

Minutes of Tempsford Parish Council Ordinary Meeting held on  
Monday 18<sup>th</sup> July 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. Simon Fraser	Councillor
Mrs. L. Collins	Clerk
Mrs. Doreen Gurney	Central Beds Councillor.
Members of the public	6

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 Annual Meeting held on the 16<sup>th</sup> May 2016 were accepted as a true record and were signed and dated by the Chairman.

**4. Police Report**

The Clerk looked at the police.uk site and it only showed one incident in May, so she felt this was not up to date. The Chairman then gave an Power Point presentation of the Community Engagement event held on the 13<sup>th</sup> June which was held by Nick Lyell, Chief Inspector. Various people spoke at the event, including Kathryn Holloway, Police and Crime Commissioner and PC Tau Chamboko Rural Crime Officer, who we had invited to our Parish meeting, but he could not make it. Tempsford is in Group 1 area and the PCSO is Ann Jeeves 4763. Topics covered were: - crime performance data, problem solving, Operation Fidelity by PC Juliette Everett and burglary overview. The Council will continue our invitation to get someone to talk to our Council.

**5. Public session**

**Speed watch** – Some residents had taken on the speed watch and had done 4 sessions, one in Church Street – no volume really and three in Station Road. One resident was caught. If caught they will receive a letter and if it happens 3 times they will get a fine. The Speedwatch camera is set up in various places in Station Road, including outside Kiers. It was suggested that perhaps a sign “Community Speed watch area” could be put up, but it was thought that it had to be done a while before a sign could be issued. On the whole it was a positive exercise.

**Fly problem** – A resident contacted Cllr. Bull about the flies. The resident thought it might due to the compost site. They were contacted and they thought there may be a

problem. Cllr. Gurney commented that they had a problem in Everton and she had also contacted them about it. They are now aware of the situation.

**Biggin Farm** - Most of the residents attending the meeting were present for the item on the agenda for planning. The Chairman decided to leave comments until we reached that item on the Agenda.

## **6. Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday.**

The Chairman thanked all the Council for their help along with the rest of the volunteers in the village. The total cost of the event came to £905.32. There were some good comments.

## **7. Central Beds. Councillors**

Cllr. Gurney reported that she would be having a meeting with the Borough Council and Alistair Burt regarding the A1 and A428 upgrade. We would be kept informed of the situation.

Cllr. Bettles asked whether a map would be possible of where the move would be.

Cllr. Gurney said she would send them to the Clerk.

## **8. Planning**

A reply to the "Call for Sites" had been submitted by the Estate. A planning application would be put forward for Biggin Farm. The Chairman gave a presentation of the plans that had been given to him by the Estate. There would be 8 dwellings all within the Biggin Farm boundary. When the plans are officially sent to the Parish Council, a planning meeting would be organised. The question was raised as to whether the area is within the curtilage of the village and separate from the Local Plan. Planning was put in 5 years ago, but they did not obtain it.

Questions that were put by the residents:-

Are the barns listed? Do not think they are.

Velux windows in the roof space over looks the Biggin House and causes light pollution. Windows overlooking their gardens, not agreeable. Cladding designs not really the best design. Drainage – the area already floods, so this will increase. The drains from Biggin Farm go across the yard. Are they going to be private properties? The Chairman believed that some would be rented properties. The Chairman would put these concerns to the Estate, but until the plans are officially sent to the Council, they could not really do anything.

**Mobile homes at The Anchor.** The Clerk had heard from Chris Perry, Planning Enforcement Officer that he thought at least one home may get permission. He would keep her informed. A new "public footpath" signed had been put back as the other one had been removed. The Clerk had reported it to Mr.Gwillian, Rights of Way Officer (Central East).

## **9. Highways.**

Caxton Gibbet – There have been suggestions there could be a choice of 3 routes. There is a Strategy Meeting is being held on the 21<sup>st</sup> July in the Stuart Memorial Hall. The Chairman could not attend, so Cllr. Clark, Cllr. Bettles and the Clerk would attend.

