

MINUTES OF TEMPSFORD PARISH COUNCIL ORDINARY VIRTUAL MEETING
Held on Monday 16th November 2020 at 19.30 hrs., via Microsoft Team

Mr. A. Besant	Chairman
Mr. S. Fraser	Vice Chairman
Mrs. T. Goddard	Councillor
Mr. S. Cooney	Councillor
Mr. J Donnelly	Councillor
Mr. D. Sutton	Councillor
Mr. Chris Bettles	Councillor
Cllr. Tracey Wye	Central Beds. Councillor
Mrs. L. Collins	Clerk

Owing to the Coronavirus pandemic this meeting was held as a virtual meeting by Microsoft Team. Members of the public were invited to attend via link.

		Action
1. Apologies for absence. Apology received from resident (Melissa Lucas – Speed Watch Co-ordinator).		
2. Declarations of Interest – No declarations were received.		
3. Acceptance of Minutes Minutes of the Meeting held on the 7 th September 2020 (virtual) were approved and will be signed by the Chairman.		
4. Public Session No public were in attendance.		
5. Finance – The following invoices were approved for payment: -		
1.10.20	Mark Zwetsloot October grass cutting.	£410.00
30.09.20	Linda Collins, Clerk Sept wages + £5 expenses (line marking paint for graves)	£227.98
	`Total	£637.98
<p>Paid since last meeting: - Sept – Zwetsloot £820., L.B. Collins £245.66 (July), J. Donnelly £25.20. Oct: Zwetsloot £1460.00, L.B. Collins £299.63 (Aug + Exp.), Tina Beaumont £15.30, HMRC £0.40p. Deposits: Oct £1507.40 VAT refund. Also, some money was spent from Tempsford 2000 for the Millennium Garden bulbs which were planted at the work party day. (£177.77) All payments double checked by the Chairman, Cllr. Besant.</p> <p>Bank Reconciliation 31.10.20 Cash book Balance £22,091.04 Savings £15,487.94 We are now only getting 13p interest a month Tempsford 2000 £1,167.28 Total £38,746.26</p> <p>Neighbourhood Plan have £4,296.05 ringed fenced in the account which leaves the Parish Council £34,450.21 Cash book liquid cash = £17,794.99 BUDGET – Previous to the meeting Cllr. Fraser and the Clerk had gone over the budget with the up to date figures and this was distributed to all Councillors.</p>		

<p>It was suggested that a sum of £75 for winter flowering and £75 for Spring flowering plants be put in the Budget for the planters. (agreed)</p> <p>Play areas – As some work needed to be undertaken on the play areas on advice of ROSPA, it was agreed to increase the budget on Play areas to £1000. Cllr. Donnelly asked if the Clerk’s wages would increase. The Clerk said that they get an increment yearly by NALC, but she had not mentioned it this year, as she felt it was not appropriate. The Chairman said that this would be discussed at next appraisal after Covid.</p> <p>A discussion was undertaken, and it was put to the vote to keep the Precept as the same as last year £14,500.00. The vote was 6 to keep the same and 1 to increase.</p> <p>RESOLUTION – TO KEEP THE PRECEPT TO £14,500, based on the situation with Covid.</p> <p>Clerk will send in the necessary paperwork to CBC.</p>	<p>CLERK.</p>
<p>6. CBC</p> <p>Tracy Wye was in attendance for CBC. Items brought to the attention of the Council: -</p> <p>Flight path being changed at Luton Airport which Cllr. Zerny was writing to CBC about as it may impact on our villages.</p> <p>New Chief Executive at CBC replacing Richard Carr and he will be meeting with all Independent Councillors.</p> <p>Cllr. Cooney raised the problem of Old Station Yard – a couple of local residents of Station Cottages, had found black bin bags in the ditches down near them full of human faeces. The resident had contacted CBC but at the time of talking to them, they had not heard from them. The Council asked if Cllr. Wye could look into this. Clerk to find out who had contacted Cllr. Wye.</p> <p>Cllr. Cooney also mentioned that the cars that were coming up Station Road from the Hermes depot have the cars full of packages and would be unable to see out the back of the car or side. Is this not a danger? -</p>	<p>CLERK.</p>
<p>7. Police</p> <p>Cllr. Goddard had nothing to report. The Clerk explained about Community Partnership and her meeting with them recently. They are really an early intervention team. She had a “team meeting” with them which explained all about the department. They would be sending information we had discussed, which the Clerk will forward to the Council. The Clerk had explained about some of the incidents that had been taking place within the village recently. The Council then discussed CCTV or number plate recognition as a means of identification. Both could be investigated. Cllr. Sutton said it can be done, it’s all about where the data is held. Cllr. Fraser said that there are schemes that give communities discounts if the residents all buy into a scheme. Cllr. Donnelly, said one point that is a bonus, is that we only have two points of entry and if you come in the village you have to go out the same way. Decision for any of the Councillors to look into this and the Clerk will contact Community Partnership and see what they can suggest.</p>	<p>All Councillors and Clerk.</p>

