Minutes of Ordinary Meeting

Monday 8th September 2014

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm 491

1. APOLOGIES (with acceptance of apologies): None

Present: Trevor Gill, Alastair Whetstone, David Hutt, Mike Blakeman, Clerk (Helen Hide-Wright), Councillor Williams arrived at 8.15 having previously indicated that he would be arriving to the meeting a little later.

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS: None

3. CONFIRM MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: Signed by David Hutt. Unanimously accepted.

4. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC: None.

5. **MATTERS ARISING**:

Community

a) **Burial Ground**: Trevor Gill is preparing the document that has to go to the Cemetery Warden, Ray Randerson. The details will be brought to the next meeting.

b) **Community Policing/Neighbourhood Watch**: Nothing to report

c) **Playground** (including monthly check): Trevor Gill checked the play area today and everything appeared to be in order.

d) **Superfast Broadband**: Trevor Gill is going to look into the recent email and seek clarification about whether Avon Dassett is one of the, "white areas," that will not receive the scheme.

e) **Post Office**: Trevor Gill will phone Bala and ask her to expedite the repairs to the PO alarm because of complaints from the public. The alarm continues to ring in the PO secure room that the Parish Council does not have access to and it has been reported on several occasions over the past months.

f) **Avon Dassett Country Fete**: Trevor Gill reported that the Fete was a great success and the accounts are likely to show a balance of around £4,000. There will be a final meeting in a few days when the accounts will be finalised. The Parish Council would like to congratulate the Fete Committee for their efforts in putting on such an enjoyable and successful day.

The Parish Council discussed the recent application for funds for the Christmas gathering by Lily Hope-Frost. The Parish Council agreed that the application could be sent on to the Fete committee as they may wish to support this village event. In addition the Parish Council will apply to the Fete Committee to make a contribution to the replacement/repairs of the Reading Room windows and the funding of the flower tubs in the village.

g) **Village Tidy-up**: A date has been set for a general tidy up of the village on the 8th November 10am -12.00 noon, meeting at the Reading Room. Any volunteers would be welcome to get the village in order for the winter.

h) **Remembrance**: David Hutt will order and purchase a wreath on behalf of the Parish Council. Costs will be reimbursed from the PC. David Hutt will attend the War Memorial to lay the wreath. **ACTION: David Hutt to order a wreath for Remembrance. David will attend the memorial service at the War Memorial.**

i) **Christmas**: See notes on section 5 f. The details of the event will be sought from Lily Hope-Frost.

Roads

Traffic, Roads and Drains

- **Water flowing onto road close to St John's Church**: Chris Williams spoke about the investigations which had concluded that the jetting process has moved a blockage which contradicted the information given to Trevor Gill during the site visit. The flow of water appears to have ceased since the exercise. The Council will repair and monitor the road. The drains are flowing freely and well. A copy of the inspection report will be requested by Councillor Williams from Patch Byrne and sent on to the Parish Council. **ACTION: Chris Williams to obtain the drainage report from Patch Byrne and circulate to ADPC**.

  Trevor Gill requested that if the problem starts again, Avon Dassett should not have to wait for investigations/repairs as it has done this time.

- **Speed Reduction Scheme**: No-one has objected to the scheme and the matter continues to progress.

Environment/Maintenance

f) Green areas: the Parish Council discussed the complaint that had been received about the grass cuttings being left in the play area. Various options were discussed and it was decided to add the removal/mulching of grass clippings on to the play area tender document for next year. Once the cost is know, a decision can be made as to whether it is affordable to remove the clippings in the area. **ACTION: Clerk to contact the green area contractor and confirm that they should proceed with the remaining cuts for the season with no changes.**

g) Reading Room maintenance (Purchase of frost stat): Alastair Whetstone bought a frost stat and found it was not suitable for the purpose. It was decided that the Parish Council needs to continue to look into the products available and circulate the options for a decision. It needs to have a thermostat that will trigger the heating when the temperature falls to 5 degrees. **ACTION: Alastair will continue to search for a suitable frost stat product.**

Communication/Administration

h) Administration: The Clerk outlined a New Councillor course that Mike Blakeman would like to attend in January 2015. The cost of £40 was approved by the Parish Council and has been factored into the budget. **ACTION: Clerk to book a place on the course for Mike Blackeman.**

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Douglas Tonks has been notified of increment increase to Clerk's pay following on from her appraisal in July.

The Clerk explained that the external hard drive that provides back up to computer files has failed. It was decided to purchase a replacement for around £50. **ACTION: External Hard Drive to be purchased.**

6. COUNCIL REPORTS: Chris Williams explained that SDC has sufficient land supply to meet the five year Land Supply requirement. Until we had achieved this recent position, the Planning Department were vulnerable to inappropriate development since the developers argument was that because we have insufficient land supply the development should be allowed.

