

AVON DASSETT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held at the Reading Room on Monday 3rd May 2004

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

In Attendance Bob Butler

1) Apologies: P. Worrall

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:

Kerbing – The quote had been received, but unfortunately the quote omitted the stretch of verge between park Close and the drive to Bitham Hall. Clerk to deal. The council discussed which parts of the village were in urgent need of kerbing and it was felt that the areas above and below the pub should be done first. Cllr Williams advised that he would need a formal letter from the parish council before he could look into the possibility of obtaining a grant towards the cost of kerbing for flood prevention.

Flowering Tubs – Four more tubs had been delivered, but unfortunately had been put in the wrong place.

Reading Room - The replacement door had been put on hold due to the need for a ramp. However as the ramp did not have to be permanent it was decided to continue with the door as previous agreed. A. Fraser offered to treat the reading room for woodworm.

5) Correspondence:

An invitation to a Civic Service at Bidford-on-Avon had received.

6) Financial Statement:

Balances as at close of business on Monday 3rd May

Current a/c	£	145.36	credit
Deposit a/c	£	6646.71	credit

Cheques to be issued:

1) A. Del Principe (clerk's pay)	£	70.00
2) M. Harris	£	85.00
3) NALC (subscription)	£	62.00
4) L. Hope-Frost	£	25.95

*Lily Hope-Frost
1st June 2004/*

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

John Anderson had been appointed as internal auditor and as the accounts had been completed the clerk would pass the accounts to him for checking and signing.

7) Council Report: see attached

8) Any Other Business:

- a) It was pointed out that the portable ramp would have to be lightweight so anyone could lift it.
- b) K. Martin advised the council that he had obtained a flag pole and suggested putting on the green at the bottom of the village. An idea for an Avon Dassett flag was put forward and it was agreed to hold a competition for designing a flag. D. Brangwyn agreed to organise.
- c) The chairman asked if the grant for converting the streetlights was still available. Cllr Williams agreed to check.
- d) It was noted that the hedge and archway at The Laurels was slightly overgrown. K. Martin offered to speak to the owner.
- e) There had been rather a lot of dog mess in the lower part of the village. Cllr Williams offered to arrange for a letter to be sent from Stratford DC to the owners of the offenders.
- f) A telephone call had been received from Mrs Herbert's daughter in law who wished to use the Reading Room on a number of Saturdays for 6 hours. The council agreed to charge £20.00.

9) To Receive Questions from the Public:

- 1) A request was made for the council to continue the kerbing from the bus stop to the farm driveway.
- 2) The monthly coffee mornings had now finished until October.
- 3) Permission for the flagpole would be required and also the safety aspects would need to be considered.

Date of Next Meeting as agreed by all councillors

Wednesday 2nd June @ 7.30pm in the Reading Room

Meeting closed @ 9.20pm.

*Lily Hope - Prop.
15 June 2004*

Avon Dassett Parish Council Meeting 03.05.04.
District Councillor's Report

1. The Government has announced that Broadband will be available to all houses in Warwickshire by the end of the month of May. The previous system where communities had to achieve a certain threshold of interest before Broadband installation could be triggered has now been abandoned. This edict by the government is in accordance with the general direction that electronic communication is now recognised as being fast and inexpensive.
2. The District Council has recently been evaluated for its Comprehensive Performance Assessment. The first stage of the Assessment is known as a Peer Review, rather akin to taking mock exams. In this trial run the Council was assessed as 'good' but the Audit Commission did identify areas that need improving before evaluation in July. Both Members and Officers at the District Council will be working hard to ensure that the Council does not fall into the 'Need to Improve' category.
3. European Elections will take place on 10 June 2004. Polling will be in the traditional manner, a cross on a piece of paper. The Polling Station will be in the Village Hall and electors can vote at any time from 7.00 a.m. until 10.00 p.m.
4. The Planning Green Paper which has been identified as the most radical change to planning since 1947 will get the Royal Assent sometime in the next 10 days. Despite objections from 90% of the people who made comment as to the content of the changes the Government has chosen to ignore these comments and proceeded with the original proposals.
5. The Office of the Deputy Prime Minister is evaluating the proposal that in future any application for 5 houses or more should be considered by the Local Government Office rather than the Planning Authority. The thinking behind this proposal is that the Government feels that major planning applications take too long from conception to delivery. Currently, it takes three years from acquisition of land and the various planning negotiations before housing is ready and available for occupation. The Government feels that Local Planning Authorities are the prime reason for this delay. These proposals will be resisted, I am sure.
6. SDC has deregulated the Taxi regime in Stratford and, indeed, where taxis operate throughout the district. Previously, taxis were limited to a certain number of vehicles. Market forces will prevail and the only proviso to inhibit new taxis will be that they must be able to take a wheelchair.