

**MINUTES OF TEMPSFORD PARISH COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 26<sup>th</sup>  
SEPTEMBER 2023 AT 19.30hrs. IN THE STUART MEMORIAL HALL, TEMPSFORD.**

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| Mr. David Sutton  | Chair                    |
| Mr. Adrian Besant | Vice Chair               |
| Mr. Steve Cooney  | Councillor               |
| Mrs. Tina Goddard | Councillor               |
| Mr. Chris Bettles | Councillor               |
| Linda Collins     | Clerk                    |
| Adam Zerney       | Central Beds Councillor. |

|  | Action |
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| Chairman welcomes everyone to the meeting.   |        |
| <b>1. Apologies</b><br>Apologies received from Cllr. Lawrence and Cllr. Knott.   |        |
| <b>2. Declarations of Interest</b><br>Cllr. Goddard and Cllr. Besant did mention that two Tree work applications were adjacent to their properties.  |        |
| <b>3. Approval of Minutes.</b><br>Minutes of the meeting held on the 11 <sup>th</sup> July 2023, were approved, and signed by the Chairman.  |        |
| <b>4. CBC – Adam Zerny in attendance</b><br>The Chairman asked if we could get Cllr. Zerny’s view on the EWR announcement.<br>AZ – the impact on Tempsford is immense. The trouble is really that we have not been told the proper picture. Not in favour of destruction of land round Tempsford. He has not had any discussion with Government yet, as not had the chance and no conversation with EWR.<br>There should be separation from having the railway and not the houses. He suspects that at some point the Government will put the decision to Council (CBC) or a Development Corporation to run it. If CBC decide to run it, they may get some money for doing it. Cllr. Zerny said he was very happy to sit down with Richard Fuller MP but feels at the moment the election is more important.<br>AZ – interesting view on planning for the future. Reassign building – in big towns first and leave the smaller towns. Use green belts in the towns.<br><br>The Chairman asked Cllr. Zerny his views on Neighbourhood Plan – Chairman said our current plan has no development on it. We should suggest some small sites. Cllr. Cooney – little development shared ownership. Wrestlingworth is a Rural Exception Site.<br>Cllr., Zerny encourages to do the Neighbourhood Plan, does not stop development, but does make It more difficult.<br><br>Cllr. Cooney – The Anchor Public house – Cllr. Cooney mentioned that the chimneys had been removed from The Anchor, with no permission. Although not listed, it should possibly have had planning to do this. Councillor Cooney has been in contact with James Clancey at CBC with regard to this and the Clerk had heard from him today – “He is pursuing the fact that they should have had planning permission and has also tried to contact Trust Inns who would ultimately be liable. He has today been in contact with the Property Manager and awaiting a response.”<br><b>Gannock Castle</b> – It should be decently cut. Cllr. Cooney had contacted a contractor and he quoted |        |

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| <p>£250 a cut which would need 3 cuts. Cllr. Zerny suggested to Cllr. Cooney to contact, Cllr. Wye. It is a Scheduled Ancient Monument so should be looked after.</p>   | <p>Cllr.<br/>Cooney</p>              |
| <p><b>5. Public Session</b><br/> <b>Public not present – but Cllr. Besant and the Clerk had received questions from residents.</b><br/> The Clerk had received a telephone call about all the vehicles that we are being left on the roadside near the level crossing. It looks unsightly, it includes a boat. Is there anything the Council can do about this. Council – if all the vehicles are taxed and insured, then there is nothing the Council can do about it, as it is a public highway.<br/> There is also a large hole that needs filling, as it could cause an accident. Cllr. Besant said that Scott Terry from Highways, is aware of this hole and it will be attended to.<br/> Cllr. Besant – had received a request from a resident that she would like to relinquish planting of the flower boxes at the Tempsford signs. Cllr. Besant suggested we advertise and get some interest, so that she can have some help. Perhaps advertise on FB and website or even word of mouth.</p> | <p>Cllr. Besant<br/>Clerk.</p>       |
| <p><b>6. S106 Funds.</b><br/> The BBQ and benches have been purchased and the Clerk can now claim the money. They needed to be located now. Children’s play area equipment – this was put on to Facebook for residents to vote on. The item that received the most was – Mini swing c/w basket seat. The Clerk will now go forward to get Wicksteed’s to install.</p>   | <p>Clerk</p>                         |
| <p><b>7. Speed indicator</b><br/> The one in Station Road, is not working at moment – battery needs recharging. Cllr. Knott is now going to take overall charge of the indicators. Speed Results – Station Road: Average 27 mph. Max speed 47. Speeding 2.87 %. Church Street: 13% speeding Max speed 63mph!</p>  |                                      |
| <p><b>8. Events</b><br/> Millennium Garden event – Cllr. Cooney managed to contact the band. Hopefully it will be held on the 15<sup>th</sup> December 2023.<br/> Work Party – a work party needed to tidy – Millennium Garden, picnic area and possibly the Church yard. – Decision – date 18<sup>th</sup> November 2023. To advertise to get more help – Facebook.</p>  |                                      |
| <p><b>9. Neighbourhood Plan</b><br/> Need to talk to CBC about what is the feeling of no development allocation. Perhaps starter homes. Need to get it finalized as AZ indicated earlier.</p>   | <p>Cllr. Besant<br/>Cllr Sutton.</p> |
| <p><b>10. Highways</b><br/> Cllr. Besant has spoken to Highways regarding the recent closing of the link road. He emailed Scott Terry. Poor signage caused a lot of resentment from drivers – there were no signs at St Neots, or Everton indicating that the road was closed further down; diversion signs (which were set up later, ) directed drivers at one point back in a circle! There seemed a lack of preparation, knowledge of the routes and lack of communications between the Council, the contractors and the traffic management company. CBC did not keep residents up to date. Cllr. Besant spends a good deal of time chasing CBC re Highways, sometimes with no success. There is a new Contractor for the Highways.<br/><br/> <b>Salt bag scheme</b> – the Clerk had received information about the Salt Bag Scheme for this winter. We do not know what condition the salt we have at the moment is. Clerk to contact resident and report back to the Parish Council.</p>         | <p>Clerk.</p>                        |
| <p><b>11. Tempsford Times</b><br/> Cllr. Goddard has been in touch with the advertisers. Cllr. Goddard gave a breakdown of the</p>  |                                      |

