Minutes of Ordinary Meeting

Monday 15th December 2014

The meeting commenced at 7.30pm. 502

1. APOLOGIES: None

Present: David Hutt, Alastair Whetstone, Trevor Gill, Michael Blakeman, Councillor Chris Williams (left at 8pm), Clerk (Helen Hide-Wright).

Public: John Anderson.

2. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS: None

3. CONFIRM MINUTES OF LAST MEETING: The minutes were accepted by the meeting and signed by David Hutt.

4. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC: None

5. MATTERS ARISING:

Community

a) Burial Ground: Carry forward to next meeting.

b) Community Policing/Neighbourhood Watch: The Clerk confirmed that there are new weekly incident reports coming from the police and she will circulate them to the Parish Council.

c) Playground (including monthly check). Review of Inspection report by RoSPA: Trevor Gill confirmed that the play area is fine and most of the items highlighted in the recent report have been attended to.

d) Superfast Broadband: Trevor Gill commented that on the latest circular an extra batch of money has been allocated to the white areas of which Avon Dassett is one.

e) Post Office: The Clerk confirmed that the Post Office has called a meeting in January which will be attended by herself, Trevor and Michael. She will report back to the next meeting. She has notified the current managers of the AD PO of the meeting and asked for any comments from them.

f) Avon Dassett Country Fete: The Clerk confirmed that a letter of thanks has been sent to thank the Fete Committee for their recent donations.

g) Village Tidy-up: David Hutt thanked everyone for their efforts.

h) Christmas: The Christmas Gathering is taking place on the 21st December. The wine has been donated from various sources.

i) The Avon Pub: Trevor Gill explained that a number of people had been looking into the possibility of buying the pub and registering it as a community asset. A questionnaire has been circulated to assess whether it is viable and the Plunkett Foundation has been approached to explore grant funds to assist the research into the feasibility of purchasing the pub.

Trevor asked the Parish Council whether it would be agreeable to set up a sub-committee to investigate the matter further. Trevor Gill confirmed that the Clerk had made enquiries of WALC who had confirmed that a sub-committee could be established. John Anderson endorsed all that Trevor outlined and reiterated the idea of registering the pub as a community asset straight away as it would give the village some say in the future of the pub.

Trevor Gill confirmed that the pub is still for sale although several offers have been made already but they have been rejected. If the pub is registered as a community asset, the community will have a greater say in its future. The Parish Council unanimously agreed to the immediate registration of the Avon Pub as a community asset. The application will be in the name of Avon Dassett Parish Council as this will add greater weight to the application. **ACTION: Trevor Gill to register the pub as a community asset with Tony Perks of SDC.**

Trevor Gill asked if the Parish Council would agree to an application to be made in the name of Avon Dassett Parish Council to the Plunkett Foundation for grant assistance to fund the research required into the feasibility of establishing the pub as a community pub. If successful and grant received will be passed through the Parish Council accounts so it can get the additional benefit of being able to reclaim any VAT. Alastair Whestone asked if the grant was obtained and spent and then the pub was purchased by someone else, would the finds have to be paid back. Both Trevor and John Anderson said the funds would not have to be paid back. The Plunkett Foundation provides resources to facilitate the feasibility study. Trevor Gill confirmed that there is an upfront fee of £240 to join Plunkett Foundation. The joining fee to the PF was approved. **ACTION: Trevor Gill to progress the application to join the Plunkett Foundation.**

A separate website will be developed called Save The Avon, to inform residents about the project. John Anderson confirmed that the website will display all the documentation and discussions on the matter to keep the residents informed.

David Hutt thanked everyone for their work on the project so far. It was agreed that the documents previously circulated earlier in the day by Trevor Gill, would be read and views feedback to the Clerk so that a decision could be reached on any remaining matters.

John Anderson confirmed that there will be a further meeting on Thursday to discuss the matter.

Councillor Williams confirmed that Fenny Compton has registered the pub and doctors surgery as a community asset.

Roads

- Water flowing onto road close to St John's Church: See Councillor Williams report.
- Speed Reduction Scheme: See Councillor Williams report.

Environment/Maintenance

j) Green areas: Nothing to report.

k) Reading Room maintenance: Trevor Gill has had a quotation from a window fitter in Fenny Compton for circa £5k. The previous quotation was for a similar amount.