<p>8. Highways Report from Clerk on behalf of Speed watch Co-ordinator: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 8 people volunteered at the start, but now only 5 have confirmed they will continue. • They have all now completed their online training. • Next Beds Police to arrange roadside training. They need to source equipment. • Police also want to review the areas where speed watch will take place in Tempsford. • The latest update is that speed watch activity is paused whilst the current coronavirus lockdown is in place. <p>Therefore, the co-ordinator suspects training will not happen before Christmas so will be early 2021 – we hope.</p> <p>Chairman – Highways Dept has set Station Road potholes to be re-surfaced – possibly in November? Buses are now turning in the turning point in Station Road, so parents go down there to collect the children. A list of paths to be repaired have been sent to Cllr. Zerny to send to CBC. A resident had quite a bad fall in one of the holes on the path. Road sweeping has taken place in Church Street, but gullies need to be cleaned out. Cllr. Cooney said would it be possible to get them to clear the road in Church Street all along the side of the Millennium Garden. He had also emailed CBC regarding the over footbridge and all the debris on it as well as the footpath on the A1 which has been very badly cleared. The trees overhanging the lights in Church Street near the Millennium Garden have been lopped by the resident. The Chairman will continue to monitor the Highways Dept’s completion of work.</p> <p>9. Anglian Water The Clerk had written to Simon Love of Anglian Water to ask whether the building taking place at Blunham had an effect on our sewers in Tempsford. His reply was “In summary I don’t believe based on the analysis that the Blunham development is a material factor in terms of flow.” He was also looking into the flood in Station Road, near Knotts Farm. If you email Mr. Love, he does seem to reply and investigate things.</p>	
<p>10. Black Cat Cllr. Fraser reported that the Charity Fields were now inside the development scheme. The developers wish to have opening discussions, so Cllr. Fraser is awaiting confirmation on this. Clerk received a letter from Highways England re diverting high pressure gas pipeline. It might go through the archaeological area. It did not seem to affect Tempsford.</p>	Cllr. Fraser
<p>11. EWR The Chairman had contacted Wyboston Parish Council to ask them what they are doing regarding development. He had as yet not received any suggestions. He will contact them again.</p>	Chairman

<p>12. Planning</p> <p>Permissive Pathway. A meeting was held on the 26th October to discuss the Licence that was sent to the Parish Council by Strutt and Parker. At the meeting Cllr. Sutton said he would re-word the Licence to suit the Parish Council. This has been done and circulated to all Councillors. A vote was taken on whether all Councillors agreed the new wording. RESOLUTION – All Councillors agreed with the new worded licence. The Clerk will now send the new wording Licence to Robin Clark of Strutt and Parker.</p> <p>Biggin Farm – Name for development. The Clerk had written to CBC and explained that the Council did not think “Lysander” was a suitable name. Biggin Court, Biggin Close was all suggested, but the Developer did not want another Biggin name as there is already Old Biggin Farm and New Biggin Farm. A suggestion was made that it be called “Gosling” something as the Gosling family had farmed the land for 400 years and when the present Goslings die, that will be the last Goslings in the village. “Gosling Court” was put to the Developer, but they have come back with “Gosling Yard”. Resolution, that the Council agree with this name “Gosling Yard”. Clerk to inform CBC.</p> <p>Defib and The Wheatsheaf The Defib needs to be moved from The Wheatsheaf as it is probably going to close.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Village Hall too far away • Telephone box still in use. • Cllr. David Sutton has offered to have it put on his fence. This is opposite The Wheatsheaf. It is a listed building, but not sure whether it matters on the fence. He will check with the listed building people. <p>The Wheatsheaf Public House. Cllr. Sutton says he is going to re-open in December. If not successful, the owner will try and apply for “change of use”. Cllr. Sutton does not support this. He believes it will involve satisfying that it is not a viable business not including this year. He may try and sell it at a market rate? A party was interested in taking it over. In the meantime, he is doing work to the dining room. Changing the windows is the biggest concern for listed building people. Cllr. Sutton does not know if the sign is going back up which had been taken down; without it no one knows it is a pub at the moment. Comments and suggestions: Cllr. Sutton – lottery bids, potential use for other things as well as pub – community hub. Need to leaflet village to encourage people to use the pub or lose it. Cllr. Fraser – some things just do not carry on. It just may have come to end of its life as a pub. Cllr. Cooney - it is our last pub, and it would be a shame for it to close just because of the way it has been run.</p>	<p>Clerk.</p> <p>Clerk.</p>
<p>13. Play Areas</p> <p>Goal posts – Cllr. Sutton – there is a group of people now using the football pitch as a whole pitch, so it would be difficult to move the posts at this present time. Resolution. Review later on.</p> <p>Trees in Playing field. Quote from Mark Zwetsloot for their removal has been received, but another has been requested from another contractor which has not yet been received. When received a decision will be made. Cllr. Bettles believes that we should continue with Mark as he does our contractor work. Perhaps a 3rd quote could be obtained.</p>	

<p>14. Work Party It was put in the Tempsford Times to say what had been completed. Cllr. Cooney said that the next work party, should only be on one day and Councillors decide how long they will stay. There will not be another work party until Autumn 2021.</p>	
<p>15. Neighbourhood Plan The Secretary, Christine Creese gave a report to the Clerk to read to the Councillors – Nothing really to report. They are continuing to work with the Consultant with input from CBC. Everything is really on hold until May 2021 because of Covid.</p>	
<p>16. Next Meeting The next meeting will be on the 18th January 2021. It will be decided nearer the time whether it will be actual or virtual.</p>	
<p>The meeting closed at 21.30 hrs., and the Chairman thanked all Councillors for their input.</p>	

I certify these Minutes to be a true record of the Ordinary Virtual Meeting held on the 16th November 2020.

Chairman - Adrian Besant.

Date: