

Minutes of Tempsford Parish Council Ordinary Meeting held on Monday 18th January 2016 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
Mrs. E. Bull	Councillor.
Mr. S. Fraser	Councillor
Mrs. L. Collins	Clerk
Members of the public	1

The Chairman opened the meeting at 19.30 hrs.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies received from Cllr. Adam Zerny.

2. Declarations of interest.

No Declarations of interest were declared.

3. Acceptance of Minutes

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 16th November 2015 were accepted as a true record and were signed and dated by the Chairman.

4. Police Report

No PCSO was present, so the Clerk read out the Report that had been sent to her. There had been two incidents in Station Road during January.

5. Public session

One member of the public was present and put the question of hedges that needed cutting and attending to in the village. The ownership of the hedge concerned needed confirming. A suggestion was to put a note in the Tempsford Times for all residents to trim hedges if over the footpaths, and to write to Central Beds to see if they are responsible for the hedge near the bus stop. **Chairman to action.**

6. Queen's 90th Birthday.

Suggestions for ways of celebrating the Queen's 90th birthday were discussed: "Clean for Queen". Good idea, but it has been done before and the village could and should do it at any time.

Cllr. Bull suggested that the roundabouts need tidying up; perhaps plant some flowers on them.

Lighting a beacon along with others nationally. April 21st is the day for the beacons to be used. Council agreed to do this, but needed Tony to get the beacon up. We could include a bbq and soft drinks. **Clerk to contact Tony Davis.**

June 12th is the second event day – perhaps a tea at the Stuart Memorial Hall?

Cllr. Cooney suggested new sign for the village with a "to commemorate Queen's 90th". To discuss final details at the next meeting.

7. Central Beds. Councillors

No Councillors were present.

8. **Planning** – No planning applications received.

9. Highways

Kiers entrance:-

The Chairman had met with Kiers with regard to the exit problem at their site. They had decided not to use bollards but now suggest boulders which can be positioned nearer the carriageway than bollards are allowed to be. The boulders would have to be painted white. The cost would be approximately £700 for 8 boulders. Only half the boulders would be used here, the rest outside Spring Cottage. Cllr. Bettles suggested drainage tubes planted with flowers. Cllr. Bull said, would they not park next to boulders or further down? Council discussed the cost, needing to have a specification etc.; it was put forward that we should only pay for half the cost i.e, £350 for the boulders, and Kiers pay the cost for the installation.

Outside Spring Cottage – Kiers land.

Kiers suggested they use the other half of the boulders to place on the pathway leading past Spring Cottage, again painted white. Points raised on this idea:- Cllr. Donnelly – no objection to boulders at Kiers entrance, but they will not work outside the bungalows. Cllr. Cooney seconded that it would not work and suggested a gate, doing a sketch to explain. Do people have a right to park on Kiers land? As it is Kiers land, they should pay for this cost. Cllr. Fraser – as we deal with concerns from residents should we not contribute? **The Council thought the boulders would not work here, but the decision taken was:- Kiers are free to put boulders there, but the Council feel that a more effective solution would be a gate. The Council may feel then that they can contribute to the cost. Before this goes ahead, we need to check with all residents near by. The Chairman will meet with Kiers again on the above subjects and get their opinion.**

Lights - The Chairman had made a list of lights not working and had sent it to CBC Highways and apparently they have all been attended to.

He had also had a Walkabout with the CBC Highways Area Steward. (After April all work will be done in house not by Amey.)

Items discussed with CBC representative:-

- Ivy Close flooding due to sinking of blocks etc. not sure whether it belongs to CBC. They will check if it is adopted.
- Gannock Castle sign – CBC will reset the board.
- Tempsford sign – needs total refurbishment. Where shall it be put back when refurbished? Possibly somewhere more central. ? Suggest it be moved away from A1 for safety. Suggest it be put in Cllr. Donnelly's garden as temporary storage. **Action Cllr. Besant/Donnelly.** (Also suggested were making new Village Signs for both ends of the village new signs for Queen's 90th birthday.)

- The Chairman showed some pictures of the ditch at the bridge in Station Road with food bags that had been dumped there by the bin collectors. The Chairman contacted CBC and they said they will come and clear them – the representative was quite shocked. (*Post meeting information: ditch eventually cleared on Friday 29th Jan*)

10. Children’s play area

Safety sheets – new sheets had been made by the Chairman and filled in by Cllr. Besant and Cllr. Bull. Cllr. Bull will do Church Street play area.

Goal posts – These were taken from Wrestlingworth. Cllr. Cooney has asked Tony Davis if he can erect them. He said he can. He needs to be chased with regard to the goalposts and basket ball nets being moved. **Clerk to send a note to TD.**

ACTION CLERK

Work to play areas – The Clerk had contacted the contractors (CPM) and Andrew would be doing some of the work within the next two weeks, but needed the missing bar from the “Dolphin Springer”. Liz Infield had it last – to see if Liz still has it.

Chairman to contact her. Action Chairman

11. Cemetery/Church yard.

Church hut door – Cllr. Bettles said extra metal door was on going. The Clerk said that the insurance company were chasing for the invoice for the door. It needed to be done soon.

