

AVON DASSETT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held at the Reading Room on Monday 5th November 2001

Present C. Worrall, L. Hope-Frost, K. Martin, R. Watts, D. Whittlesea,
Cllr C. Williams & Clerk

In Attendance Jenny Worrall & Bob Butler

- 1) Apologies: Issy Seccombe
- 2) Declaration of Interest: None
- 3) Confirmation of Minutes: C. Worrall read out the minutes of the previous meeting. K. Martin proposed that they were correct and was seconded by L. Hope-Frost.
- 4) To Receive Questions from Public: None
- 5) Matters Arising:

Meals in Reading Room - It was decided to start with a coffee morning as opposed to lunch. The first meeting was arranged for Wednesday 5th December at 11.00am. C. Worrall agreed to purchase the cakes and D. Whittlesea offered to prepare a flyer for each household. If the coffee morning proved popular, it was suggested that maybe soup could be offered in the future.

Mrs Hall's birthday - It was agreed on the type of tree to be planted which D. Whittlesea offered to organise and that a commemorative plaque should be placed with the tree. L. Hope-Frost said that Mrs Hall's family were using the Reading Room for a party and it was agreed that no charge should be made for the use of the room.

Playground - An inspection of the playground had been carried out and a number of items had been raised as possible risks. The council agreed that the matter should be referred back to Wicksteed Leisure for their comments. Clerk to write with a copy to Stratford District Council. K. Martin had already removed the centre swing to comply with the inspection. A quote for a baby swing had been received from Wicksteed Leisure and this was passed to K. Martin for discussion at the next Fete Committee Meeting. Cllr Williams supplied details of a person able to lay tarmac in the playground in preparation for a basketball net.

Elections - D. Fletcher had withdrawn his application to stand as councillor.

L. Hope-Frost

Dog Bins – It was agreed to go ahead and order 3 dog bins from Stratford District Council. The bins are to be sited at the playground, by the bus shelter and near Honeywood House.

6) Correspondence:

A letter had been received from the Citizen's Advice Bureau asking for a donation. As a donation had been made last year it was agreed to send the same amount.

Planning – an application had been received regarding an extension to Devonia. There was no representation.

E. Bromage had made an appeal for a conservatory on 11 Avon Carrow.

7) Financial Statement:

Balances as at close of business on Friday 2nd November

Current a/c	£	88.43	credit
Deposit a/c	£	8,645.49	credit

Cheques to be issued:

1) A. Del Principe (clerk's pay)	£	52.10
2) A Del Principe (expenses)	£	11.57
3) NPower	£	18.38

The payment of the cheques was proposed by L. Hope- Frost and seconded by D. Whittlesea.

The budget for 2002/03 was discussed and it was agreed that the council should apply for a precept of £5000.

8) Council Report: See attached

9) Any Other Business:

- A request had been made regarding the possibility of redefining the 30mph speed limit at the start of the village. Clerk to write.
- C. Worrall advised that the two village postmen were being moved to new areas so would no longer be delivering mail to the village.
- The trees around the burial ground should be pruned by the end of November.
- Bob Stevens had asked if the council would have any objections to his family putting a bench in the burial ground or planting some bulbs by the hedge in memory of his father. No objections were raised.
- C. Worrall thanked his fellow councillors for all their work and wished them all the best for the future. A pen was presented to Charlie as a thank you for his many years as a councillor and chairman of the council.
- Thanks were also given to Reg Watts for his contribution to the council.

*C. Worrall & Reg Watts have agreed to
Date of Next Meeting as agreed by all councillors remain on the
cancel until after
the election.*

Monday 3rd December 2001 @ 7.30pm in the Reading Room

Meeting closed @ 9.15pm

L. Hope Frost

Avon Dassett Parish Council Meeting 5 November 2001

1. The District Council is now operating the pilot system for the revised political management process and this is producing a speeding up in the decision taking processes.
2. The Parish Council will, I know, be pleased to note that the percentage of planning applications now dealt with within in 8 weeks has risen to 74%. This is far in excess of the Best Value requirement of 60% and places the Council 61st out of some 280 Councils. It is worth noting that some 18 months ago only 50% of SDC planning applications were dealt with within the 8 week period.
3. At the District Council meeting in Stratford held on 15 October the Council voted to proceed with the choice of Shottery Brook as the location for the new council offices. The move has been prompted by the unsuitability of the present building for health and safety reasons and the cost of complying with forthcoming Health and Safety regulations would mean that the Council would have to relocate while the work was carried out. The cost of refurbishment as a result of financial appraisals provided an unacceptable option. The new building should be available in 18 months' time.
4. SDC has been invited by the Government to utilise electronic voting at the next election for the District Council in May 2002. With a minimum of some 500 potential councillors both District and Parish the change to electronic voting will provide an efficient and accurate method of conducting the election. A conventional election using ballot papers costs £125,000 but electronic voting costs £90,000 with on this occasion the Government providing some £80,000 towards the cost. Concerns about the disabled being unable to vote have, of course, been overcome by the free availability of postal voting.
5. Members will be interested to know that since the introduction of recycling containers the incidence of material being offered for recycling from householders has already improved considerably and the Council will be well on the way to meeting or even beating current Government targets.
6. Concessionary Bus Passes. The Council together with support from the local MP is vigorously supporting the suggestion that residents of Stratford District Council should be allowed to use their bus passes to visit neighbouring districts outside of SDC's remit. For example, Banbury. It is now up to central government to recognise that this is a meaningful concession. Where no bus services are provided the use of travel tokens will still be available.

CRW
5.11.01.

Linda Hope - Acct.
Depr Chairman
December 2001
3rd ~~November~~ 2001