

Minutes of Tempsford Parish Council Meeting held on Monday 2nd March 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. S. Cooney	Councillor
Mr. S. Fraser	Councillor
Miss E. Infield	Councillor.
Mrs. L. Collins	Clerk
Mrs. Doreen Gurney	Central Beds. Councillor.
PCSO Lucy Barnell	Beds Police
Members of Public	4

The Chairman opened the meeting at 19.30 hrs.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllr. Chris Bettles and Cllr. Adam Zerny.

2. Declarations of interest.

No declarations of interest were received.

3. Acceptance of Minutes

Minutes of the Meeting held on the 19th January 2015 were confirmed as a true record and duly signed and dated by the Chairman.

4. Public Session (10 minutes allowed)

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

Mrs. Pennington would like the Council to look into cleaning up the area along the link road, taking down the fences that are broken, planting bulbs etc. The Chairman agreed that the area needed tidying now that the Highways Dept had cut back the hedging. The Council said they would consider this idea within the Green Infrastructure discussion later in the Agenda.

Another resident reported that the bins outside Gannock House were left there all the time and this resulted in rubbish blowing down the road into the Church yard and generally made a mess. There was also a gas bottle left outside.

Could the Council look into this and perhaps ask the residents to put the bins inside. **The Chairman and Clerk would action this problem.**

5. Police Report

PCSO Barnell reported that there had only been one incident, when a gentleman had taken wood from a property. **Operation Vision** – This would take place in Tempsford on 17.3.15 between the hours of 13.30-15.30. The Police will be in the village knocking on doors, walking round, number plate security will be available for 2 hours. Posters will be put up and a mobile police station will be parked somewhere within the village. Smart water will be available to buy.

6. Central Beds. Councillors report

Councillor Doreen Gurney reported that:-

- Composting site – no application had been received for the new design.

- Solar panels – (Everton) – the road in the area is in a bad state with verges being damaged by large vehicles entering and leaving the site and dropping mud on the road.
She agreed that the link road is in a very bad state. Cllr. Gurney had contacted the Highways Department to discuss these problems.
- Surgery – this was held in the Methodist Chapel. One point which was raised by residents was that they would like more bungalows rather than houses.
- Black Cat – Last week-end, dreadful road congestion throughout the whole area had been caused by the road closures due to the Black Cat road works. The Contractors maintained that there has been an increase in traffic in the area because of building in the area. Roads would be closed again week-end 6-8th March for the traffic lights to be installed. It is all due to be finished 30th March 2015. Mrs Gurney reported that a flyover is planned; the money is available, possibly in 18 months time.
- Broadband – CBC is pushing BT to the ultimate. The CBC voted on obtaining private money to get full broadband provision. Therefore, if BT does not put it in some places, they will then use that money to put it in those areas.

Councillor Clark pointed out to Cllr. Gurney that the cars go round the Black Cat roundabout very dangerously.

7. Finance

The below payments were approved by Council to be paid.

Date	Payee	Details	Amount
07.01.15	Linda Collins	Jan wages/standard allowance Expenses travel	£163.84 £ 12.53
07.02.15	Linda Collins	Feb wages	£163.84
23.2.15	Mark Zwetsloot	Grass cut and Lime trees pollard	£513.00
01.04.15	BATPC	Affiliation fee	£121.00
Total			974.21

Income and expenditure:

Bank Statement 67 (31.1.15)

Date	Ref	Details	Expenditure	Income	Balance
30.12.14					£15987.37
09.1.15	t/fer	Interest Savings		£0.66	£15988.03
12.01.15	DD	Eon	£46.92		£15941.11
20.01.15	Deposit	500479 Seamers		£120.00	£16061.11
29.01.15	Chq.797	Linda Collins Nov/Dec	£327.68		£15733.43
30.01.15	Chq 796	Balaam Bros Fence.	£12071.42		£3662.01
31.01.15		Total.			£3662.01

Tempsford 2000 Account

31.12.14	Balance				£712.60
20.1.15	Deposit	Donation		£20.00	£732.60
31.01.15		Balance.			£732.60

The Government Stocks were redeemed in February and the £19.14 has been put into the bank with the final dividend of £0.30p.