Church yard – work to clear trees in church yard had been started and would be finished this week. Cllr. Bettles mentioned that a gate is needed on other side of church yard, leading onto Mill Lane.

12. Finance

The payments below were approved for payment by the Council. **Action Clerk.** The Clerk pointed out that two payments had to be paid prior to the meeting. The Bank Statement and reconciliation was explained by the Clerk. She also explained a rough cashflow to end of March.

Date	Payee	Details	Total
31.12.15	Stuart Memorial Hall.	Rent, Aug, Sept & Nov.	£54.00
07.12.15	Linda Collins	Clerks wages – November	£192.16
05.01.16	Mark Zwetsloot	Laurel hedge, Limes, cut.	£552.00
07.01.15	Linda Collins	Clerk wages – December	£199.76
Total			£997.92

Payments have already been made to:-

Central Beds for Election costs - £848.62

HMRC re tax for Linda Collins Clerk - £23.60

Bank Statements Nos. 77 & 78 as at 31st December 2015.

Date	Ref	Details	Expenditure	Income	Balance
Balance b/f					£9480.99
03.11.15	Chq825	CPRE membership	£36.00		£9444.99
12.11.15	Deposit	Memorial M.Seward.		£40.00	£9484.99
24.11.15	Chq829	L.Collins Wages Sept/Oct	£374.89		£9110.10
25.11.15	Chq827	Marks Zwetsloot Sept/Oct	£1395.50		£7714.60
08.12.15	Deposit	500489 Purchase of cemetery plots		£120.00	££7834.60
21.12.15	Chq828	British Legion – Poppy wreaths	£50.00		£7784.60
29.12.15	Deposit	500489 – Interment		£90.00	£7874.60
Total					£7874.60

30.11.15	Balance Tempsford 2000 Account	£489.40
Dec 15	Deposit Millennium Garden event profit	£132.05
31.12.15.		£621.45

Bank Reconciliation as at 31st December 2015.

Current Account £7874.60 Stat. 78

Less o/s cheqs. 820 £226.00 **Note 820 is Cllr. Frasers 2nd chq not presented**

Cash book Balance £7,648.60
Savings Account £15,450.32
Tempsford 2000 £ 621.45
Total £23,720.37

Cash book Balance, after above payments will be = £5,778.46. The Clerk also mentioned that she had not received any Bank Statement for the savings a/c or Tempsford 2000, so she would be going to see the Bank as she does not know what interest has been received to date.

- **PRECEPT** - The Chairman showed the new base rate and percentage difference. The Council discussed whether there should be an increase or not. Cllr. Cooney proposed and Cllr. Clark seconded that the Precept be kept at £12,500.
RESOLUTION PASSED - TO KEEP THE PRECEPT THE SAME AT £12,500 FOR YEAR 2016/17. **Action Clerk.**
- A letter had been received from St. Peter's Church asking for a grant to cover the renovation of the pathways – total £233. The question was put to the Council. Cllr. Cooney proposed and Cllr. Bettles seconded that we make the grant of £233.
RESOLUTION PASSED – To grant the money. **Action Clerk.**

- A letter was received from the Ivel Sprinter asking for a grant to help raise money for a new bus. The Clerk pointed out that the Council had given them £500 in 2010. Discussion on the subject followed. Cllr. Clark proposed and Cllr. Bettles seconded that the Council give them £1,000 as it is an important link needed in the village.
RESOLUTION PASSED -| to give the Ivel Sprinter £1000 towards the new bus.
Action Clerk.

13. Correspondence

- Email from Alistair Burt re A1 Stage 1 upgrade. Public meeting on 12th February (Fri). Clerk and one other Councillor can attend, Conservative Club, Sandy.
- Council Tax Precept Consultation Survey – Could Councillors do survey
- Green Infrastructure – money available. Could we apply again. Clerk to look into this. **Action Clerk.**
- River Ivel Project. - This is also in the Tempsford Times.
- Clerk briefly explained about the Council Staging date for Pensions auto enrolment. The Chairman suggested that the Clerk puts out a attachment explaining what it is about. **Action Clerk.**
- New audit arrangements. New “Sector led body” from 2017/18. The Council needs to opt in or out of the new scheme. If the Council “opt out” they would have to find own external auditor. Cllr. Clark thought it best to say in. **Resolution passed – to stay in “sector led body”.**
- Cllr. Donnelly asked that all councillors register on Cllr. Bull’s new Google Groups page for Tempsford. Cllr. Bull explained about the Tempsford Google Group.

14. Meeting dates for the rest of the year:-

21st March, Annual Parish Meeting Friday 22nd April, Annual Meeting 16th May, 18th July, 19th September, 21st November. These dates have been confirmed with the Stuart Memorial Hall.

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 22.03 hrs, and thanked the Councillors and members of the public for attending and for their contributions.

Linda Collins
Clerk to Tempsford Parish Council
27th January 2016.

I certify these Minutes to be a true record of the meeting held on the 18th January 2016.

Chairman – Cllr. A. Besant

Date 21st March 2016.