

Minutes of Tempsford Parish Council Meeting held on Tuesday 16th November 2010 at 7:30pm in the Stuart Memorial Hall

Present:	Mr A Besant	Chairman
	Mr J Donnelly	Vice Chairman
	Mr S Cooney	Councillor
	Miss L Infield	Councillor
	Mr C Bettles	Councillor
	Mr D Clark	Councillor
	Mr I Gosling	Councillor
	Mrs T Turner	County Councillor
	Miss A Baldwin	Clerk

The Chairman opened the meeting at 19:30.

1 **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies received from Cllr C Maudlin.

2 **Declarations of Interest**

None

3 **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes of the meeting held on 28th September 2010 were approved and signed by the Chairman.

4 **Police Report**

PC Steve Busby introduced himself to the meeting as one the new local police officer for the Sandy Area. He reported to Councillors that there had been a couple of break ins in Tempsford and these are being investigated. Further information on crime at street level can be obtained from the Ringmaster website. The mobile station will be in Tempsford on the 18th November between 9.00 a.m. and 11.00 a.m.

Councillors voiced their concerns regarding speeding traffic in the village. Strips can be put down in specific areas which will record the speed of the vehicle and the time it passed over the strips. PC Busby also stated that in most cases speeding vehicles are normally driven by villagers themselves.

5 **Matters Arising**

The repairs to the footbridge over the river to Roxton have now been completed.

6 **Affordable Housing**

AB reported that he had met with Steve Twyford and a representative from Howard Cottage to discuss the way forward with affordable housing. Howard Cottage will need to carry out a survey as to which type of houses can be built on the land. It is envisaged that Howard Cottage will start the process required in February 2011.

7 **Central Bedfordshire Council**

Cllr Turner reported that the Boundary review has now been completed and Tempsford will fall under the Potton Ward from May 2010.

The Central Beds website is to be upgraded to make it more user friendly.

Cllr Turner also stated that a further 28%, being 36 Million, needs to be taken out of Central Beds Budget over the next five years and therefore some services may be cut. Some redundancies as part of an efficiency review may also have to be made to balance the books.

8 **Planning**

No planning applications received.

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9 Highways

AB has carried out a walkabout with Paul Joyce as there are still a number of repairs to be carried out.

The list of highways issues completed is to be put onto the Parish Council Website.

10 Parish Plan

DC reported that AB has offered to help progress the Parish Plan and to help compile the questionnaire.

11 Children's Play Area

The swings have now been painted.

CB is to repair the back boards of the basketball nets.

SC reported that it is now ten years since the millennium gardens were opened. The Parish Council are holding funds of £1,226.60 and it was suggested that this be used to paid and tidy up the gates and railing leading into the garden. The annual carol by candlelight is being held in the millennium gardens and all Councillors are welcome to attend.

12 Cemetery Matters

CB is to ask his contact if they would be willing to cut back some of the overgrown shrubs and bushes in the Churchyard. A working party is to be formed to tidy and clear the rest of the Churchyard

13 Finance

The Clerk reported that a clean audit report has been received from the external auditors.

However, there were several points that were raised one being that the Council needs to review its fidelity cover. It was decided that the Council add fidelity guarantee cover of £30,000 to its policy.

Another query raised was why were the Parish Council holding funds of nearly 3 times its precept when it is recommended that only 2 times precept is kept. They asked if the Parish Council were saving for a particular item. The Clerk and the Chairman explained that there was a need to hold funds for the ongoing parish Action Plan.

It was decided that approximately £10k should be spent from the Council's funds. Numerous ideas were put forward including two new notice boards in the village and Councillors are to email items they feel are a priority to AB.

After the above discussion it was decided that the Council's precept should be set at £12,000 which is the same level as last year.

Expenses

Date	Ref No	Payee/From	Detail	Amount
16.11.10		A Baldwin	Clerks Wages Sept & Oct	£337.99
		In Trim	Fees September & October	£694.42
		In Trim	Gannock Castle	£423.00
		In Trim	Fees November	£347.21
		M Zwetsloot	Grass Cutting Gannock Castle	£360.00
Grand Total				2,162.62

Income

Date	Ref No	Payee/From	Detail	Amount
01.09.10		Anglian Funerals	Memorial B Darrington	20.00
14.10.10		Quince	Memorial Patricia Edwards	40.00

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14.10.10		Quince	Memorial Edward Stocker	40.00
14.10.10		Quince	Memorial Alison Stocker	40.00
03.11.10		T L Cobbald	Internment Rosemary Wells	320.00
03.11.10		Central Beds	Cemetery Rates Rebate	45.15
Grand Total				£465.15

Reconciliation of balances at 16 th November 2010		
Balances per bank statements		
4% Government Stock	£19.64	
Current Account	£13,628.63	
Savings Account	£15,060.02	
Tempsford 2000 Account	£1,226.60	£29,934.89

14 Correspondence

Central Beds Council – Local Validation Checklist Requirement Consultation
 Stuart Memorial Hall – New booking Clerk Details
 Clerks & Councils Direct Magazine Issue 72
 November edition of the Bedfordshire Bugle.

AB reported that a letter has been received from the Stuart Memorial Hall Committee requesting that the size of the base of the memorial be reduced to help with parking problems in the car park. A discussion took place and it was decided that the Clerk write to the Stuart Memorial Committee stating that the Parish Council are open to the idea and would be happy for the Committee to attend the next Council meeting to discuss the matter further.

15 **Next Meeting Date** is on **18th January 2011 at 19.30** in the Stuart Memorial Hall.

16 The Chairman declared the meeting closed at 9.30 p.m. and thanked everyone for their attendance and contributions.

Amanda Baldwin Clerk to Tempsford Parish Council 17/05/2011.

I certify these minutes to be a true record of the meeting held on 16 th November 2010

Chairman	Cllr. A G Besant	18 th January 2011
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Chairman's Initial

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