

THE AVON

Avon Dasset

QUESTIONNAIRE



Avon Dasset is a small but beautiful village mid-way between Warwick and Banbury. It is situated within a Conservation Area and is on the edge of the Cotswold Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The village nestles on the slopes of the Burton Dasset Hills Country Park and combines spectacular scenery with the peace and beauty of a small rural village.

The village first appears as a historical record in the Domesday Book. Before the Norman conquest of 1066 the manor was held by three thegns or retainers of the King.

In 1963 Avon Dasset was embroiled in scandal when the press besieged the village searching for John Profumo whose family home was Avon Carrow. The Profumo affair, a heady mix of sex, intelligence secrets, and the aristocracy, centred on the MP for Stratford-on-Avon who was forced to resign in disgrace.

Many people chose to live in a village because it offers a friendly and caring community where residents can meet other villagers and form friendships. Properties in villages where there are facilities that are used by inhabitants often sell more quickly and there can be added value. Sadly Avon Dasset no longer has a functioning church, school, good-sized practical hall or a village shop. Our only meeting place is The Avon pub a vital lynchpin of village life and the continued presence of this pub would, we feel, greatly enhance that community spirit. If the pub is closed for any length of time it is quite likely that it could eventually be sold as a residential property.

This questionnaire is the first step to saving our village pub. We need to know your views on what might be provided and what would receive your support. Please be as honest and realistic as possible in your answers! Your response will be treated in confidence. It is entirely anonymous, unless you wish to add your name at the end.

The Questionnaire will be collected during the week beginning Monday 5th January.

If you prefer:

- there will be a box provided at the entrance to the church before the Carol Service on 21st December
- they can be returned to The Thatches, The Limes or 10 Avon Carrow

If you return the questionnaire to the church or one of the addresses above and you would like your responses to be anonymous it will be helpful if you would kindly add your address and post code below in pencil so that we do not call to collect it. Once recorded this information will be erased but we need this to ensure that we do not trouble again you once the completed questionnaire has been received.

Address	Post Code

The results of this survey will be published and presented to a public meeting in The Reading Rooms/St John's Church (depending on numbers hoping to attend) on Saturday 24th January at 10.30 am when the proposal can be discussed further.

Are you likely to attend: YES/ NO

If you wish to speak directly to someone about this project please contact one of the following:

John Anderson	690245	The Limes
Trevor Gill	690987	The Thatches
Anna Prosser	690926	10 Avon Carrow

We would also like to hear from you if you feel you could help in any way with the promoting or running of the pub. There will be a wide range of tasks to be undertaken from the initial setting up of the project to managing the enterprise and being involved in the day to day practical operation.

This kind of venture has been successfully achieved in other villages. There are currently 27 co-operative pubs in England, Scotland and Wales that have been set up with the support of the Plunkett Foundation (www.plunkett.uk.net). Will our village be the next one?

1. On the scale of 1 – 5 below please show how important you think it is to have a thriving pub in Avon Dassett

NOT IMPORTANT >>> 1 - 2 - 3 - 4 - 5 >>> VERY IMPORTANT

2. If The Avon was adopted as a Community Pub would you or any member of your household use it?

Daily		2-3 times a week		Weekly		Fortnightly		Occasionally		Not at all	
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3. What services would you most like to see from a village pub?

Family friendly area	
Availability for functions	
Meeting area	
Catering: Lunches	
Dinners	
Live music	

Coffee mornings	
Big-screen sports	
Darts	
Lunch Club	
Free wi-fi	
Children's discos	
Talent shows	

Other suggestions:

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4. What catering would you like the pub to offer?

No food	
Snacks	
Bar meals	
Restaurant	
Dinners	
Buffets	
Sunday lunches	
Tea, coffee, cakes	
Children's meals	
Take-aways	

5. When would you be most likely to want to eat in the pub?

Never	
Weekday lunch	
Weekday dinner	
Saturday lunch	
Saturday dinner	
Sunday lunch	

6. The pub could be used to provide:

Post Office	
Shop	

Are there any other services not listed above that you would like to see on offer? Or would you like to make any comment

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7. The Reading Room

The Reading Room was donated to the village in 1898 by Thomas Aloysius Perry for the benefit and use of the village of Avon Dassett. It has provided a valuable meeting place for many years and has been enjoyed by all who have used it.

However, recent use has steadily declined. It is now used mainly for the provision of weekly postal services, the monthly coffee morning and for the monthly Parish Council meeting. Other local

village groups hold occasional meetings there including The History Group, The Gardening Club and The Carrow Management Committee. It is also used by some residents of Avon Dasset for charitable and social purposes. The total current monthly usage amounts to a total maximum use of 48 hours per month. Of this total The Post Office accounts for 16 hours, The Parish Council meetings 8 hours and the coffee morning 8 hours per month.

The Reading Room costs about £750 per year to maintain which covers insurance, heating etc. It is in need of refurbishment including considerable work to repair the windows. No charge is made for the majority of the occasions when the Reading Room is used by residents of Avon Dasset and the costs are mainly covered by the annual precept.

Subject to any legal issues being satisfactorily resolved and all the activities that currently take place in the Reading Room being accommodated in The Avon would you be in favour of selling The Reading Room to fund part of the purchase of The Avon.

Yes	
No	

8. Please state how many people there are in each age range in your household:

0-16		17-25		26-45		46-65		Over 65	
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9. Would you or anyone in your household be interested in helping a cooperative pub project in any way?

Join The Steering Group	
Help with fund raising	
Provide professional advice/services – please specify your skill or profession	
Be involved in running the pub /volunteering	
Making a donation	
Share ownership (purchase, gifts, contacts	
Volunteering (helping with renovations/maintenance)	
Obtaining sponsorship / promotion (companies, visitors to the area, walkers cyclists, flying kites)	

Do you have any other suggestions on how you could help?

If you have answered yes to any of the above questions or you would like us to contact you then please can you give us your name, and preferred method of contact, address, phone number, email address

Name	
Address	
Phone number	
Email address	
Preferred method of contact	

Would you agree to your email address being on a village database to keep you informed of any village activities?

Yes	
No	

10. Do you live in Avon Dassett?

Full time		Part time		Occasionally	
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11. How long have you lived in Avon Dassett?

0 – 5 years		6 – 10 years		11 – 20 years		Over 20 years	
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12. If the outbuildings were to be converted for business use would you be interested in renting them to either use them for an existing business or to establish a new business venture?

Yes	
No	

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR TAKING THE TIME TO COMPLETE THIS QUESTIONNAIRE AND WE REALLY HOPE TO SEE YOU ON 24 JANUARY 2015 TO DISCUSS THIS EXCITING PROJECT.