

Minutes of TEMPSFORD PARISH COUNCIL meeting held on

Tuesday 20th September 2011 in the Stuart Memorial Hall which started at 7.30pm.

PRESENT: Cllrs A Besant - Chairman, C Bettles, D Clark, S Cooney, J Donnelly, L Infield and C Jameson

Also present were Central Bedfordshire Cllrs D Gurney & A Zerny and one member of the public

1 Apologies

None received

2 Declarations of Interest

None Declared

3 Minutes of the meeting held on 19th July 2011

There were a number of minor changes needed to the above minutes which were then signed as a true record by the Chairman.

4 Public Session

Nothing reported.

5 Matters Arising

The Chairman reported that the letter to the Kier Group requested at the last meeting had been prepared but not sent in light of the conversation had with the MD of the Kier Group and the recent granting of Planning Permission.

The Clerk was also asked to draft a letter to the Anchor Public House regarding the private property signs placed along the public footpath but again this had not been sent as the Chairman had walked the path and reported that the signs only prevent the public from entering their land. Cllr Cooney thought that the tape placed along the footpath was misleading people into thinking that they could not walk along the public footpath and reported that several villages had been told that they were walking on private land.

It was **RESOLVED** that the rights of way officers at Central Beds Council be asked to improve clarity of the public footpath notices.

6 Planning Minutes

The planning minutes of the 10th August were signed with two alterations being:-

4.1 should read The Chairman and several other Cllrs attended a meeting with the Kier Group and that the MD had agreed to investigate the possibility of land owned by the group being used by the Parish Council as a children's football pitch.

7 Affordable Housing

AB reported that this would be moved along once the Parish Plan questionnaire had been completed and sent out to parishioners. (See item 11)

8 Central Beds Councillor Report

Cllr Gurney advised everyone that Alistair Burt was not happy with the proposed boundary changes currently being discussed by Parliament and is currently preparing his points to put forward. It is reported that the government want to reduce the number of MP's by 60 and it was suggested that the Parish Council could write stating that they wanted to stay in their current constituency of North East Bedfordshire.

Cllr Gurney reported on her campaign to alter the proposed new layout of the A428 east of the black cat roundabout and gave members a brief overview on what was planned and what changes she would like to see.

Cllr Cooney asked if the cutting of Gannocks Castle had been decided and Cllr Gurney stated that she would chase this up.

Cllr Zerny reported that he had a copy of an affordable housing questionnaire and would forward it to the Chairman.

9 Planning Applications

None received.

The Clerk had bought along a copy of the planning appeal decision giving permission for the alterations to 37 Station Road. Cllrs were unhappy with this decision and a copy of the decision notice and details on how to appeal through the courts is to be provided to the resident at 35 Station Road who had objected to the original application.

10 Highways

AB reported that some of the works on his schedule had been completed and that he would chase up the remaining issues with Paul Joyce of Amey. The pot hole at the level crossing had been filled by Networks Rail.

The Clerk has received a notice of Central Beds Highway Maintenance Three Year Programme for 2012 – 2015 and the Chairman informed members where these planned works were going to take place.

The two grit bins have now been ordered and a delivery date is expected in the next few weeks.

The Clerk had received a customer satisfaction questionnaire from Amey and the chairman is to complete and return.

11 Parish Action Plan

AB stated that Simon Fraser had agreed to chair and lead the action group. Their first task will be to compile and distribute a questionnaire to parishioners on their housing needs.

12 Children’s Play Area

The clerk provided members with the quote from Kompan for a roundabout and two animal springer’s for the Church End play area. The cost of this project is £5,809 and included delivery, installation and a safety grass mat for the area.

RESOLVED that the Clerk place an order for the roundabout and springers as per the quote from Kompan and provide Cllr Cooney’s details if a site visit is required prior to installation.

The Clerk is to order the basketball nets as per the quote emailed by DC

CB reported that you cannot buy security fencing any smaller than 6ft which therefore would not be suitable for the Station Road play area. It was therefore decided that a working party attend the site on Saturday 24th September at 9.00 a.m. to start to staple the fence back together.

13 Cemetery/Churchyard Matters

Mary Florence Dean has been interned into plot 5 of the old cemetery.

SC reported that he and Gordon Norman had been plotting out the burials in the old section of the cemetery onto a new map which was now complete. SC asked if two new burial books could be purchased so that the new numbering system of the old cemetery can be logged. There is currently sufficient space to provide cremated remains plots in the old section and these are to be sold in order. AB, on behalf of the Parish Council, thanked SC and Mr Norman for all the work they have put in producing new maps of the old section of the cemetery.

RESOLVED that the clerk purchase two new register of graves books.

The lime and cherry trees in the cemetery are to be cut back and LI is to ask the contractor to do this along with the laurel hedge that is overgrown.

14 Finance

Expenditure

Date	Chq No	Payee	Detail	Total
19.07.11	674	ESE	Grit Bins	359.16
	675	Greenbarnes	Noticeboard x 2	2,542.28
	676	M Zwetsloot	Grounds Maintenance	1,471.32
	677	A Baldwin	Clerk Wages July & Aug	332.12
	678	J Bettles	Tractor Hire	40.00
Grand Total				4,744.88

Income

Date		Payee	Detail	Total
20.08.11		J Seamer	Burial Mary Dean	120.00
Grand Total				120.00

15 Correspondence

- Clerks & Councils Direct Issue 77 – **Circulated**
- Bedfordshire Bugle September Edition - **Issued**
- Local Council Review Magazine - **Circulated**
- Invitation from Central Beds Council to the Town & Parish Conference on 5th October 2011
- New Police non-emergency contact number - **Noted**
- Central Beds Budget Review – **any replies by 14th October 2011**

RESOLVED that Cllrs Clark & Jameson attend the Central Beds Conference on behalf of Tempsford Parish Council.

16 Councillor Surgery Updates

An email had been received from Mrs Dawson regarding some youths who decided to camp out at Gannocks Castle. Mrs Dawson was concerned as the youths were lighting fires which could have caused damage to the Council's property and the amount of litter left behind.

This matter was discussed and it was **RESOLVED** that the area be monitored and any further problems be reported to the police.

17 Future Meeting Dates

Tuesday 15th November 2011