

## AVON DASSETT PARISH COUNCIL

### Minutes of Meeting held at the Reading Room on Monday 10th June 2002

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

In Attendance Bob Butler

1) Apologies: Issy Seccombe, D. Whittlesea & P. Worrall

2) Declaration of Interest: None

3) Confirmation of Minutes: K. Martin proposed that the minutes were correct and was seconded by A Fraser. L. Hope-Frost then signed the minutes.

4) To Receive Questions from Public: None.

5) Matters Arising:

Playground – It was noted that the area tarmac was smaller than intended, it should have been 9sqm by 9sqm not 9metres square, however it was agreed that the area was still large enough for a net and post. Therefore, due to the high cost of basketball nets, it was agreed to ask Paul if he could make one. It was suggested possibly painting hopscotch on the new tarmac for the younger children. Since the previous meeting a cheque had been signed and sent to Bob Stevens. Skateboard ramps were once again discussed.

Burial Ground – The query from the auditor regarding the purchase of graves, Cllr Williams confirmed that graves should be able to be purchased. He confirmed that the council should to keep a register of purchased graves, grants of exclusive rights of burial and a register of memorials. Clerk to purchase. L.Hope-Frost agreed to ask Charlie Worrall for the deed.

Memorial – L. Hope-Frost had organised the sign for Jessie Hall and had managed to agree a price of £99 incl VAT. It was agreed that the sign should be mounted on a lump of stone.

6) Correspondence:

Planning – consent had been received for a conservatory and swimming pool at Hillside Farm

The application for Devonia was to be discussed at the next district council meeting with the view that it should now be passed.

A letter had been received from the Samaritans and it was agreed to send a donation for £50.

*Linda Hope, from,  
8/7/02.*

A letter and plan had been received from Warks CC regarding the council's for road warning signs. It was agreed the plan was acceptable. Clerk to confirm.

7) Financial Statement:

Balances as at close of business on Monday 10th June

Current a/c	£	648.47	credit
Deposit a/c	£	1,793.14	credit

Cheques to be issued:

1) A. Del Principe (clerk's pay)	£	60.00
2) M. Harris (mowing)	£	65.00
3) Npower	£	38.88
4) Westminster Security	£	43.24
5) L. Hope-Frost	£	106.06

The payment of the cheques was proposed by A. Fraser and seconded by K. Martin

An invoice had been received from the District Audit for £648 plus VAT which was considered extremely high. The clerk was asked to request details of work sheets and hours spend on the audit.

8) Council Report: see attached

9) Any Other Business:

- a) L. Hope-Frost advised that the judging of the Best Kept Village was to take place on Wednesday morning.
- b) Pete Wallis was owed £100 for the bench restoration, however K. Martin confirmed that the Fete Committee had offered to pay as the Parish Council had met the cost of the fireworks for the jubilee celebrations.
- c) There had been a few comments regarding the fireworks and it was asked that in future they be directed away from the village.
- d) K. Martin passed £31 to the clerk for banking. This was half of the proceeds from the cake stall at the jubilee party, the other half going towards the church funds.

Date of Next Meeting as agreed by all councillors

Monday 8th July 2002 @ 7.30pm in the Reading Room

Meeting closed @ 9.15pm

*Linda Hope-Frost  
8/7/02*

**Avon Dassett Parish Council Meeting 10.06.02**  
**District Councillor's Report**

1. As a result of the District Council Elections held on 2 May 2002, the new council is now made up of 53 councillors a reduction of 2. The new council will still be administered by the Conservative Group and is made up as follows: Conservative 27, Liberal Democrats 21, Independent 3 and Labour 2. I have been personally invited to continue as Portfolio Holder for Planning and Transport.
2. At a meeting of the Executive the decision was taken to restore grants from the District Council to last year's level of grant aid to two charities. One is the Citizens' Advice Bureau and the other the WRVS Meals on Wheels Service. The original proposal was that the grant aid offered this year was to be 16% less than that offered last year. The improvement this year is being allowed since both of these charities have given an undertaking that any grant aid provided by the Council will be directed to areas other than Stratford Town as support is given to these charities by the Town Council in Stratford.
3. The Annual Best Kept Village, for which Avon Dassett is an entrant, will be judged on Wednesday 12 June. I must stress that the ethos of the competition is on 'Best Kept' rather than floral displays etc. Village tidiness and community involvement in the appearance of the village is of more importance than horticultural displays.
4. Best Value Reviews 2002-03. Best Value is a systematic means of assessing to what extent council services meet the needs of our customers, in other words, you the Council Tax Payer. As part of our programme of ongoing improvements this year the reviews are:-
  - a) Living in the District – looking mainly at Housing, Council Tax and Benefits.
  - b) Built Environment – looking mainly at Planning and flooding related issues.
  - c) Democratic Engagement – looking at voter turnout, our committee arrangements and links to other key organization.
  - d) E-Government – looking at how we can enable easier access to the range of services we offer.