advertisers and those who are willing to pay for the advertising. Discussion on reducing g costs was had (suggestions - cut number of pages or not do all in colour). The cost is £115 per issue or £1200 per year. Are we as a Parish Council prepared to fund any shortfall? **Vote taken – RESOLUTION – to fund any shortfall if necessary.**

**12. Policy updates** – These have not been processed yet. Defer to next meeting.

Cllr. Sutton

**13. Defib**

The defib cabinet has now been relocated to Knotts farm from the Chapel. The actual defib is with Community Heartbeat for repair. However, it should be returned this week and it will then be put back in the cabinet.

**14. Finance.**

Below Payments to be approved for payment: -

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| Sept 2023. | David Sutton – Various Email rental and S106 items. (as emailed to all Councillors on 19.9.23. | £710.48  |
| Sept 2023  | Bedford Electrical Services Ltd. – relocation of the defib.                                    | £298.08  |
|            |  | £1008.56 |

**Payments and deposits since last meeting – 11<sup>th</sup> July 2023.**

Mark Zwetsloot (Aug cut) £1028.00

Linda Collins (Aug wages) ██████████

HMRC £43.88

Mr. Elwes – Audit £50

Easiprint - £214.44

Tempsford Parochial - £600 Grant

Stuart Mem. Hall - £40

Stuart Mem Hall - £216.46 – S106 money.

**Deposits –**

IR Quince Memorial - £50

Burial Plot - £200

HMRC Vat refund - £788.68.

**Bank Reconciliation: - As of 19<sup>th</sup> September 2023.**

Current Account - £13947.01

Savings Account - £15570.15

Tempsford 2000- £ 974.39

**Total £ 30491.55**

**Budget**

The Clerk and Chairman should have a meeting in October to decide on a Budget ready for the November meeting as the precept is best decided on then, ready for the January meeting when it should be sent in. Clerk and Cllr. Sutton to decide on date soon.

Cllr Sutton  
Clerk

**Willow Tree** – Cllr. Bettles met with Contractor, and he has sent a quote to the Clerk. £950 to crown reduce the tree and bring in the lateral branches. Put to the Council – All

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| <p>Councillors agreed to have it done. <b>RESOLUTION – TO GET WILLOW TREE TO BE ATTENDED TO. COST AGREED. Clerk to inform the Contractor.</b></p> <p>The Council now should get that land registered to the Parish Council. (Discuss at next meeting)</p> <p><b>Cemetery</b> – Cllr. Bettles asked that the tap in the cemetery be mended. Clerk to get quote for this to be attended to.</p>   | <p>Clerk</p> <p>Clerk. .</p>  |
| <p><b>15. Planning</b></p> <p>The Anchor was discussed earlier in the meeting. The applications for tree work and the gravel extraction had been sent into CBC by the Clerk. No other planning applications.</p>  |                               |
| <p><b>16. EWR</b></p> <p>There has been a meeting organised for Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> at 7.30 here in the SMH. This was notified to all Councillors. So far, the other Council's to attend are: - Gt. Barford, Everton, Roxton, Wyboston etc., St. Neots and Sandy Town Councils. The Chairman will lead the meeting. The meeting basically is to decide the way forward regarding the proposed route announced by EWR. All Councillors are asked to attend if possible.</p> |                               |
| <p><b>17. Date of next meeting</b></p> <p>The next meeting is on 14<sup>th</sup> November. We need to decide on the dates for the following year, as other parties would like to know so they can put them in their diary please.</p>   | <p>Cllr.Sutton<br/>Clerk.</p> |

Meeting closed at 21.45 hrs.

I certify these Minutes to be a true record of the Ordinary Meeting held on Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> September 2023.

SIGNED..... DATE .....