Other items raised

- Cold Arbour Lane closing for one day to surface dress it. Sometime in August.
- A428 is to be re-surfaced, between now and November but it will be at night.

- Long grass – this is causing a problem as it has not been cut by CBC, but the farmers have been doing it
- The Tempsford sign has not been cleaned or refurbished yet.
- Hedge near Mrs. Reddy has not been attended to. Clerk to write to her to ask if she could arrange to have it cut back from the path. **Action Clerk.**
- Trees at Cottage Farm need to be cut back again as it is infringing on the light.

## 10. Kiers

**Station Road** – Solving the sight lines problem at Kiers exit has not progressed any further. Cllr. Clark will chase Kiers about this problem. **Action Cllr. Clark.**

**Drive to new play area** – A resident had rung Kiers to say they were not keen on a gate being put across the entrance. Cllr. Bettles commented that it is a turning area. The land actually belongs to Kiers. The Chairman will contact Kiers to discuss the situation.

## 11. Children's Play area

Playground inspection report – The Clerk had read the Report and compared it with last year's. Some of the comments were the same as last year, but she felt that was perhaps because they had not been attended to. The Clerk would list the problems so that a decision can be made on the work to be done. **Action Clerk.**

The basketball net in Station road has been snapped off the concrete. The Council discussed this problem. **Resolution – remove for the moment, then get a cost for a steel post in a steel sleeve** for both play areas.

**Safety Sheets** – The Chairman questioned the usefulness of them. The Council decided that they should keep them going to cover the Council regarding accidents.

**Resolution – to keep using the safety sheet for checking of any faults.**

**Fence in Station Road** – Agreed to get this removed.

**Willow Tree** – The Chairman said that the Estate would deal with this. He will contact them again. The Estate also said they would do the entrance to Esme Wood.

## 12. Cemetery/Churchyard

The door at the side of the new cemetery (Mill Lane) needs to be attended to. Cllr. Cooney said he would do this. Cllr. Bettles commented that the Russian Vine at the side of the Cemetery hut needs to be cut back to discourage rabbits. **Clerk to contact Mark Zwetsloot to see if he can attend to this. Action Clerk.**

## 13. Finance.

The Clerk read out the payments that needed to be approved. **Resolution – Council approved all payments.**

### Payments that need to be approved:-

Date	Payee	Details	Total
31.05.16	Linda Collins	Clerk wages May	£200.56
31.05.16	Stuart Memorial Hall	Hall rent. Jan, Mar, April, May	£81.00
31.05.16	CPM Playgrounds.	Play area inspections.	£108.00
02.06.16	Mark Zwetsloot	Grass cutting May	£745.00
07.06.16	Linda Collins	Clerk Wages June	£200.56
11.06.16	Gt.Grandsden Playgroup	Crown Making for Queens celeb.	£12.00

09.06.16	Tesco/Poundland Re S. Cooney.	Flags, bunting. Queens Celeb.	£16.50
01.07.16	Mark Zwetsloot	Grass cutting June	£909.00
08.07.16	HMRC	Tax re L.Collins Clerk.	£21.60
11.06.16	Helen Maberly	o/standing for food for Q.Party	£26.82
<b>Total</b>			<b>£2321.04</b>

**Payments already made to celebrate the Queen's 90<sup>th</sup> :-**

Magician £100  
 Music £150  
 Bouncy Castle £100 need **an invoice**  
 Food £500

So with the three payments to be approved, the total cost of the Celebration will be **£905.32.**

**Internal Audit payment** - Can Council approve the same as last year for Mr. Elwes for the internal audit of £50.00? **RESOLUTION – It was approved by Council to pay Mr. Elwes £50.00**

**Bank Statements Nos. 83 & 84 as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2016.**

Date	Ref	Details	Expenditure	Income	Balance
<b>Balance b/f</b>					<b>£14709.21</b>
17.05.16	deposit	Zurich Insurance & Grave markers		£750.00 £612.00	£16071.21
23.05.16	deposit	Memorial + grave marker.		£45.00	£16116.21
25.05.16	Chq 847	Music for celebration	£70.00		£16046.21
25.05.16	Chq 846	Four seasons	£330.95		£15715.26
26.05.16	Chq 845	Linda Collins	£426.12		£15289.14
26.05.16	Chq 844	Mark Zwetsloot	£1005.00		£14284.14
01.06.16	Chq 843	BATPC Affiliation.	£122.00		£14162.14
01.06.16	Chq 848	JRK Carpentry Cem.door.	£850.00		£13312.14
06.06.15	Deposit	Seamers – interment.		£213.25	£13525.39
08.06.16	Chq 850	Helen Maberly Food	£500.00		£13025.39
09.06.16	Chq 849	Aon Limited Insurance.	£566.22		£12459.17
15.06.16	Chq852	DJ Osilwale	£80.00		£12379.17
15.06.16	Chq 853	SBC Sunbourne Bouncy C	£100.00		£12279.17
16.06.16	Chq 851	C.Bylett Magician	£100.00		£12179.17
28.06.16	Deposit	I.R.Quince – Memorials.		£50.00	£12229.17
<b>Balance.</b>					<b>£12229.17</b>

<b>30.06.16 Tempsford 2000 Account ----- £641.45</b>
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Bank Reconciliation as at 30<sup>th</sup> June 2016.

Current Account £12229.17 (Statement 84)  
Less o/s cheqs. 838,839 £33.59 **Cllr. Donnelly chq. For domain name**  
 Cash book Balance £12195.58  
 Savings Account £15455.49 (interest May 59p June 66p)

Chairman's initials and date

Tempsford 2000	£641.45
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>£28292.52</u></b>

Cash book Balance, after above payments approved will be £9824.54. Total balance of all accounts after the above payments would be **£25921.48**.

The Clerk read out and explained the above Statements and Bank Reconciliation and the final balances in the bank for Council.

**Stuart Memorial Hall** – a letter was read out by the Clerk from the Stuart Memorial Hall requesting money for a new curtain system on the stage. They believed the total cost would be about £1500, to which the SMH and the Theatre Club would also contribute. However, they were wondering if the Parish Council would make a donation towards it. After discussion the Council decided to write to the Stuart Memorial Hall and ascertain what proportion of the cost was being covered by the Theatre Club and Hall.

**RESOLUTION : CLERK TO WRITE TO STUART MEMORIAL HALL REQUESTING THE ABOVE INFORMATION.**

**NALC/SLCC** – The Clerk had previously circulated to all Councillors the letter received from NALC & SLCC informing of national salary award. The Clerk explained the scale and how it affected her personally. She asked if the Council would agree to the increase in her salary of £1.97 per month as explained on the circulated letter. This would be back dated to April. **RESOLUTION: The Council agreed to this increase in the Clerk’s salary as set out in the NALC/SLCC letter.**

#### **14. Correspondence**

An email had been received from the Environment Agency (previously circulated to Councillors by the Clerk) explaining that there was going to be a trial opening of the Saw Mill sluice gate so that there is no barrier to fish movement. This was to happen in September. A local farmer was present at the meeting to comment on this particular item and the Chairman asked for his opinion. He stated that he and the Estate were worried about it. They had contacted the Environment Agency, but they had not responded yet. He commented that the sluice gate was there to keep the water levels between Blunham and Tempsford stable. As the Council did not know entirely about this, the Chairman asked the resident to send to the Clerk all the history of the sluice gate and explain in detail why they were against it taking place so that the Council could support these comments. The resident agreed to this. It was suggested that perhaps the Clerk to email the Clerk at Blunham to see if they have any objections. **Action Clerk.**

**15. Date of future meetings** – 19<sup>th</sup> September and 21<sup>st</sup> November. Both agreed. The Clerk explained that she had booked the Annual Meeting for 2017 for **Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> April.**

The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 21.30 hrs. and thanked everyone for attending and contributing to the discussions.

<b>I certify these Minutes to be a true record of the meeting held on the 18<sup>th</sup> July 2016.</b>	
<b>Chairman – Cllr. A. Besant</b>	<b>Date – 19<sup>th</sup> September 2016</b>