The Draft Core Strategy which hopefully will be approved by the full District Council on 15th September 2014 will mean that the criteria within the strategy will now have to be considered within any planning application. Without the adoption by the Council these parameters could not be considered. After the Core Strategy has been approved by the Council, it will then be subjected to a Public Examination, possibly at the end of the year. The housing developers' requirement in the district is considerably more than the 11,500 houses which the Council believe will meet the demand. The Lighthorne Heath proposal remains a contentious issue within the Core Strategy. It will be the second largest settlement in the district outside Stratford. When the Inspector makes his wishes known it is likely that there will be some modifications. However, once the Core Strategy is approved the plans for development over the next fifteen years will be established.

The County Council are continuing to evaluate the proposal to change to a Unitary Authority for Warwickshire. At present, the opinion is that such a proposal will produce significant cost savings together with efficiency savings.

The next Community Forum will be held in Radway Village Hall on Thursday 18th September commencing at 6:30 p.m. The meeting will include a presentation by the Leader of the County Council, Cllr Izzi Seccombe, where the public will be invited to 'Have Your Say' about the future of local government in Warwickshire. In addition, there will be a presentation by the District Council covering not only the Core Strategy but also the Site Allocation Plan and the Community Infrastructure Levy will be discussed. This will be an opportunity to find out about the type of community-focused projects that could be funded through the Community Infrastructure Levy. As always, the Police will be in attendance to discuss any issues raised by the community.

Cllr Williams reminded the Council that he hoped that they would respond to the Community Health Strategy document that has been supplied to the Parish Council for comment.

Trevor Gill sought clarification from Councillor Williams on the superfast broadband, “white areas.” Councillor Williams will look into this and report back to Trevor Gill. **ACTION: Chris Williams to investigate the designation of, “white areas,” and report back to Trevor Gill.** European funding has been sought to invest into improved broadband service.

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

A note was read to the meeting outlining the disturbance caused by the PO Alarm: The matter will be reported again by Trevor Gill in the hope that the PO can resolve the issue.

Parish Councillors were asked to submit/update their profiles and clarify their responsibilities in order that the details can go onto the website.

8. **PLANNING** (Declarations of interests):

14/01792/FUL Oxbow Farm: The application has been withdrawal

14/01767/LBC and 14/01615/ FUL 4 Park Cottages. Permission with conditions

David Hutt thanked Mike Blakeman for attending the planning meeting and reporting back to the Parish Council.

9. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

FINANCIAL STATEMENT September 2014, Avon Dassett Parish Council:

Balance at close of business 31/8/14

Current Account	£8,166.15
Savings Account	£ 749.49 *

This figure represents ring fenced funds for ADPC plus any interest received into the account.

Bank Transactions

Current Account		**Chq/SO/DD**	**In**	**Out**
5 Aug	N Power	DD		47.00
7 Aug		1289		46.75
11 Aug		1287		120.00
27 Aug	D Tonks	DD		214.06

Deposit Account		**In**	**Out**
11.8.14	Interest	0.03	

Cheques issued from mtg			**Cheque No**	**Amount**
8.9.14	J. Sherriff	Coffee Aug	1290	8.76
8.9.14	MFM Services	Mow July	1291	262.00
8.9.14	H. Hide-Wright	Expenses Aug	1292	26.48
8.9.14	MFM Services	Mow Aug	1293	121.00
8.9.14	J. Sherriff	Coffee Sept	1294	11.72
Total Cheques				**429.96**

Notes: None to add

New Balances for Ring Fenced Funds:

Neighbourhood Watch	£	185.00
St John's Steps appeal Funds	**£**	**359.05**
Community Grant Fund (Laptop)	£	5.41
Interest Received	£	0.03
Play area lease grant from AD Fete Committee	£	200.00
Total	£	749.49

Cheques were signed by David Hutt and Alastair Whetstone.

Trevor Gill will contact the History Group to review costings for the website. **ACTION: Trevor Gill to speak to the History Group to see if their funding covers some of the costs of the website.**

The bank mandate was completed for Mike Blakeman who was added as a signatory.

10. MEMBER REPORTS: Trevor Gill spoke about the storage of old documents. It was decided that there should be an appraisal to see what documents are being held, what needs to be retained and in what format they need to be stored.

11. **DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS** – 2014 dates: 6th Oct, 3rd Nov, 15th December changed from the 1st Dec).

Mike will not be able to attend the October Meeting.

The Parish Council discussed and agreed to a date change for the December meeting to the 15th December.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm.