Minutes of Avon Dassett Parish Council

Monday 1st August 2011

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm.

1. **APOLOGIES**: None

Present at Meeting: David Hutt, Kevin Martin, Alastair Whetstone, Diana Biddlestone, Clerk, Councillor Williams.

2. **DECLARATION OF INTERESTS:** None

3. **CONFIRM MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**: Proposed Kevin Martin (KM) Seconded Daniel Robertson (DR). Signed by David Hutt

4. **MATTERS ARISING**:

Division of roles between councillors discussed and agreed:

Community: David Hutt

Roads: Kevin Martin with Daniel Robertson

Environment/Maintenance: Kevin Martin

Play area: Daniel Robertson

St. John's: Daniel Robertson

Green Areas: Kevin Martin

Communication/Administration: Alastair Whetstone

Planning: Diana Biddlestone

Finance: Alastair Whetstone and David Hutt

Alastair Whetstone to receive key currently held by postmaster and will be the ADPC key holder for the Reading Room and contact point for Stratford District Council.

ACTION: Clerk to notify Graham Raspin an obtain key from P.O. to give to AW

Community

a) Community Policing/Neighbourhood Watch

DH read out an update from Lily Hope-Frost which stated that around 32 people now form the neighbourhood watch group within the village.

Signs on the periphery of the village have been defaced with paint but subsequently cleaned.

Councillor Williams confirmed that street cleaning takes place on a 10 week cycle.

Roads

b) Traffic, Roads and Drains: KM reported has cleaned the main drain at the top of the hill. KM commented that the drain is in poor condition and needs to be examined with a view to remedial brick work repairs. **ACTION: Daniel Robertson to report condition of drain to Patch Byrne.**

Daniel Robertson to maintain a list of drains and potholes requiring repair.

Speedaware: Daniel Robertson as been in communication with Poonam and confirmed the following dates for Speed aware:

Morning sessions on 6th, 8th, 13th and 15th September.

Environment/Maintenance

c) **Playground** – Kevin Martin confirmed that he had reviewed the playground safety report and that there were no items above the category of "low risk." KM has repaired the gate to the play area.

d) **St John's**: The Clerk read out an email from Lily Hope-Frost who has been in correspondence with Tim Berwick of Stratford District Council. Tim confirmed that there is no funding available to repair the church steps, it is unlikely that there will be funding available for some time. The council will

install more permanent signs shortly.

Alternative funding source will be investigated.

ACTION: Daniel Robertson to Churches Conservation Trust.

e) **Upkeep of 'green areas'**: KM outlined the cost of wooden posts for the village green at £17 each which includes the concrete but does not include installation costs. The matter remains under consideration according to what feedback is received from the public on the state of the village green.

Flower tubs are being watered by villagers who are thanked for their efforts.

Clerk had received a complaint regarding the failure to cut the churchyard as promised in time for open Gardens. KM confirmed that this was due to the workload of the contractor.

Communication/Administration

f) **Notice board/s**: Discussion continued on this matter following further information since the last meeting. The matter remains under review and the options being considered are: Removal of notice board at Reading Room with repainting of the wall; Repairs to Notice Board with cork tiles and new pins; moving the new board to the Reading Room which is currently sited close to the Bus Stop; Adapt the new notice board so that one side can be locked for council notices and the other side can be opened and used for public notices.

ACTION: Alastair W to investigate cost and feasibility of removing lock on one side of new notice board.

g) Closure of AD Post Office, 16th August 2011. The Parish Council backs the continuation of this service and will therefore enquire about seeking alternative service provision. Clerk will contact Clerk to Fenny Compton PC to establish who provides the service to Fenny Compton and approach them. **ACTION: Clerk to seek alternative PO cover**

Jill Burgess sent in a request, via the clerk, to borrow the display boards for the Village Fete. The request was agreed.

Jill Burgess sent a list of items she continues to hold which are the properties of ADPC. It was decided to collect all of the items. The water pump will be stored at the Reading Room so that it is accessible to the public if it is needed at a time of flooding. The chestnut tree will be installed in a field as previously agreed.

ACTION: Kevin Martin to arrange to collect items and deal with or store them as agreed.

