

AVON DASSETT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held at the Reading Room on Monday 6th December 2004.

Present: L. Hope-Frost, D. Brangwyn, A. Fraser
K. Martin, P. Worrall, Mr Williams + Clerk.

In attendance: Bob Butler + Issy Seccombe (part of meeting)

- 1) Apologies: none
- 2) Declaration of Interest: none
- 3) Confirmation of minutes: The minutes were proposed by K. Martin + seconded by D. Brangwyn, they were then signed by the chairman.

4) Matters Arising:

Budget: It was agreed to keep the precept at £5500 for 2005/06. The Precept Request form was signed by the chairman.

Reading Room: The new door had arrived + was waiting for Pete Wallace to fit it.

5) Correspondence:

A letter had been received from Bob + Garry Husband regarding the leaves on the path opposite their house. The letter was read out, + it was noted that Mick Harris had been asked to clear the leaves, but it had not been done. Mr Williams had also asked Stratford DC to clear the leaves. It was agreed that it was a problem + that Mick should be reminded about the leaves.

L. Hope-Frost
10.1.05

The two queries had been received in respect of the repair of the brick wall to the side of the reading room. It was agreed to ask David Finch to do the job, providing he was prepared to put foundations down.

A letter was read out from Keith Bunting, a councillor for Farnborough Parish Council regarding the lack of seat belts on the school buses. Keith was requesting that the four parish councils involved, namely Thur Dasset, Farnborough, Warnington + Shorewell each draw a cheque for £361 to raise the amount saved by Warts CC when issuing the new contract for 2007 to 2008 for running the school bus.

A letter was read out from Wendy Watts in respect of a complaint about the Chairman's actions over the planning application for Singals. The letter asked the Chairman to explain his actions. The Chairman explained that his role had been a friendly gesture in the belief that the family had received the decision of the district council + that his actions had been taken in the wrong way, especially as she was in favour of the garden plan.

Mr Williams advised the meeting that Stratford D.C had already told Mrs Watts that the application had been refused before the note covering the Chairman had been sent, although this was disputed.

2.11.06
10.01.06

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It was felt that the matter had got 'out of hand' + it was decided that A. Fraser should act as a mediator between both parties. L. Hope-Fraser decided to reply to Wendy via A. Fraser.

7) Council Report: see attached.

8) Financial Statement:

Balances as at close of business on
6th December 2004

Current a/c £581.39 credit

Deposit a/c £7373.81 credit

cheques to be issued:

- | | |
|----------------------|---------|
| 1) A Du Principe | £70.00 |
| 2) Wicksteed Leisure | £73.44 |
| 3) L. Hope-Frost | £21.40 |
| 4) Works CC | £361.00 |
| 5) L. Hope-Frost | £8.00. |

An invoice had been received from M. Harris for clearing the path, as the work had not yet been completed, it was agreed to hold the cheque until the leaves had been cleared.

The payment of the cheques was proposed by D. Brangwyn + seconded by K. Martin.

a) Any other Business

c) The budget for the flag was set at £160, Mr Williams suggested that if a plan was drawn up he would approach the Planning Dept to ask if permission was needed.

b) P. Worrell advised that there was a plan to build a cricket pavilion in memory of George Macdonald.

J. Hope-Frost
10.01.05

- c) L. Hope-Frost + D. Bangwyn had sold Xmas Cards in the pub.
- d) L. Hope-Frost advised that Stratford-on-Avon DC had acted promptly to her request to clear the leaves from the church for the service on Sunday 19th December.
- e) To receive questions from the public:
None.

Date of next meeting as agreed by all
Concutor's

Monday 10th January 2005 at 7.30pm
in the Reading Room.

Meeting closed at 9.10pm.

Lily Hope-Frost
10.01.05

Avon Dassett Parish Council Meeting 06.12.04.
District Councillor's Report

1. At the last meeting I reported that the District Council has been assessed as a 'Weak' Council. Many of the CPA issues addressed the whole Council, not just the ruling group. The Audit Commission was quite clear that the issues for improvement are not concerned with service failures but over issues of governance. The Council has taken the decision to seek practical support from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister in drawing up and implementing an Improvement Plan to address the issues in the CPA Report. The support from Central Government will not cost the ratepayers of our District any money and it follows a procedure that when utilised in other districts have provided beneficial results

2. Last year Members of the Parish Council will recall that a meeting was held in Southam to find out the public's views on the Council Tax. Council Tax is your money. How much should the Council spend, on your services, and where should the Council look for savings? Remember, it's your money so we want to hear the public's views before taking any decisions regarding the setting of next year's Council Tax rate. Councillors and officials are attending a series of Public Meetings around the District. They will provide information about our current services and what they all cost. They will explain the tough choices that need to be taken but above all they are there to listen to your views. Our local meeting will be held on Tuesday 18 January 2005 at Southam Grange Hall starting at 7.00 pm. It likely to finish about 9.00 p.m.

3. A recent Audit of Crime and Disorder in our part of Warwickshire showed some interesting statistics. Burglary has fallen in our area by some 30% and it is recognised that South Warwickshire is one of the safest places to live. However, there are concerns amongst the public. The fear of crime is highest among the age ground 55-80 but interestingly this group is the least affected by actual crime. Most burglaries, car thefts and criminal activities affect the age group 30-55. Where there has been a growth of crime in our area is where the frail and elderly are targeted for the opportunist crime described as Distraction Crime. Where burglaries do occur there has been an increase in the theft of car keys and subsequent stealing of cars rather than the theft of electrical goods such as videos, TVs etc. There has been a rise in antisocial behaviour by the youth of the District. Once upon a time antisocial behaviour was confined to males. Distressingly, more females are responsible for this rather than males in our area. The Police are adopting a policy of zero tolerance towards antisocial behaviour and this is possibly why the elder segment of the population feel intimidated by fear of this sort of behaviour. The Council has made it one of its priorities to eliminate the fear of crime in our District.