



AVON DASSETT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held at the Reading Room on Monday 6th February 2003

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

In Attendance Bob Butler & Ray Randerson

- 1) Apologies: I. Seccombe & P. Worrall
- 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) To Receive Questions from Public: Ray Randerson raised the problem of the condition of the road to Farnborough in the bad weather. There had been a number of accidents recently due to the icy conditions and he felt that the road should be included on the route of the gritter. A colleague of his had written a letter of complaint to Warks County Council, but had not received a reply. The council agreed that something needed to be done as soon as possible. It was agreed to write to David Hicks regarding the water running off his field on to road and ask him to improve the ditches on his land. The clerk was also asked to write to Warks CC regarding the problem. Cllr Williams advised that the road needed a top surface applying which would be rougher therefore given more grip in icy conditions and that Warks CC were well aware that this needed to be done.
Bob confirmed that there were 150 xmas cards left and it was suggested that these could be sold at the summer fete.
- 5) Matters Arising:
 - a) Parish Plan – Questionnaires had been sent to each household, there had been two responses, it was therefore decided to wait until the next meeting.

6) Correspondence:

Planning – Since the last council meeting two notifications had been received

b) 9 Avon Carrow- to fell a holly, reduce height of a holly and fell a conifer

for success!!!
Work-based Training



Linda Hope, none,
3/3/03/



2) Old Farm House, Hill Top Farm- two storey pitched roof side extension
The plans had been considered and there had been no representation to make
in either case.
Consent had been received for the felling of a lombardy poplar and yew at
Avon Carrow.

7) Council Report: Please see attached

8) Financial Statement:

Balances as at close of business on Monday 3rd February

Current a/c £ 210.78 credit

Deposit a/c £ 562.98 credit

Cheques to be issued:

1) A Del Principe £ 60.00

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

8) Any Other Business:

- a) – It had been queried why the bin men deliver one sack per week as opposed to a large supply. Cllr Williams advised that it had been investigated, however it was not cost efficient due to the high outlay involved for the purchase of the sacks.
- b) A. Fraser asked if a response had been received from Nick Wild. Clerk was still trying to contact, and regarding the pollution from the motorway. No response.
- c) K. Martin suggested placing tubs on the grass area next to the pub to prevent people parking on the grass. This idea was well received and A. Fraser agreed to speak to Jane Starkey. Clerk to obtain details of tubs available.

Date of Next Meeting as agreed by all councillors

Monday 3rd March 2003 @ 7.30pm in the Reading Room

Meeting closed @ 8.55pm

**Avon Dassett Parish Council Meeting 03.02.03.
District Councillor's Report**

1. The issue of setting Council Tax for next year continues. The various committees have met and are recommending that the council needs to set a Council Tax of approx. 0.80p per week more than the current figure. Currently, for a Band D house in the Stratford area residents are charged approx. £65 per annum. The government recommends that the minimum Council Tax for a Band D house is £180. At SDC we will not be meeting the government targets but the tax will probably rise to approx. £100. We will not be cutting any services and important grants that are in the pipeline, such as recreational areas and improvements to swimming pools at Southam, Shipston and Alcester will still go ahead. This increase in Council Tax has yet to be approved by the full council but have received cross party support recognising the very low contribution the council has received from central government, an increase of only £6,000 this year.
2. Good news for visitors to Stratford will be the decision by the Executive not to increase car parking charges for the next year. Stratford, like all tourist areas, has been affected by the downturn in tourism and this coupled with the foot and mouth disease resulted in fewer visitors and a corresponding fall in car park income. Car park income is an essential element contributing to the expenses incurred in running the council. However, it was felt that any increase might deter tourists and shoppers visiting the area and for that reason no increases will take place for the next twelve months.
3. Currently, according to government statistics the District is not likely to meet recycling targets. One of the problems is the amount of garden waste that is discarded with household waste. SDC is considering providing each household with a green wheelie bin for the separate collection of green waste. Unfortunately, the government sets recycling figures and whilst the district is ahead of other authorities regrettably only 40% of households are recycling and of the waste collected during the summer months approximately 20% by weight has been attributable to green waste. It is expected that householders separating garden waste from household waste will enable the district council to meet government targets and not incur financial penalties.
4. May Elections. Voting in the May elections will be expanded to include internet voting for the very first time. SDC has been chosen as one of the 61 government pilot schemes to test electronic voting including the internet with the aim of building public confidence in new voting methods. There will be no traditional ballot paper voting for any of the seats in Stratford District. The costs incurred for this trial will be met by central government and not be a burden to the ratepayers of SDC.