

AVON DASSETT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of Meeting held at the Reading Room on Monday 2 November 2009

Present J Burgess; L Hope-Frost; S Richardson; A Rutherford; D Hutt,
Cllr C Williams; Clerk

1. Apologies: None
2. Declaration of Interest: None
3. Confirmation of Minutes: JB issued an addendum to the previous minutes by way of a clarification: An extra meeting was held to discuss the planning application of Mr Mullane. JB did not attend this meeting and therefore did not register a declaration of interest. The minutes of the previous were then approved as correct by L Hope-Frost and seconded by S Richardson; they were then signed by J Burgess.

4. MATTERS ARISING:

Community

a. Community Policing/Neighbourhood Watch

Nothing to report from LHF. LHF is unable to attend the meeting on the 4th November and has sent her apologies to Catrina of PACT.

b. Knightcote Wind farm

DH made a presentation summarising a recent meeting he had attended. Broadview is a commercial company seeking to investigate the viability of installing a wind farm on farmland in Knightcote. The meeting did discuss the low levels of wind in the area and opposition from various parties to the installation. Councillor Williams added that at present the company were only seeking planning permission to erect an antenna to measure wind speeds. He confirmed that the military have also opposed the project as they consider it will encroach upon low flying flight paths, thus causing danger to pilots and the local population.

An email was presented from Broadview asking the Parish council if they would distribute their brochures around the village for a fee. The Parish council declined this approach.

c. Fenny Compton Fire Station

LHF reported that she had attended a packed meeting at The Dasset School where the Council set out their proposal and the public were able to ask questions. Councillor Chris Williams commented that it is accepted that the consultation documents is flawed and Fenny Compton has a strong case to remain open.

JB sought the views of the Parish Council on the Consultation document. It was decided to respond as a group. **JB will circulate the document.**

Road

d. Traffic, Roads and Drains.

JB had received a report on the traffic speed audit. The average speed was 34.2 mph. The 85th percentile recorded at 42.1 mph which crosses the threshold for a mobile speed camera. The council Officer will continue to liaise with JB to take this matter further.

Since the last meeting there had been no further updates from Patch. JB reported that the

dead tree on Farnborough Lane has been removed. Villagers are reminded to inspect any trees on their property which are adjoining roads to assess their safety. Members of the public are also encouraged to report any potential issues to the Parish Council in order that they can be inspected.

JB reported that there was no further update on drainage grants received. JB and SR sought assistance from Councillor Williams.

Councillor Williams to investigate and report back to the Parish Council

- f. Gritting update. Councillor Williams confirmed that provision remains unchanged. He advised the Council to discuss the matter in the March of each year when the routes are being drawn up by the Council.

Environment/Maintenance

- g. Playground. AR reported significant progress with the Worrall family. It has been agreed to keep the rent at £10 per year and write up a 25 year lease. A draft agreement needs to be sent to Richard Worrall. SR stated that she has a lease format which she will send to AR to assist him.

SR to send lease format to AR.

AR to contact Richard Worrall.

JB reported that the swing seat has been replaced. The ADPC thank Ali Fraser for undertaking this task.

JB has asked Peter Wallace to fix the fence adjoining the playground. Steve Mullane will be approached by AR to see if the screw fixings can be covered in some manner.

AR to contact Steve Mullane.

- h. St John's. LHF reported that progress has been made on the verge but that further work is needed on this and the cutting of the shrubs to the right of the gate.

HHW to remind John of the work needed to the shrubs near the gate.

LHF requested that funds are retained for the upkeep of the churchyard. SR confirmed that this was the case and that funds for the bells were also required in case the fete committee do not gift funds for this purpose.

JB has spoken to her contact at the probation service who has confirmed that their scheme still operates but that a supervisor is required on site at a cost of £120 p. day.

- i. Upkeep of "green areas" JB has responded to Mary's letter regarding the flower tubs. All tubs now have volunteers to water them. Mary does not want reimbursing for the bulbs. AR reported that the hedge planting went well.
- j. Social Housing Nothing to report.

Communication/Administration

k. 1. Budget Review. Receipts are virtually on track but expenditure is well down. The budget forecast is that we will probably need to keep the precept as it currently stands. This is predominantly due to major projects pending such as the playground areas and the church bells. Councillor Williams confirmed that the precept should not be more that twice your reserve unless it is dedicated to a major project.

