

TEMPSFORD PARISH COUNCIL

MEETING HELD ON 31ST MARCH 2014 AT THE STUART MEMORIAL HALL AT 20.00 hrs. TO DISCUSS THE PROPOSAL PUT TO THE COUNCIL REGARDING THE RELOCATION OF THE CENOTAPH.

Apologies: Cllr. E. Infield.

Present: Cllr. Adrian Besant (Chairman), Cllr. Jim Donnelly (V.Chairman), Cllr. Dan Clark, Cllr. Chris Bettles, Cllr. Steve Cooney.

Chairman proposed to divide the discussion into 4 areas:-

1. Whether we should move the cenotaph
2. How to canvas the opinion
3. How do we measure the opinion?
4. How to commemorate the start of WW1.

The proposal was put forward by Mr. Tazi Husain, resident of Tempsford at the Parish Council Meeting on 18th March 2014.

Points raised by Councillors were:-

- Why does he want it moved? (AB)
- No real need to move it (AB)
- It does need cleaning ready for commemoration of WW1, (AB)
- Mr. Husain thought it would be a nice area to move it to and it was the right time this year. The proposed area is near to the new SOE memorial. To put pictures of each of the men would let everyone know who they are and about them. It would be look after a lot better. (SC)
- Would then it not detract from the new SOE memorial? (AB)
- Cllr. Bettles – thought it was a smashing place to re-site it and that this was the correct year in which to do it. He was not against it. Was not a place before, but now it is a fitting place for it.
- Cllr. Clark – definitely do not see point not moving it.
- Cllr. Donnelly – if we leave it where it is, will it be cleaned – no. It will stay where it is; can see benefit of moving it. Have no issues with moving it to a cleaner, quieter place. 50 years from now, will people not think about it having been moved.

Cllr. Clark will write something that can be put out to the villagers. He will send it round to all Councillors to get their opinions.

It was agreed to present it at the Annual Parish Meeting on 15th April to allow everyone who is against or for it to come to the meeting to put their opinion. This

would be advertised separately on the notice board along side the Agenda, which would include a presentation by Mr. Husain.

After the meeting a newsletter should be sent round explaining that there would be a village vote on this relocation, explaining that it is not the Parish Council or the Stuart Memorial Hall's idea. It is purely for the village to decide, yes or no.

The vote would take place on Saturday April 26th in the Methodist Church Schoolroom, between 9-12 midday.

Only residents living in the village would be allowed to vote. This would have to be checked.

If it was not possible for people to attend, they could put their answer in a sealed envelope and handed to a Councillor.

Cllr. Clark to design a flyer with a voting slip on it. Clerk to check whether it is possible to have the Schoolroom.

How to commemorate start of WW1?

If the relocation happens, it will be the commemoration, if it does not we would have to think of something else.

Chairman's initials

Linda Collins,
Clerk to Tempsford Parish Council.
March 2014.