

## AVON DASSETT PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of Meeting held at the Reading Room on Monday 4th August 2003

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

In Attendance Bob Butler, A. Mitchell and A. Brangwyn

- 1) Apologies: K. Martin & Issy Seccombe
- 2) Declaration of Interest: None
- 3) Confirmation of Minutes: A. Fraser proposed that the minutes were correct and was seconded by D. Brangwyn, they were then signed by the Chairman.

4) Matters Arising:

Parish Plan – Awaiting a meeting with Linda Ridgley which will be arranged in September. Sandra Rice had confirmed that a grant for tree planting was no longer available from Warks CC.

Skateboard Ramp – The quote for the ramp had seemed reasonable, except for the cost of the base. Maybe consider rubber matting. As any grant money received would be paid in April, it was agreed to obtain a number of quotes in the autumn ready to start work in the spring, if it was decided to go ahead.

5) Correspondence:

A letter had been received from Warks CC regarding Operation Ragwort. Clerk to report to Warks CC.

Planning- consent had been received for Flat 4, Bitham Hall. The application at 1 Hill View had been refused by Stratford District Council, although a compromise had been reached.

There were two applications for consideration:

- 1) At 4 Hill View, a proposed two storey rear extension with pitched roof and demolition and replacement of garden wall. After a site visit the council confirmed a preference for natural roofing material.
- 2) At Meadow Cottage a) a proposal to carry out repairs to existing dormer window, the council had no representation to make.
  - b) change of use from agricultural into domestic garden. The council supported the change.
  - c) construction of conservatory, garden shed and summer house. The council had no representation to make.

A site visit was made to the property.

*Linda Hope Frost  
11/9/03*

## 6) Financial Statement:

Balances as at close of business on Monday 4th August

Current a/c	£	68.77	credit
Deposit a/c	£	2301.25	credit

Cheques to be issued:

1) A. Del Principe (clerk's pay)	£	70.00
2) Mick Harris	£	65.00
3) Power	£	50.58
4) Kall-Kwik	£	359.17

Payment of the cheques was proposed by A. Fraser and seconded by D. Brangwyn.

## 7) Council Report: see attached

## 8) Any Other Business:

- a) There have been a number of complaints about a new telegraph pole on the B4100 at the cross roads which is obscuring the vision of people driving vans. Clerk to contact Highways Dept.
- b) The ditching along the Farnborough Road had now been completed.
- c) There appeared to be some subsidence outside The Limes. Clerk to report.
- d) Over £60 had been raised from the sale of Xmas cards at the village fete. Cheque to be given to clerk to bank.
- e) The new chairs in the Reading Room were from Deborah's work. Thanks to Paul Ferris and Ali Fraser for transporting them to Avon Dassett.
- f) A vote of thanks was given to A. Fraser for organising such a great fete. It was agreed a letter should be send to the Fete Committee congratulating them on the fete.
- g) The chairman advised that Avon Dassett did not win the Best Kept Village Competition. It was let down by Park Close.
- h) P. Worrall was asked to contact Marstons regarding the dead branches over hanging from Bitham Hall.
- i) The clerk was asked to contact the clerks from Shotteswell, Farnborough and Warmington to ascertain the amount of interest in Broadband.

## 9) To Receive Questions from the Public:

- 1) Sandy Mitchell voiced his reservations about having a skateboard ramp in the playground i.e. noise, language. It was agreed there would be a public meeting before any final decision was made.
- 2) A number of adults had been seen in the playground using the equipment. It was agreed to put notices on the equipment. Agenda point for next meeting.
- 3) It was agreed to provide leaflets detailing the charges for hiring the Reading Room and the tables for Bob to issue when handing over the key. Clerk to deal.

*Jinda Hope, Clerk  
11/09/03*

Date of Next Meeting as agreed by all councillors

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

Meeting closed @ 9.50pm

Linda Hope  
1/09/03

**Avon Dassett Parish Council Meeting 04.08.03.**  
**District Councillor's Report**

1. The District Council is working to set up a call centre type of advice service. Ratepayers will have a free phone number to telephone the Council with their queries. It is anticipated that the majority of responses can be made immediately, e.g. failure to collect refuse; failed lighting; queries about Council Tax etc. Where a more comprehensive response is wanted, the person will be put through immediately to the relevant department. This system has proved successful with other councils and I am sure that the service will be appreciated by all ratepayers.
2. The Council approved the final modifications to the next Local Plan. These modifications were quite minor and now we must wait until December 2003 when an Inspector will consider the various objections that have been made against the proposed Local Plan. These objections centre primarily on potential development in Stratford and, of course, try to get the Inspector to change his mind and allow development in areas other than Stratford. I can confirm that there are no proposals for any significant development within the Dassett Area and it must be remembered that one important aspect of the new Local Plan is the policy COM1 which allows local communities the opportunity to have a say whether or not development should take place within their community. I refer particularly to the allowing of social housing development.
3. With the start of the new council year, it is endeavouring to listen more, and consult, with the general public. A start was made last year with consultation with a wide range of subjects and during September consultation will take place when discussing the budget requirements for next year.
4. Already the council knows that we will have pressures on the council budget. Government requires that councils must improve their recycling performance, provide committees who will consider licensing requirements and lastly there will be a need to radically overhaul social housing. In previous years, the Government provided SDC with at least £2million per year as a contribution to social housing requirements. This grant has now been withdrawn. In addition, we have been told that we must end the practice of accommodating homeless families in bed and breakfast accommodation. In future, ie from January next year, we must provide housing accommodation for families rather than placing them short term in bed and breakfast accommodation. It is worth pointing out that a high proportion of the homeless in our district are not long term residents of the district but migrate towards our district for employment in the hotel and catering industry. There is very little homelessness outside of Stratford but under the new legislation tax payers will have to bear the cost of Government legislation.
5. The council is currently reviewing the role of the Area Planning Committee. As a result of Government guidance for the foreseeable future major development will only take place in and around Stratford. This means that APCs outside of Stratford are only considering minor planning applications, such as house extensions, small scale industrial units and there is a thought that currently the four APCs could be reduced to two committees with one committee considering the major applications for Stratford and elsewhere and the other committee considering the minor applications. It is still in the early stages of discussion but I will keep you informed of developments.