An email from Sarah Richardson was read out by the Clerk reminding Councillors that she continues to store copies of the parish plan and welcome packs. It was agreed that these should be collected ASAP.
ACTION: Alastair Whestone to collect publications.

Diane Biddlestone relayed a reminder from Jill Burgess to update their personal profiles on the ADPC website. **ACTION: Parish Councillors to update profiles on ADPC website.**

5. **COUNCIL REPORTS**

1. **Fiscal Matters –** The Public Consultation over the future of our Library Service in Warwickshire has been extended for a further four weeks. The reason for this extension is to enable business plans submitted by the 16 communities whose libraries were scheduled to close to be evaluated. It is proposed that capital finance in the form of a grant will be available to those communities who present a successful business plan. It does appear that the Mobile Library Service may be altered significantly. In its present form it is not providing value for money and one of the proposals being considered is to have a larger Mobile Library which will set up within clusters of villages and operate at a time when a greater percentage of the communities are able to take advantage of the service. The current method of calling during the working day only attracts a very small percentage of those people who might like to take advantage of the library service.

2. **Stratford District Council, Future Plans** – You will recall earlier this year that SDC had entered into negotiations with Malvern District Council with a view to sharing services and produce efficiencies. At the commencement of this scheme it was thought that the similarity between Malvern and Stratford was sufficiently close to explore sharing services. However, evaluations concluded that this liaison would not continue but Stratford still looks to share

services, possibly with Redditch DC and Cotswold DC. The object of the exercise is eventually to reduce costs for both authorities by sharing services.

Community Development Fund – As with last year, the County Council is again providing grants up to £3,000 for small scale projects that provide new opportunities for local people. Unfortunately, these grants are not available to Parish Councils except where there is evidence of community need or is identified with an adopted Parish Plan. You may recall that Avon Dassett benefitted from funding to extend the play area with new equipment. This grant was made to the Parish Council as part of the Action Plan for the Parish Play which identified the need to update the play equipment for the village.

5. **CORRESPONDENCE** – Paper copies circulated at meeting. Electronic mail circulated prior to meeting.

AW is continuing to receive copies of all ADPC emails arriving to the Clerk. AW has agreed to relay relevant emails onto other PC members as they arise.

7. **PLANNING**

Notices of planning were read out:

11/00720/FUL: Construction of double garage: Land to the Read of 1 and 2 Lower End Cottages.

11/00709/FUL: Demolition of garages and construction of 5 no. double garages: Land to South West of 3 lower Terrace.

11/01132/LBC: Replacement thatch and new roof timbers to attach to existing. New door and windows. Installation of satellite dish to west gable.

Planning Applications Considered:

11/00898/FUL. Nursery House, Avon Dassett, CV47 2AE. Mr M A Walter. Change of use of part of land associated with existing nursery to 12no. touring caravan pitches and storage facility for caravans or motor homes incorporating removal of polytunnels. Comment: MAKE NO REPRESENTATION

11/01318/FUL. Knights Farm, CV47 2AS. Retrospective erection of garden shed. Comment: MAKE NO REPRESENTATION

Extraordinary Planning Meeting: It was decided to assign the third Monday of each month to consider any planning applications which fall outside of normal meeting dates. The meetings will take place at 7.30pm at the Reading Room to allow for public representation. The next meeting will take place on the 15th August should any planning issues arise.

8. **FINANCIAL STATEMENT August 2011**

Balance at close of business 31/7/11

Current Account	£1,526.47
Savings Account	£4,726.42

Cheques issued		**Cheque No**
nPower	£17.27	1127
H. Hide-Wright (Clerk Expenses)	£29.00	1128
J. Sherriff (July coffee morning)	£8.91	1129
Keith Hicks (Neighbourhood Watch)	£15.00	1130
Total Cheques	£70.18	
Income		
SDC Booths	£20.00 BACS Credit	
Avon Carrow Mgt Comm	£5.00 Cash	
VAT Refund	£254.50 BACS Credit	

Cheques proposed and signed by David Hutt and Alastair Whetstone

9. **MEMBER REPORTS**: None

10. **QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**: None

11. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING** – 5th Sept, 3rd Oct, 7th Nov, 5th Dec.

The meeting closed at 9.15 pm