Bank Reconciliation as 28th February 2015.

Current account 31.1.15	£3662.01
o/standing cheques	(290.00)
o/standing deposits	£19.44
Total	£3391.45
Savings Account	£15450.32
Tempsford 2000 account	£732.60
Total	£19574.37

The Clerk pointed out that when the payments agreed today had been paid, this would leave a balance in the current account of **£2417.24**

Parish Action Plan is ring fenced in the Current account – total £1325.00

The Clerk had emailed to Councillors a directive from the SLCC regarding a salary increase for Clerks from January 2015. It will mean an increase of £3.29 per month as from January. There is also a non-consolidated payment pro-rata (one off payment) which equates to £12.32 for Tempsford Clerk. The Clerk put it to the Council whether they would accept this increase for the Clerk. She had not included it in the January payments, so it would be back dated.

RESOLUTION: Council approved the increase in the Clerk's salary.

The Clerk had contacted Mr. Elwes to see if he would be willing to audit the Council's end of year Annual Report. He has agreed.

The Clerk also suggested that she would contact other insurers for quotes for the coming year.

The Chairman reported that a letter had been received from the Citizen Advice Bureau asking for financial support. The Chairman put it to the Council as to whether they felt the Council should support them? The matter was discussed, comments made:- that the Parish Council should rather finance groups within village; that CAB is a very good service; that perhaps Council could pick one charity a year to donate to.

RESOLUTION: Against financing CAB at the moment.

8. Planning.

CB/TCA/15/00023 Methodist church – Tree work. This had already been finished. Clerk had rung Mr. Longland and he said that it had been a duplicate application by mistake So invalid.

CB/15/00257/FULL Aerodrome Farm – No objections.

A14 Highway – Although the Parish Council had been asked for comments, Cllr. Clark pointed out that Council need make no legitimate comment to make as the work is out of our area.

9. Black Cat Gravel Liaison Group/Highways.

Two dates had been presented for the Liaison Group and the Clerk asked which Councillors would be free to attend. The dates were Tuesday 24th March and Sunday 29th March. Cllr. Besant would attend on the 24th March, and Cllr. Fraser would attend on the 29th March. **Clerk to inform the Group who would be attending.**

Pot holes – The Chairman endorsed what Cllr. Gurney had said regarding the problem with the potholes on the link road.

10. Kiers Parking problems

The Chairman, Cllr. Besant had contacted Graham Boyle with regard to the accident that had happened outside Kiers recently.

Cllr. Clark asked that the Chairman to contact Mr. Boyle to arrange a meeting between Mr. Boyle, Cllr. Besant and Cllr. Clark to discuss this problem as he felt that if they bring the line out it could narrow the road too much. He does not know whether it would be feasible. A Saturday for the meeting would be preferable.

11. Children's Play Area

Lease – There had been a delay in Kiers signing the Lease as they were concerned that there was no clear "definition" of the use. Therefore, Kiers would like to add the words "**limited to the use as a children's playground**".

RESOLUTION: The Council agreed to allow these words to be inserted into the Lease.

Gates: An email had been circulated to all Councillors with information about the bollards suggested to be installed at the entrance to both play areas. The cost was £698.39 ex VAT but fully installed. Additional keys at £5.39 each. Proposal was made by Cllr. Donnelly to go ahead, seconded by Cllr. Clark.

RESOLUTION: to go ahead with the installation of the bollards by Gary Blick. Clerk to send a works order to him.

Safety Sheets: None from Church Street. Station Road – The spring on the gate is not working. The chain link fence is curling up at the bottom on the road side and also behind the basketball net. **Contact Tony Davis to see if he can repair both items.**

Clerk to Action.

