

**MINUTES OF TEMPSFORD PARISH COUNCIL ORDINARY MEETING HELD ON THE 19TH JULY 2022 AT 19.30 HRS IN
THE STUART MEMORIAL HALL, TEMPSFORD.**

Mr. David Sutton	Chairman
Mr. Adrian Besant	Vice Chairman
Mr. Steve Cooney	Councillor
Mr. Simon Fraser	Councillor
Mrs. Tina Goddard	Councillor
Mr. Joe Lawrence	Councillor
Mrs. Linda Collins	Clerk
Mrs. Tracey Wye	CBC Councillor
Members of the public	2

<p>1. Apologies Received from Cllr. Chris Bettles.</p>	
<p>2. Declarations of Interest None Received.</p>	
<p>3. Acceptance of Minutes Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on the 17th May 2022 were approved and signed and dated by the Chairman.</p>	
<p>4. Central Beds Councillor Tracey Wye CBC Councillor was in attendance. A list of topics that the Parish Council wanted to discuss with Cllr. Wye was on the agenda.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Street Maintenance – A list of work that needed to be done had been sent by Cllr. Besant before Covid to Cllr. Adam Zerny . The Chairman commented that Tempsford felt a little left out on the list advertised on Cllr. Zerny Newsletter that needed work or had work done, Tempsford had not been listed, even though a lot needed doing. Cllr. Wye - it was a General Plan published. Cllr. Besant discussed it with Cllr. Wye about the list. A light was still not working on the Link Road. Needed to contact Highways England to get lights back on. Clerk would send the list again to Cllr. Wye. ➤ Little Barford Development – reports of a new village. Cllr. Wye, as Bedford Borough, they are not directly informed, only what they read. Chairman, as far we know Bedford Borough will put new villages on everyone’s boundaries but using other council’s infrastructure. Richard Fuller had mentioned this. Cllr. Wye did not know when it will happen, but it is in Bedford Borough local plan. An eye needs to be kept on the development news. ➤ Roxton Academy School – Chairman – You may know that we have been asked to contribute to the provision of a new fence for children’s safety. 20% of Tempsford’s children attend the school. CBC should be supporting them as part of the education system. Should we as a PC ensure the CBC are giving enough money to support the school in its needs. Cllr. Wye will check with the School Department. Perhaps lobby someone in CBC about the situation. The Clerk had researched from NALC and BATPC what was the situation with regard to Roxton being in Bedford Borough and not Central Beds and a totally different Parish Council. BATPC received advice from the Legal Team of NALC which was as follows: - <p>“A parish council does not have the power to make grants for education. However, it does have the power under section 8 of the Local Government Act 1894 to undertake, or fund, work on parish property with the exception of property belonging to an ecclesiastical charity, such as the Church of England. But, in any case, this power cannot be used in this case as the school concerned is outside the parish and is therefore not parish property.</p> <p>Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 permits grants to be made where there is no existing power. As outlined above there is no power for the parish council to make a grant for work on a school outside the parish so section 137 could be used. However, for a grant to be made under that power there must be a benefit to the parish council’s area or the residents. It is a matter for the parish council to decide whether there is a benefit to the area or people and, if so, whether that benefit is sufficient to justify the amount of the grant. That decision can, of course, be challenged by Judicial Review if any resident is unhappy.”</p>	<p>Clerk</p>

The decision to contribute will be delayed until we know more about what CBC are doing about the 20% of Tempsford children attending the school.

5. Councillors Portfolios

Cllr. Besant when Chairman made a Portfolio list which was a suggestion of what each Councillor could be responsible for. Cllr. Sutton as Chairman, wanted to bring this to the meeting and sort out what each Councillor could be responsible for as below: -

Portfolio Area	Councillor	Departments/Specifics
FINANCE	RFO : Cllr. Fraser Clerk	Budget Audits Grants
HIGHWAYS	Cllr. Besant	Liaison with Central Beds and Highways England re: Development Maintenance Lighting Health and Safety Footpaths
PLANNING	Clerk Cllr.Sutton	Liaison with Central Beds re: Development of infrastructure Housing / Conservation Area Domestic Industrial
GRAVEYARD /CEMETERY	Cllr.Cooney	Maintenance Legal/Records
PLAY AREAS	Cllr.Lawrence	Maintenance Health and Safety Equipment
POLICE LIAISON	Cllr. Goddard	Protection / Patrol (Neighbourhood Watch) Detection / Investigation Traffic (Speeding)
LOCAL AUTHORITY LIAISON	Clerk	Local byelaws Finance Legal support Links to Govt and local MP
ESTATE LIAISON	Cllr. Cooney	Liaison
COMMUNICATIONS	Cllr.Besant Cllr.Sutton	Tempsford Times Website Social media
ENVIRONMENT	Cllr. Lawrence	Pollution / Climate Change Wildlife Conservation / Litter
VILLAGE LIFE	Cllr. Bettles Cllr. Cooney	Local History and archives Neighbourhood Plan Liaison with Utilities Liaison with local organisations