2. Proposals for Spending 2010. SR asked the Councillors to submit any expenditure proposals for the coming year to her and copy in the clerk so that the forecast could be established. SR and HHW are to work together on this matter.

Councillors to submit expenditure items to SR.

- k. Parish Plan JB reported that the Village Design Statement is at the final draft stage. It will

be submitted to Stratford and then printed ready for distribution. The Nature Area has progressed. Work should start this month. Peter Wallace has started to make furniture and JB is investigating whether the Probation Service can undertake the wood-chipping.

JB to contact Probation Service.

JB sought support from ADPC to procure a compost heap, rubble sacks and bulbs for planting. It was agreed that his should go ahead.

JB still has not received the £400 from the Fete Committee.

5. COUNCIL REPORT

District Councillor's Report

Recycling Rates – The new refuse and recycling arrangements are continuing to work well as residents are clearly taking advantage of the opportunity to recycle plastic bottles, cardboard and cartons in addition to the materials collected under the old arrangements.

The provisional recycling figure for the six months, April to September, was 62.9% with the figure actually reaching 64.3% for the month of April. The new collection arrangements have approximately doubled the quantity of dry recycling collected in the blue lidded bin compared to the old black boxes. As from April 2009, everyone has been able to recycle kitchen waste by adding this material to their green waste bin. This latest change was in conjunction with the move to collecting general waste every other week. This represented the final step in what has been a complete change of service and which has resulted in Stratford District Council being one of the leading performers in the waste collection and recycling service in the country.

County Councillor's Report

1. Speed Limit Review – C and D roads. As a consequence of the Speed Limit Review on A and B roads, there are now a number of locations where a higher classification of road has a lower speed limit than adjoining country lanes, which are now signed as 60mph. Interestingly, there are three times more C and D roads than there are A and B. A significant number of requests have been received from the public for lower speed limits on C and D roads. At the present time, there is no available funding to enable a similar review to the A and B road project. The actual review of A and B roads cost £100,000 with implementation costing £900,000. When the review for C and D roads starts it might be appropriate to consider only the rural type roads. A large proportion of C and D roads in fact cover urban type roads which are mainly housing estate roads which already have a speed limit of 30mph. It is recognised that a review of C and D roads would achieve consistency throughout the County.
2. The review of the Fire Service continues with public consultation throughout the County. The new Chief of the Fire Service, Graeme Smith, has attended all the public consultation meetings. Clearly, what it is to be finally proposed will significantly differ to the original proposals. In our own case, the Fenny Compton Fire Service has been able to demonstrate the strategic importance of this site. Currently, reservations have also been raised about the possibility of Oxfordshire Fire Service covering parts of Warwickshire as originally proposed. The next stage of the process is for a Question and Answer Session between the Fire Service and the County Councillors early in December. A final document will then be presented to the County Council early in February when whatever decisions have to be taken will be debated and voted upon.

6. CORRESPONDENCE This was reviewed and distributed.

7. Planning - Construction of general storage building: Mark Watts. After a brief discussion it was decided that ADPC had not comments to add to the application. **HHW to update website.**

FINANCIAL STATEMENT**Balance at close of business 01/11/09**

Current Account	£277.94
Savings Account	£7,440.29

Cheques issued

		Cheque No
John Glover – Mowing	£120.00	975
Clerk -	£175.11	976
Cleaning – Sue Harris	£10.00	977
Mary (Planters)	£81.00	978

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Traveller Sites: DH reported that from a recent meeting he had understood that if Parish Council's did not make provision, the Government would impose sites upon them. Councillor Williams confirmed that this was the situation. E=He also quantified that there are 4,000 travellers in Warwickshire, most of whom are located at Ryton.

Empty Homes: **HHW to contact Carol Roberts and report the empty home in the village: St Joseph's cottage.**

Slippery pavements: It had been reported to the Council that the footpath on church Hill was slippery due to the leaves. The Council confirmed that these would be cleared once the last leaves had fallen due to the costs of multiple clearings.

Parking Notices: LHF confirmed that these have been distributed but with no profound results.

LHF informed ADPC that Burton Dassett Church will be holding a rededication on the 29th November at 11.00am. In addition Father Bill has confirmed that he will undertake the Remembrance Service at 11.00am at the War Memorial. Father Francis has given his blessing to this service.

Christmas Cards: Should be received soon.

7. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC - None

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING –Monday 7th December 2009

The meeting closed at 9.10pm.