Communication/Administration

l) Administration:

- County Archives contribution request: The clerk confirmed that a considerable number of Parish Council documents, including old minutes, are now being held in the County Archives. It was agreed to send a donation of £50 to the County Archives, following their request. Proposed: Trevor Gill, seconded; David Hutt.
- National Pay Award: The meeting approved the annual incremental increase and one off payment without another appraisal as the latest appraisal took place recently.

m) Review of Parish Councillor Responsibilities: These were agreed at the last meeting. Trevor Gill gave Mike Blakeman a key to the Reading Room.

n) 2015 Elections: The Clerk outlined the costings for the forthcoming elections and the advice that the expenses can be added to the precept request. It was agreed that the precept request would increase by £1,000 to cover the potential costs of the elections.

6. COUNCIL REPORTS: Councillor Williams asked that the agenda item, "Water flowing onto the road close to St John's church," should be taken off the agenda. Trevor Gill commented that Patch Byrne had confirmed that further work is still due which was why the item remained on the agenda. Trevor Gill undertook to send the information he had received from Patch Byrne, to Councillor Williams.

Councillor Williams confirmed that the speed reduction scheme was now concluded and is fully legal.

Councillor Williams commented on the Core Strategy and the need for more housing stock, moving forward.

It appears that the new budget will remain broadly the same although it has been acknowledged that some fine tuning will take place. The Council Tax is likely to increase by 1. 9%.

Councillor Williams asked if Daniel Robertson will remain as the Snow Warden. The Parish Council has not heard that this has changed.

Alastair Whetstone and Trevor Gill commented that there were undertakings to provide more signage for the speed reduction scheme. Councillor Williams undertook to chase this up and report back to the Parish Council.

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

8. PLANNING (Declarations of interests): ***14/03074/FUL*** Pippin Cottage, Mrs J Ferris. Comment: Objection: There is insufficient information to judge the planning application as the plans do not show it in context with neighbouring properties. It appears to be a very large extension of more than 50% of the original property that may overshadow neighbouring properties.

14/03379/TREE, Mr Gavin Callard. Comment: No Representation.

Extraordinary planning meeting comments from 2.12.14:

14/03107/FUL and 14/03111/LBC. *Proposed:* Enlargement of previous GF footprint with new first floor pitched roof additions at The Limes For: Mr John Anderson: No Representation

14/03168/TREE. Proposed: Conifer: fell. At The Old Rectory For: Mrs Linda (Lily) Hope-Frost: No Representation

9. FINANCIAL STATEMENT

December 2014. Balance at close of business 30/11/14

Current Account	£ 5,830.56
Savings Account (Ring Fenced Funds)	£ 6,749.63 *

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

Bank Transactions

Current Account		**Chq/SO/DD**	**In**	**Out**
4 Nov	Internal Transfer			5,000.00
5 Nov	N Power	DD		47.00
7 Nov	1302	Chq		14.70
28 Nov	D. Tonks	DD		795.54

Deposit Account		**In**	**Out**
21 Nov	Fete Committee	1,000.00	
10 Nov	Interest	0.08	
4 Nov	Internal Transfer	5,000.00	

Cheques issued from mtg		**Cheque No**	**Amount**
15.12.15	J. Sherriff (Nov Coffee Morning)	1303	7.82
15.12.15	J. Sherriff (Dec Coffee Morning)	1304	9.69
15.12.15	MFM Services Sept and Oct Mow)	1305	340.00
15.12.15	A Whetstone (Heater for RR)	1306	79.88
15.12.15	H. Hide-Wright (Nov Expenses)	1307	20.10
Total Cheques			**457.49**

Notes: Current account includes second part of precept payment.

New Balances for Ring Fenced Funds:

Neighbourhood Watch	£ 185.00
St John's Steps appeal Funds	**£ 359.13**
Community Grant Fund (Laptop)	£ 5.50
Interest Received	£ 0.08
Play area lease grant from AD Fete Committee	£ 200.00
Tubs (From Fete Committee)	£ 500.00
RR Maintenance (From Fete Committee)	£ 500.00
ADPC Ring fenced RR Maintenance	£ 5,000.00
Total	£ 6, 749.63

- Precept and budget: See Election Expenses.

10. MEMBER REPORTS: None

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETINGS – 2015 : 26th Jan (incorporating January and February meetings), 2nd March, 13th April, 11th May, 1st June, 6th July, 3rd Aug, 7th Sept, 5th Oct, 2nd Nov, 7th Dec.

The meeting closed at 9.00pm.