pm on St John the Baptist Day (24 June); the Church will be open to visitors between 6.00 pm and 7.00 pm on that date.
- The Local History Group have arranged for Dr Beat Kümin, from the University of Warwick, to give a public lecture on 'Parish life in early modern England'. This will take place at St John's on 12 July at 6.30 pm (to coincide with Open Gardens day). The post card exhibition will also be displayed at this time.
- It is hoped that a singing group will provide entertainment at the church as part of the 40th anniversary of the Churches Conservation Trust – arrangements to be finalised.
- A Rutherford confirmed that he has approached the householder to offer assistance in removing the stone and slabs from the footpath running alongside the cemetery.

h) Social Housing

A Rutherford confirmed that he had written to the landowner of the remaining potential site; however no response has been received.

i) Parish Plan

Environment/Sustainability: S Richardson has written to the Climate Change Team at WCC to invite them to attend a future meeting. No response has been received.

Village Design Statement: J Burgess reported that the Design Statement Team proposed to organise a drop-in session at the Reading Room in August at which it is hoped to obtain feedback from residents on the proposals put forward in the draft Design Statement. Cllr Williams requested that the draft Statement be forwarded to Karen Johnson (SDC's Planning Conservation team). J Burgess to pass this request to the Design Team. **Action: J Burgess.** The Design Team will present the draft statement at the July Parish Council meeting.

j) Public Realm Grant:

Nature Area: J Burgess issued a plan to John Brown outlining the boundary between County Highways and Knights Farm land; no response received from County Highways.

k) Clerk's Replacement

S Richardson (and J Davies) left the room for this item.

Two candidates have applied for the vacancy. J Burgess and D Hutt to arrange interviews w/c 15 June.

5. Council Report:

The County Council will elect a new leader with executive power; he/she will delegate to other committees/councillors as they see fit.

The District Council held its AGM on 20 May.

Government has indicated that it will reduce the amount of money it gives to the District Council.

The District Council is making preparations for the European Parliament and County Council elections which will take place on 4 June.

6. Correspondence:

Stratford on Avon District Council – one Planning Committee – for a trial period of one year, SDC will operate one Planning Committee (rather than the East and West Area Committees). Stratford District Council and Coventry & Warwickshire Chamber of Commerce Ezine – it was agreed to unsubscribe to this publication. **Action: Clerk.**

Decline of the rural economy – request for information by BBC Radio 2's 'Jeremy Vine Show'.

Planning – no provisional meeting was set for June 2009.

- Ref: 09/00600/LBC – modification of stone mullioned window to form new external door &

construction of new stone steps from terrace to serve the new door at The Old Rectory for Ms L Hope-Frost. Listed Building Consent granted.

- Original Ref: 08/01393/LDE – Planning Inspectorate Ref: APP/J3720/C/09/2100276. Public Inquiry Procedure appeal against enforcement notice made by Caroline Englefield at Post Box Cottage concerning the without planning permission change of use of the Annex to Post Box Cottage. The Parish Council has written to the Planning Inspectorate raising objections to the change of use of the Annex.

7. Financial Statement:

Balances at close of business on Monday 1 June 2009:

Current account	£395.87 credit
Deposit account	£6,130.64 credit

Cheques issued:

a) M Maughan (Clerk's pay & expenses)	£140.94
b) S Harris (Reading Room cleaning)	£10.00
c) M Harris (Mowing)	£98.00
d) J Glover (Mowing)	£120.00
e) Npower (Street light electricity)	£457.45
f) Npower (Street light electricity)	£16.50
g) M Edgington (Plants for village tubs)	£32.99
h) S Richardson (Expenses for Photograph Competition)	£116.19
i) L Hope-Frost (Gift for M Edgington)	£19.96

DD payment of £62.00 for Reading Room electricity made to Npower on the 5th of each month.

Note: A cheque was raised on 18 May 2009 to Zurich Insurance to the value of £625.88; this replaces that listed in the May minutes for £706.08.

The payment of cheques was proposed by A Rutherford and seconded by S Richardson.

8. Any Other Business:

- a) Lengthy discussions took place regarding allegations made about a contractor engaged by the Parish Council. It was agreed to write to the contractor insisting that he provide a written undertaking not to repeat these offences.
Residents are urged to notify the police of incidents of misconduct witnessed in the village.
- b) Andy and Sarah Rutherford wish to donate their prize money from the Post Card competition towards a 'worthy village cause'.
- c) Sandra and Graham Rice plan to produce a section on gardening (with relevance to Avon Dassett) for the website.
- d) J Burgess asked for ideas for inclusion in the planned newsletter.
- e) The Parish Council is asked to provide information for the Village Corner display at this year's Fête. **Action: All.**
- f) J Burgess to form a proposal requesting funding from WCC for a layby at Lower End. **Action: J Burgess.**

9. Questions from the Public: None.

10. Date of Next Meeting:

The next Meeting will be held on Monday 6 July 2009 at 7.30 pm in the Reading Room.

Meeting closed at 9.15 pm.