

Minutes of Tempsford Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 19th January 2015 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
Members of Public	4

The Chairman opened the meeting at 19.30 hrs.

1. Apologies for absence

No apologies had been received by the Clerk. .

2. Declarations of interest.

No declarations of interest were received.

3. Acceptance of Minutes

Minutes of the Meeting held on the 17th November 2014, and Minutes of the Planning Meeting held on 17th December 2014 were approved as true records.

4. Public Session (10 minutes allowed)

4 members of the public were present, of which 3 were residents.

Mr. Allan Drew from Eyeworth attended the meeting as he had been selected to stand as Conservative Councillor for our Ward. He wanted to introduce himself to the Parish Council.

Mr. David Pennington, resident, wanted to point out that there was an awful lot of litter on the link road. Was this CBC to deal with, or could the village have a voluntary "litter pick up"? He also mentioned Speedwatch – saying that there were still only two volunteers, it needed more people. Could an article be put in the Tempsford Times again? The Chairman said he would put an article in the next edition and would also look into having a voluntary litter pick.

Mrs. Meryl Besant, Chairman of the Stuart Memorial Hall Trustees, attended the meeting to express a worry about the number of members on the hall's committee. There were only 6 at best, one being only present for 6 months of the year. She expressed a wish to resign, but felt she could not as there was no-one who wanted to come on the committee, so she has given advanced warning that she will be resigning in 2016.

The Chairman asked for comments from the Councillors; no comments were forthcoming.

5. Police Report

There had been no apology from PCSO Lucy Barnell and no recent statistics had been sent to the Clerk.

6. Central Beds. Councillors report

Cllr. Adam Zerny was the only CBC councillor present. He commented on the fact he was not happy with CBC tendering process for superfast broadband. It would appear that only one company is likely to quote – BT .
Compost site – no application has been put in for the new process. He thinks that it will be passed, because CBC would not want to pay the costs of an appeal. Level crossing – apart from the exhibitions, nothing else heard.
The Chairman and Councillors pointed out that the repairs to the potholes on the “link road” last November are breaking up around the edges and producing more potholes.
Councillors Donnelly raised a concern over the CBC Highways log-in being discontinued.

7. Finance

The below payments were approved by Council to be paid.

Date	Payee	Details	Total
30.11.14	Stuart Memorial Hall	Hall hire, July, Sept, Nov 2014.	£48.00
07.12.14	Linda Collins	November wages	£163.84
09.12.14	Tempsford Chapel	Hire of hall April and July	£42.00
04.12.14	Royal British Legion	Poppy wreaths	£38.00
07.1.15	Linda Collins	December wages	£163.84
22.12.14	Balaam Brothers	Fencing for new play area	£12071.42
02.01.15	Eon	Street electric	£46.92
05.1.15	Central Beds.	Community Awareness training – re Defibs.	£150.00
Total			£12724.02

The Royal British Legion item is a suggested donation for the two wreaths. The Council usually increases the donation so Cllr. Besant proposed an increase to £50, Cllr. Donnelly seconded. Council agreed.

RESOLUTION: To increase donation from £38.00 to £50.00.

Government 4% stocks - an email was sent to all Councillors explaining that the stocks of £19.14 were going to be redeemed on the 1st February, unless Council wanted to re-invest them. Cllr. Besant proposed they be redeemed. Cllr. Donnelly seconded and Council agreed.

RESOLUTION: Clerk to inform necessary parties that we wish to redeem the Stocks as letter received.

Income and expenditure November and December 2014. (statements 64,65,66)

Date	Details	Income	Expenditure	Total
30.10.14	Balance b/f			18028.06
06.11.14	Deposit 500477 Green Infrastructure	123.80		18151.86
10.11.14	t/fer. Interest from savings a/c	0.68		18152.54
26.11.14	Chq.791 Tony Davies		720.41	16387.63
26.11.14	Chq.792 Mark Zwetsloot grass cutting		1044.50	16387.63
28.11.14	Chq.793 LC Clerk wages		337.07	16050.56
02.12.14	Chw.788 Jim Donnelly bulbs		123.80	15926.76
09.12.14	t/fer interest from savings a/c	0.61		15927.37

11.12.14	Deposit 500478 Memorial/BRCC daffs reimbursement.	99.99		16027.36
29.12.14	Chq 794 J.Donnely – re daffs.		39.99	15987.37
31.12.14	Balance			15987.37

Tempsford 2000 Account

31.10.14	Balance			512.60
31.12.14	Deposit Millennium Garden event	200.00		712.60

The Clerk reported that since December another £20 had been deposited into Tempsford 2000 being a donation. Therefore, the present balance would be £732.60.

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

The Clerk explained that after the payments approved today, the current account balance would be £3263.35, but a little less as this was based on the British Legion donation being £38 not £50.

Balances as per Bank Statement 66 (31.12.14)

4% Government Stock	19.14
Current Account	15987.37
Savings Account	15450.32
Tempsford 2000	712.60
Total	32169.43

PRECEPT

The Council discussed the Budget that was presented at the previous meeting, taking into account the cost of new Defibs., installation, maintenance, extra electricity, extra grass cutting for the new play area and any equipment that may be required for this new play area. The Clerk said that the last time the Precept was increased was 2010.

