

**MINUTES OF TEMPSFORD PARISH COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 5<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2021 AT  
19.30 hrs., AT THE STUART MEMORIAL HALL, TEMPSFORD.**

Mr. A. Besant	Chairman
Mr. D. Sutton	Councillor :- V Chairman
Mr. S. Cooney	Councillor
Mr. Simon Fraser	Councillor
Mr. Chris Bettles	Councillor
Mrs. L. Collins	Clerk
Member of the public.	Resident from Tempsford

**Action**

<b>The meeting was held “in presence” in Stuart Memorial Hall and following Covid Regulations as stated by the SMH committee.</b>	
<b>1. Apologies for absence:</b> Apology received from Cllr. Tina Goddard, as she has had to self-isolate.	
<b>2. Declarations of Interest</b> None were received.	
<b>3. Acceptance of Minutes</b> Minutes of the virtual Annual Meeting held on the 10 <sup>th</sup> May 2021 were approved and signed by the Chairman.	
<b>4. Casual Vacancy process</b> The Chairman recorded the resignation of Cllr Jim Donnelly, and expressed the Council’s appreciation and thanks for the work he had put in as Councillor, and vice-Chairman for some of the time. Clerk explained the process that the Council would now take. There had not been 10 names presented to the Officer for an election. Therefore, CBC advised that we always post a Notice of Co-optation on the Parish notice board and website etc. Applicants need to complete a form explaining their interest and experience and send it to the Clerk.  A letter of thanks should be sent to James Donnelly expressing thanks from the Council for his work on the Council.	Clerk.  Clerk.
<b>5. Public Session</b> <b>Standing Orders were suspended for 10 Minutes to enable anyone from the public to address the Council.</b> The member of the public present wanted to know if anything had been done about the rabbit problem on Gannock Castle as he had no replies to his emails. The Clerk explained that she also had received no replies. She would chase them again. He was wondering if there was any possibility of a further grant from the Parish Council. It was explained that a grant could not be given just to finance the running of the club; it had to be for something specific. The Club had been awarded a grant, but this was for levelling the ground in Church St., playing area. The FA were giving away 2000 defibs because of the incident recently in a major game. The club were going to try and apply for one. It was pointed out that the play area in Church St., was also a play area for all children not just to be used for football.	Clerk.
<b>6. Police Report</b> The Chairman had received no data information on the traffic movements in Station Road from the device erected by the police in Station Road The PCC Virtual meeting that is being held on the 21 <sup>st</sup> September with the new Commissioner – Cllr. Goddard would like to join in.	
<b>7. Central Beds Councillors</b> No CBC Councillor was present.	
<b>8. East West Rail</b> Cllr. Fraser wanted to explain about the charity field. He had received a letter a week ago, requesting access by EWR for purposes of a survey. For this they would give a sum of money (£1000) if access were requested. This would basically be 4 years rental income. So, Charity will agree if all parties agree. The public meeting organised by the Parish Council was held to view the EWR maps of proposed	

routes , and it was a reasonable turnout. However, it does seem that CBC want it to follow the route that affects Tempsford, Roxton and Gt. Barford. This is mainly so they can build houses nearby. The villages could protest at CBC headquarters if anyone feels that they were willing to do so. Our MP has also protested against the route CBC want and asked EWR to come and see what affect it would have on this area.

**9. Planning**

**CB/21/02961/Full – Jasmine Cottage.** Although the Councillors were not apposed to the side extension, they were not happy with raising the roof of the house – out of keeping with area. As Cllr. Donnelly was our Planning Councillor we need to find someone to take that position. Clerk will ask JD if he has any notes on planning and reasons for objections.

**10. Neighbourhood Plan**

Report from NP Chairman read out by the Chairman. Another resident had sent an email to the NP Chairman, as residents are wondering what is happening regarding the NP, there seems to be no progress and residents are concerned.

**11. Finance**

Invoices for payment were presented to the Council: -  
Payments to be approved by Council.

2.6.21	Jim Donnelly – Ionos web site Final invoice from JD	£44.52
1.7.21	Mark Zwetsloot – June	£1050.00
30.6.21	L.Collins, Clerk wages June / expense £5.10	£228.08
5.7.21	TM Tree Services	£680.00

Bank Reconciliation's as at 30.6.21.

Current account/Cash book	26703.99
Savings account	15488.97
Tempsford 2000	<u>1032.28</u>
	<b>43225.24</b>

**Neighbourhood Plan** Less £ 3275.05 ring fenced.  
**Balance £39950.19**

The Clerk has sent in a mandate to the bank to remove resigned Councillors' signatures and have Simon Fraser to become an authorized signatory. It all takes time though!

Clerk and Cllr. Fraser will be meeting hopefully next week to discuss future budget and finance.

Cllr. Fraser attended a BATPC finance course and felt it was useful and was glad to report that we actually doing what is advised (mostly!). Cllr Fraser suggested that the advice to carry out a financial risk assessment would be a good process..

Cllr. Sutton also attended a new Councillor course.

Clerk/SF

**12. Playgrounds**

**Gannock Castle** - Pest control mentioned in No.5, but Cllr. Cooney also mentioned how high the grass was, and Cllr. Sutton mentioned that the moat was filling with water, which was really a danger to children.

**Football problem – Church Street play area.** The Clerk had arranged for a fencing company to meet Cllr. Cooney there to quote for a higher fence. The cost would be £2899.20 (quite involved). A discussion took place about the playing field and the fence. Cllr. Fraser thought it was far too expensive and could not agree to such an expense. The solution must be to move or take down one of the goal posts. Apparently, the posts are not standard posts for football, so could not be used in a League sense. Cllr. Sutton suggested that the playground must have free access to all children not just footballers.

**RESOLUTION:** - to take one of the goal posts away, leaving one at the far end for the children to play with.

**Station Road play area** – It was reported that the children's area gate post has rotted at ground level, and is strapped up at the moment. Several other posts are also rotten. Suggestions made that Gate post be removed, and new posts on some of the fencing. Contact Huntree or Gilk fencing to see about new posts. Some of the Kier benches are not good, need to be taken away.

**RESOLUTION: Gate post to be removed. New posts where needed on fencing. Contact fencing contractors.**

Clerk

<p><b>The Children's Centre Service</b> will be at the Station Road Play Area on 23.8.21. 10-11am. It can give advice on children's problems and babies can be weighed. Council to Advertise.</p>	
---	--

**13. Cemetery**

The Clerk had sent the Parish Council's cemetery fees to Biggleswade Town Council for their audit request. The tree in the Church yard has now been taken down and disposed of.

**14. Annual Parish Meeting/Village Event.**

The Council should have an Annual Parish Meeting – Decided to include it in the next meeting in September, so we have both an Ordinary Meeting and an Annual Parish Meeting. (September 14<sup>th</sup>)

**Queens Jubilee Beacon** – Cllr. Sutton would like the beacon on his land. We will have a village event for everyone next June to combine it with the Queens Jubilee (Platinum)

**The festival** that was going to be held at The Anchor (Vanilla Alternative) on August Bank Holiday has been cancelled by Central Bedfordshire Council on safety grounds.

**15. Date of next meeting.**

The next meeting will be an Ordinary Meeting plus the Annual Parish Meeting on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> September at 19.30 hours, and held in the Stuart Memorial Hall.

The meeting closed at 21.45 hrs. The Chairman thanked all Councillors and public for their input.

<p>I certify these Minutes to be a true record of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 5<sup>th</sup> July 2021.</p>
--

Chairman : Adrian Besant

Date: