

**Minutes of Tempsford Parish Council Meeting held on
Monday 17th November 2014 at 19.30 hrs. in the Stuart Memorial Hall**

Present:-

Mr. A. Besant	Chairman – Councillor
Mr. J. Donnelly	Vice Chairman - Councillor
Mr. D. Clark	Councillor
Mr. C. Bettles	Councillor
Mr. S. Cooney	Councillor
Mr. S. Fraser	Councillor
Miss E. Infield	Councillor.
Mrs. L. Collins	Clerk
Mr. Philip Clark	WSP (NR)
Members of Public	5

The Chairman opened the meeting at 19.30 hrs.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from the Central Beds. Councillors, Cllr. Doreen Gurney and Cllr. Adam Zerny.

2. Declarations of interest.

No declarations of interest were received.

3. Acceptance of Minutes

Minutes of the meeting of the 15th September, were approved as a true record.

4. Public Session

6 Members of the public were present, 5 of which were residents.

Mr. Ken Chambers who was the proprietor of a Windscreen business adjacent to the Black Cat roundabout, was present to inform Tempsford that he would be having a meeting on the 28th November between 2-3 pm with Mr. Alistair Burt MP, to express his concerns about the access onto the roundabout and to complain that he felt that the business adjacent to the work in progress has not been consulted. He was hoping to distribute as many letters to inform people as possible. Peter Bettles and Cllr. C. Bettles offered to have any letters returned to their address.

5. Police Report

PCSO Lucy Barnell apologised for not having the Stats. Report with her, but she had been at a serious incident most of the day. She did say, however, there was nothing to report of significance. Cllr. Besant mentioned that there had been an abandoned car left in Station Road (Audi) for three weeks. PCSO Barnell said if it happens again to email her.

6. Parking Problems

Cllr. Clark reported that he had been discussing with Mr. Graham Boyle the problem of cars parking on the verge near Kier's exit road. They had agreed the need to liaise with Stuart Court residents, Kier staff and residents opposite the entrance. Present at this meeting were Mr. & Mrs. Bull from Stuart Court and Mrs Bull explained that they had formed a little association of Stuart Court residents. She had sought their comments and had already spoken to Cllr. Clark and Mr. Boyle. Problems presented were:

- Huge difficulty driving in and out of the junction
- Drivers coming out do not look right when exiting.
- Keir staff parking in Station Road and then walking in to Kiers.
- Employees need re-education on coming out of Kiers.
- Parking space is tight in the tandem parking at the back of Stuart Court
- When Stuart Court was being built, a parking area on right of entrance helped. Could this be re-instated?
- Mrs. Bull had put an email out to residents to park lower down the road.

The problems were discussed by Councillors. A suggestion by Cllr. Clark was to move the white line at the junction forward, so that they stop further out and the possibility of having bollards at the beginning of the verge. The Chairman said it was good to have a voice from Stuart Court, thanked them for attending and hoped this would continue.

RESOLUTION: To further investigate moving the white line forward, having bollards at beginning of sight line, erecting Give Way signs and to ask employees to be more careful on exiting. Cllr. Clark and Mr. Boyle to continue to liaise.

7. Highways

The Chairman was having a meeting with the Highways Department next Monday and he would put forward the points mentioned above.

The Chairman had sent a letter to Mr. Parrott with regard to the pothole patching and the diversions which had caused many village residents a lot of grief.

Highways Satisfaction Survey had been received and the Chairman suggested that Councillors all have an input to the Survey, which gives the Council a chance to express their concern about how the road works were carried out.

Clerk to send Survey round to Councillors.

8. Black Cat Quarry

As none of the Councillors were available to attend the last Liaison Group, the Group had suggested perhaps a Saturday for Councillors to visit the site. Councillors were asked if this would be an option and 5 Councillors said they would like to go.

RESOLUTION: Clerk to email the Group and suggest some dates.

9. Play Areas

The new fencing had not yet been erected, but the company would let the Clerk know when they would be starting. The Clerk had emailed all Councillors regarding the grass being cut and whether weed control needed to be applied. Mark Zwetsloot had emailed back to say that the Agronomist had suggested that the weed control should not be done until next Spring, but a cut now would help. Mark's cost for the cut would be £32 and for weeding spraying next Spring £70.

RESOLUTION: To instruct Mark Zwetsloot to cut the new play area now.

The Lease for the new play area had been signed and sent back to Woodfines.
Safety Sheets - These were handed to the Clerk. Cllr. Infield asked the Clerk to find out who they had purchased the “springers” from so we could get some new bolts.

10. Defibrillators

The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), had been received by the Clerk which had been circulated to all Councillors.

RESOLUTION: To complete and return the Resolution by December 3rd in agreement.

The Clerk had spoken to Karen Lang who had suggested that one of the most important things is to make villagers aware of the Defibrillators and to encourage as many people as possible to attend the Community Awareness course that will have to be arranged.

Action Clerk. To look into the cost of electric that will be used.

11. Level Crossing Closures

Philip Clark from WSP was present to report on the first part of the survey. The preferred option was the blue route, the northerly route for the bridge. 75% of survey replies preferred this. There had been a lot of positive feedback for the bridges. There is another round of exhibitions, the one for Tempsford being on Tuesday 2nd December at the Stuart Memorial Hall, between 3.30-7 pm. Posters are already in the notice boards, but other larger posters will be put up before. By mid Feb 2015 there would be a clear understanding of funding and in mid March they would review the feasibility study. A funding application will be going forward in Spring and then a decision will be made. It was asked:-

- Is there anyway we can have the review put on a web link for the public?

12. Composting Facility

The Clerk had attended the last meeting of the Tamar Liaison Group and it was revealed that Tamar was going to put in for planning permission for a new method of composting which is completely outside – “Windrow”. The present permission is for “in-vessel composting”.

The Clerk had visited one such site in Essex to see what it was like. It did have an odour, but not as bad as she thought it would be, but they did only compost “green” items and not food and animal by-products. When the planning application is presented a meeting should be held to discuss the implications to Tempsford and surrounding area.

13. Dog Control Orders

The new orders had been circulated to all Councillors by the Clerk. They are quite strict and the CBC had been informed of all areas that would need signs. Signs would be needed for the new play area.

14. Green Infrastructure

Daffodil planting had been completed for this year. Some more would be done again next year. The Parish Council had been reimbursed for these bulbs. It was suggested by the Chairman that residents could be asked for any other ideas for “green infrastructure” through the Tempsford Times.

15. Community Wellbeing

The Chairman encouraged the Council to consider any other ideas which the Council could support for the improvement of the “well-being of the community”. A First Aid course was still a possibility if we could get St. Johns Ambulance to do a whole session. The Clerk had researched costs and they were £25 per person.

16. Central Beds Councillors – No Councillors present.

17. Planning – No planning applications received.

18. Cemetery/Church matters.

The Clerk had come across an employee of Arnolds Funeral Directors, digging a hole next to one of the graves in the old cemetery. When asked what he was doing, he said he was placing a casket of ashes next to the grave, as he could not get into the grave.

The Clerk explained that she had not been informed, and no necessary documentation or payment had been received. On talking to Arnolds directly the Clerk was told that these would be sent to the Council. The Council agreed that the actions of Arnolds were unethical and illegal.

RESOLUTION : Clerk to write to Arnolds complaining about the actions they had taken.

- The new fence next to Jim Sawford’s grave had been completed and looked very good.
- The storage shed in the cemetery needed cleaning out and woodworm treatment inside. Chairman suggested a work party be organised and then to organise a professional to do the wood work treatment.
- The laural hedge needs cutting in the church yard. Cllr. Infield to speak to Mark Zwetsloot.
- Main gate in old cemetery not shutting correctly. Cllr. Bettles to inspect it.

