

AVON DASSETT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held at the Reading Room on Monday 14th April 2003

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

In Attendance Bob Butler, David & Averyl Van Den Elst, Rob Husband and
for part of the meeting Anthony Martin, Scott Mackay & Adam
Englefield.

- 1) Apologies: None
- 2) Declaration of Interest: None
- 3) Confirmation of Minutes: A small adjustment was made to the minutes. P.
Worrall then proposed that the minutes were correct
and was seconded by A. Fraser, they were then signed
by the Chairman.

4) Matters Arising:

Parish Plan – Anthony Martin had obtained over 30 signatories on a petition for a
skateboard ramp for the older children of the village. Cllr Williams advised that
Fenny Compton had received 50% of the cost from Stratford District Council towards
their skateboard equipment. It was decided to obtain more information and then
discuss at the next meeting.

It was decided to prepare a flyer up-dating people on the parish plan, a draft was
passed to D.Brangwyn.

Ditches – A. Fraser had been unable to speak to Nick Wild.

Flowering Tubs - A. Fraser had spoken to Bob Sandland, who was looking into the
problem of public liability.

5) Correspondence:

A tender had been received from Mick Harris for the village mowing and it was
agreed to accept the tender.

Planning - Consent had been received for Mr and Mrs Nugent at Old Farmhouse, Hill
Top Farm for a two storey pitched roof side extension.

6) Financial Statement:

Balances as at close of business on Monday 14th April

*Lucy Hope-Frost
12/5/03*

Current a/c	£	82.66	credit
Deposit a/c	£	452.11	credit

The council discussed the increase on the clerks pay applicable from 1st April 2003. It was agreed an increase of £10 to £70 per month.

Cheques to be issued:

1) A. Del Principe (clerk's pay)	£	70.00
2) Zurich Municipal	£	382.42
3) WALC	£	56.00
4) Npower	£	45.54
5) Stratford District Council	£	182.04
6) L. Hope-Frost (clock)	£	11.98
7) L. Hope-Frost (Best Kept Village)	£	7.50
8) Gardening Club	£	50.00

Payment of the cheques was proposed by K. Martin and seconded by D. Brangwyn.

The clerk was asked to write to Stratford District Council requesting Community Rate Relief on the rates for the Reading Room.

7) Council Report: see attached

8) Any Other Business:

- a) Sandra Rice from the Gardening Club had asked the council if they would be prepared to contribute £50 towards the cost of a large tea urn costing £150. The council agreed and a cheque was prepared.
- b) The Welcome Pack was made available.
- c) The clerk was asked to speak to Warks CC regarding the new streetlight. It was felt the light did not give off an all round light.
- d) P. Worrall had spoken to the culprit responsible for the damage in the bus shelter.
- e) There was no report on the traffic survey.

9) To Receive Questions from the Public:

Bob pointed out that the door to the Reading Room was rotten at the bottom and the wooden box for the fire extinguisher had woodworm. It was agreed to ask Pete Wallis to carry out the required work and invoice the council.

It was asked whether it was possible to have a 20mph speed limit through the village like Fenny Compton. Cllr Williams advised that it was a 5 year trial being under taken in a number of villages.

Date of Next Meeting as agreed by all councillors

Monday 12th May 2003 @ 7.30pm in the Reading Room

Meeting closed @ 9.20pm

*Linda Hope - Ward
12/5/03*

**Avon Dassett Parish Council Meeting 14.04.03.
District Councillor's Report**

1. Plans are well advanced to improve waste recycling. In the course of the next few years every household will be provided with a wheelie bin for the collection of green garden waste. Currently during the summer a lot of garden waste is emptied into the black sack and then sent off for regular disposal. These sacks incur a landfill tax which ultimately costs the ratepayer money. By increasing green waste recycling we will all become more environmentally acceptable.
2. The Council was successful in its bid to conduct the forthcoming elections electronically. Every polling station will be provided with two polling machines. In addition the electorate has the opportunity to vote via the Internet. For many people voting electronically will be easier and more convenient. For some people with disabilities internet voting could provide the first opportunity for them to vote personally. It is hoped that this innovative method of voting might appeal to the younger element of the electorate who in recent years have not exercised their franchise. The total cost of conducting an electronic ballot for SDC is just under £1 million and all of this cost is being met by central government and there will be no cost implication to the ratepayer of SDC. There will be no election for Parish Councillors for Avon Dassett. Previously in the Dassett area results were declared at Southam but this year the correlation of all the electronic results will be made at Stratford. It is expected that the District Council elections should be announced early on the evening of Thursday 1 May.
3. The Council has agreed to oversee the delivery of a training strategy for Parish Councils in Warwickshire. It is recognised that councils require assistance to obtain a nationally customised qualification. This is particularly important where Parish Councils wish to achieve quality parish status. The District Council will promote a culture of training within parish councils. It will explore the possibility of providing grants for clerks of small parish councils to take up training provided by the County Training Partnership. Ultimately, Parish Councils in conjunction with the District Council should be able to provide strong independent and a self-sufficient community.
4. The District Council recently made grants exceeding £130,000 to amongst others, the Citizens Advice Bureau and the WRVS Meals on Wheels Service.