The Chairman gave a presentation of the calculation for deciding on the Precept for the coming year.

Comments from Councillors, included:- perhaps a small increase is needed due to the plans mentioned above. If it is put up, we need to show what we are putting it for.

Cllr. Besant proposed an increase from £12,000 to £12,500. Cllr. Clark seconded it. Council agreed.

RESOLUTION; TO INCREASE THE PRECEPT TO £12,500.

8. Planning - No planning applications had been received.

9. Highways

Nothing had been done with regard to the work pointed out in the last “walk about”.

The Clerk reported that a resident has mentioned about :-

- The bus taking pupils to the Upper School is not using the turning area in Station Road but using the entrance to one of Peter Bettles’ fields causing a lot of mud etc. on the road. Parents have contacted CBC, and they were told that the bus should not be turning in the field.

Apparently now they are dropping the children at The Close, and they then have to walk. Parents do not like this.

- BT manhole cover, near number 81 Station Road is protruding above the pavement quite badly and is very dangerous.

Action: AB to contact CBC and BT

10. Kiers parking

Kiers has applied to CBC for permission to erect new road signs indicating their new entrance, but this is taking some time to complete. Cllr. Clark offered to come up with some suggestions with regard to Kier's Station Road entrance problems to see if Kiers can help support.

11. Children's Play Areas

- New play area Lease still has not been signed by Kiers. The new Chief Executive did not know why we had been given lease of the land. Graham Boyle (Kier) had made a request of the Chairman for the background to this. The Clerk agreed to ask Tim Sills to chase Kiers regarding the signing of the Lease.
- Fence – Chairman showed some slides of the new fence and condition of the ground. The Council agreed the fence was well constructed. The ground will need to be rolled in the Spring and weed treatment applied. The path up to the play area was not in good condition, and had been churned over by tractors as well. Cllr. Fraser suggested that perhaps some money set aside for the play area development could be used to do the path way as well.
- Concern was expressed that both play areas are easily accessible to vehicles. Councillor Cooney suggested the erection of lockable posts and offered to ask Gary Blick if he could look into it for the Council.
- Safety sheets – Station Road – seat needs cleaning, willow tree needs cutting back. Cllr Infield agreed to contact Mark Zwetsloot to attend to it. The chain link fencing is curling up at the base in some areas. Church End – A Springer has rough edges and still has a bolt missing. The Clerk agreed to contact Springer suppliers. It was noted that the swings will need to be replaced in the near future.

12. Defibrillators

The Defibs. were collected by the Chairman and Clerk. The next step is to obtain some quotes from electricians to install them. Cllr. Clark said he had the name of a contractor we could use. **Clerk to look into it.** Awareness training will have to be booked. Cllr. Donnelly suggested that we book it soon. From now on we have to contact Community Heartbeat for any further information or help.

13. Cemetery/Church yard matters.

Cllr. Cooney suggested that we sort out the storage shed at the cemetery and then use it to store items that the village use, such as tug of war rope, ducks etc. This would be a secure place. It was proposed that the Clerk administer the hire of these items from the shed, so that we know where they are and they do not get "lost". Cllr. Donnelly seconded this proposal. Council agreed. The Clerk was quite happy to take on this suggestion. The Chairman suggested a date to sort the shed out – **7th February at 10 am.**

RESOLUTION; Sort the shed out and then Clerk to administer the hire of any equipment stored.

The Clerk reported that she had received a telephone call complaining about the cemetery dustbin being over full over the Christmas period. She asked if anyone actually put the bin out? No one did at the moment. Cllr. Besant asked if Cllr. Bettles would put the bin out for the Council (as he lives nearby), Cllr. Cooney seconded the proposal.

RESOLUTION: Cllr. Bettles agreed to put the bin out for the Council.

14. Community Wellbeing.

The Chairman instigated a discussion about the use of the village hall – is it here for the villagers or the hall? The hall is used by outsiders more than villagers, which is a shame. Discussion followed of the possible groups or events that could be encouraged to make use of the hall. This followed on from the earlier request from the Chairman of the Hall wanting some more Trustees. Questions were asked if the Parish Council would have to take it over if there failed to be enough Trustees. The Chairman explained that as “guardians of the village” the PC would not actually run it, but would need to find trustees to do so.

First Aid courses – a resident whose employment is first aid courses, has offered to do some for the village. This will be looked into when the awareness course has been done.

15. Correspondence

- The Clerk requested that Councillors reply to her emails when asked to.
- Salt – Cllr. Infield reported that there was still plenty of salt in good condition, so there was no need to have further deliveries.
- Clerk showed Councillors, the Right of Way booklet and map that has been sent to Council. Councillors asked that the Clerk send it round to everyone so they could read it at leisure.

16. Date of next meetings – Some of the dates have had to be changed because the hall was booked. These are the new dates:- March 2nd, April 10th Parish Meeting on a Friday, May 18th Annual Meeting, July 20th, September 21st and November 16th. Please make a note in your diary of these dates.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21.24 hrs, and thanked the Councillors and public for attending and for their contributions.

Linda Collins
Clerk to Tempsford Parish Council
26th January 2015.

I certify these Minutes to be a true record of the meeting held on the 19th January 2015.

Chairman Cllr. A. Besant

Date: March 2nd 2015.