Playsafety Ltd. : The Clerk had received an email just before the meeting from Dunton Parish Council, saying that the Playsafety company they used for the ROSPA Inspection had actually sent the report in with items that had been taken away 2 years ago. We had a similar incident a couple of years ago. A different company had been suggested by Biggleswade Town Council and the Clerk suggested that perhaps we could try them. **Clerk to Action.**

12. Defibrillators:

The Chairman had contacted BT with regard to putting the Defib into the old telephone box in Church St., which the Council were under the impression they had adopted. However, it became apparent that this was not so. There is no record in the file that it had ever been transferred. BT has told the Chairman that it still belongs to BT and they would be cleaning it up and repainting it. Consequently, another place needed to be found. The Chairman and Clerk went to speak to the landlord of The Wheatsheaf public house to ask if we could put the defib on one of the outside walls. He agreed with the proposal and suggested it could be put on the wall of the B&B building. The Council agreed to this proposal.

RESOLUTION: to site the defib at the Wheatsheaf public house.

Clerk to arrange an electrician to inspect the Wheatsheaf and also the Methodist Chapel.

13. Green Infrastructure

Cllr. Fraser reported on the hedge laying that took place at Gannock Castle and thought it was a useful day.

Wildflowers – A discussion took place on which are to seed with wild flowers; it was decided to put them where Cllr. Cooney had suggested. A company called Cotswold Seeds from which to buy seeds was suggested, (Cllr. Infield has a brochure of this company). Sowing needs to be done in about 4-6 weeks. Cllr. Donnelly, Cllr. Clark and Cllr. Fraser would send an email round to set a date. This would be paid for by the Green Infrastructure scheme, so the Clerk will contact Cliff Andrews to inform him of what we would be doing. The estimated cost is £500.

Action Clerk to Contact Cliff Andrews.

Henry Spencer of the King West (Estate Managers) had spoken to the Clerk with regard to repairing the bridge in Esme Wood as to whether this would come under the Green Infrastructure.

Clerk to contact Henry Spencer to find out more.

14. Cemetery/Churchyard matters.

The cemetery hut had been cleared out. The tools had been put outside and are still there. Some racking is needed for storage inside and the woodwork needs woodworm treatment. There were also cast iron cemetery numbers to be disposed of. Cllr. Cooney suggested they be sold and the money go to possibly the Church?

Cllr. Infield said she knew a person who could do the woodworm and would contact them.

Action Cllr. E. Infield.

15. Report re Stuart Memorial Hall/Tempsford Charities.

The Chairman said that in the distant past, a Parish Councillor would be on the Stuart Memorial Hall committee. It is not in the present Constitution. Tempsford Charities – they will not be meeting until April and there is no need for any change of Trustees this year.

16. Correspondence

- The Clerk read out a letter received from Elizabeth Knott (which had already been circulated to Councillors) regarding a situation she had witnessed at the Memorial Green in Church Street. The Council discussed the situation and Cllr. Bettles, who lives adjacent, had already explained the situation as well. It was the Caravan Club, which visits the site once a year. Chairman and Clerk to reply to the letter.

Action Clerk and Chairman.

- Letter from Alistair Burt – An invitation to a meeting on the 21st March. **Chairman – Cllr. Besant will attend. Clerk to reply to invitation.**
- **Forthcoming Parish Elections** – The Clerk had received the nomination papers necessary for Councillors if they wish to stand again. Posters would be put up on the Notice Boards to inform people.

17. Date of next meetings:

April 10th – Annual Parish Meeting; May 18th Annual Meeting, July 20th, September 21st and November 16th.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21.30 and thanked the Councillors and public for attending and for their contributions.

Linda Collins
Clerk to Tempsford Parish Council
7th March 2015.

I certify these Minutes to be a true record of the meeting held on the 2nd March 2015.

Chairman Cllr. A. Besant

Date 18th May 2015.