19. Finance.

The below payments were approved to be paid by Council.

Date	Payee	Details	Total
1.9.14	Mark Zwetsloot	Grass cutting Sept	£731.00
7.9.14	Linda Collins	Sept.Wages	£163.84
7.9.14	Linda Collins	Sept expenses	£6.26
7.10.14	Linda Collins	Oct wages	£163.84
7.10.14	Linda Collins	Oct expenses	£3.13
3.11.14	Mark Zwetsloot	Oct. grass cutting	£313.50
10.11.14	Tony Davis	Cemetery Fencing	£720.41
Total.			£2101.98

Income & expenditure September & October 2014 (Statements 62 & 63)

Date	Details	Income	Expenditure	Balance
29.8.14	Balance b/f			£19766.24
1.9.14	Chq 782 Mr. Elwes Audit.		£50.00	£19716.24
9.9.14	t/fer savings interest	£0.61		£19716.85
23.9.14	HMRC VAT refund Giro	£128.98		£19845.83
25.9.14	Chq 785 L.Collins wages		£341.48	£19504.35
25.9.14	Chq 784 Mark Zwetsloot		£1224.00	£18280.35
26.9.14	Chq 783 BDO external audit		£120.00	£18160.35
2.10.14	Chq 787 BATPC Councillor training – Simon Fraser.		£20.00	£18140.35
7.10.14	Chq 786 CPRE M/ship		£36.00	£18104.35
9.10.14	t/fer savings interest	£0.63		£18104.98
13.10.14	Chq 789CPRE awards.		£30.00	£18074.98
13.10.14	Eon Street lighting.		£46.92	£18028.06
31.10.14	Balance			£18028.06

Tempsford 2000 Accounts as at 31st October 2014 - £512.60

Parish Action Plan is ring fenced in current account - as total balance £1325.00

Balances as per Bank Statement as at 31st October 2014. (Stat 63)

4% Government Stocks holding	£19.14
Current Account	£18028.06
Savings Account	£15450.32
Tempsford 2000 Account	£ 512.60
Total	£34010.12

Budget 2015/16

The Clerk had previously emailed everyone with a copy of the proposed Budget for year 2015/16. She had also done a Summary Cash flow until the end of March 2015 and pointed out that there would be only £1800 approximately by this time, so she would keep an eye on this. This drop in the current account is because of the new fence for the play area which will shortly have to be paid for.

Looking at the Budget, there are few things that would have to be changed as the electricity used for the defibs. would have to be taken into account. Also it was suggested by the Council to look into how Eon charges for the street lights and how many lights, if any, the Parish Council have to upkeep.

RESOLUTION: Clerk to contact CBC to ascertain who owns which lights and contact Eon.

20. Correspondence

The Clerk had emailed a list of “emails” that she had sent round and ensured all Councillors had received them.

- Could any Councillors go to the Town and Parish Conference? Only the Clerk and Chairman would be going.
- Salt Bag Scheme. A letter had been received with regard to this scheme this year. Could Councillor Infield check the amount that we already had available and if it was of good quality and report to the Clerk before 5th December.

21. Dates for next year’s meetings (2015)

January 19th - Ordinary meeting

March 9th – Ordinary meeting

April 20th - Parish Meeting

May 18th - Annual Meeting

July 20th - Ordinary Meeting

September 21st – Ordinary meeting (or possibly the 14th)

November 16th – Ordinary meeting.

RESOLUTION – CLERK TO BOOK DATES WITH THE STUART MEMORIAL HALL.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21.38 hrs and thanked the Councillors and public for attending and for their contributions.

Linda Collins
Clerk to Tempsford Parish Council
27th November 2014.

I certify these Minutes to be a true record of the meeting held on the 17th November 2014.

Chairman Cllr. A. Besant.

Date: 19th January 2015.