<p>Tempsford Charity – (Breadfields) – Secretary Cllr. Fraser</p> <p>The Charity was formed in about 1867 – two charities amalgamated into one. Money received from renting the land out by the estate is given to the charity and was originally set up to provide food and aid to the poor of the village. The Charity meet on an annual basis to decide on who to give help and support to. The way, it works – listening to the community and identifying the person in need. Such as, supporting people to get and from hospital, general care, donation to Ivel Sprinter year on year. Cllr. Fraser had managed to negotiate some payment from EWR for access to the land.</p> <p>The Charity had their first meeting since lock down last week and they really thought it would have to fold. However, the Trustees have decided to make it more public and provide Grants to people wanting to learn a trade or living. This year they have provided materials for a person to go to university. They want to market it more. Resolution: - to support the Charity in its way forward.</p>	
<p>6. Public Session.</p>	
<p>A resident of Tempsford wanted to speak about the cannabis farm that was found in Station Yard. Over the past few years, the residents of Station Cottages contacted CBC on frequent occasions about the problems they have had with Station Yard.</p> <p>Tracy Wye had contacted CBC and a reply received from Jo Borthwick (Head of Public Protection) said “I can confirm a visit was made back in December 2020 when you first raised concerns about the area. The only businesses found was a courier and a haulage company, the latter was causing noise problems and were asked to relocate which they did. Nothing was seen to suggest that there was a Cannabis farm in the area and would have reported it to the police if we had seen anything suspicious”</p> <p>The resident commented that they are angry towards the Agency in CBC not the Councillors. There have been lots of incidences that point towards something suspicious going on in the Yard, but CBC just did not want to know. The incident with human excrement found near and around the yard, which CBC just did not believe, and which now could well have come from the caravan which was in the “farm” with a man living in it? Since the raid and the “farm” found there have been no more bags near the bins. They have asked CBC to investigate the toilet facilities in the Yard, as there are now 7 businesses running from it. As a small community, they do not feel safe anymore. The fence broken down in the raid has not been fixed – should the owner fix it.</p> <p>Therefore, they would like the Parish Council contact CBC on the below subjects</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. There is no proper mail address for the Yard? Some of the mail gets delivered to Station Cottage. There should be a proper mail address. 2. There should be a proper directory of the units and businesses that are operating from the Yard. 3. Correct toilet facilities should be in the Yard. The cottages in Station Cottages, has to pay for a special sewer for their toilets. 4. Has Anglian Water been contacted regarding what is going on down there, is there a water meter? 5. Electric Company – surely, they should be involved, as the “farm” would have been using a lot of electricity and water? 6. Residents in Station Cottages should be allowed to question why CBC did not do anything after all the complaints from Station Cottages. <p>Resolution – Write to CBC on behalf of the residents of Station Cottages putting their complaints and asking why nothing has been done and invite to a meeting to discuss. Would like answers. Also, if possible, write to the owner if we can find out who it is?</p>	<p>Clerk Chairman</p>
<p>7. Jubilee Feedback</p> <p>Cllr. Besant, wanted to thank everyone that helped in any way. He had received some “thank you” notes and personal messages. He was glad that it had been put in the Biggleswade Chronicle. It was a very successful event and everyone said that they enjoyed it.</p>	
<p>8. Finance</p> <p>The Clerk presented invoices that need approval. Council approved all invoices to be paid. The cashflow was presented. The clerk had emailed to all Councillors an up-to-date Budget on how the Council’s spending was going. The items that were possible purchases, was another speed camera and some new play equipment. Cllr. Fraser said we must budget, and we could discuss at the next meeting these items but must show evidence of reason for purchase. Play equipment could be discussed after the next inspection of it. Work needed in the picnic area – hedges cut.</p>	
<p>9. Neighbourhood Plan</p>	

<p>The Chairman, Cllr. Sutton presented the Neighbourhood Plan. This is now online on the Parish Council's website. Next is to send a letter out asking people to read the documents and comment as part of a 6 week consultation running online and in paper form. They will only get a couple of the booklets printed and then as required. They will have one at Cllr. Sutton's home, one at Cllr. Besant's home and one at Sandy Library. After the Consultation responses, it will be sent to CBC. Those not on line can ask DS or AB and a paper copy will be provided.</p>	
<p>10. Police Report Cllr. Goddard was not able to attend the last meeting. Cllr. Goddard had sent round a report that she had received from the Police on the meeting. At the time there were not a lot of issues affecting us, but now there is since the "farm" was found. There does seem to be more of a police presence in Tempsford. Cllr. Goddard expect to go to the next meeting and will report on it.</p>	
<p>11. Play areas The Clerk had contacted other Parish Council's to see who they use to inspect their play equipment. There was a variety, although one did use the same as us. After discussion between Councillors, it was decided to go with our usual contractors, but to include the football/basket ball area (Kiers land) to be inspected as well. Resolution go with ROSPA Playsafety Ltd.</p>	Clerk
<p>12. Planning Planning applications – CB/22/02445/FULL Woodbury Cottages. No objections. CB/22/02348/LB 62 Station Road – No objections to chimney being raised. Do not agree with pink masonry paint – in conservation area. CB/21/01951/FULL – (Appeal dismissed), CB/22/02763/FULL – No objections. The Chairman discussed that Cllr. Donnelly had been on a course, but it needed another person, to do the same (The Chairman) so we know exactly what is allowed and not. So, look out any courses that may be running again. The tiles on the roof of 156 Station Road are a point in case. The Council agreed to the building but not the change of roof tiles. Clerk to follow up again.</p>	Clerk Clerk
<p>13. Highways Chairman still believed that the speed cameras reduced the speeds when in situ. The Clerk said she had contacted CBC regarding the Mill Lane sign and they had informed her that it would be 5-10 working days (Reference No. 373808). She had told them where the sign is at present.</p>	
<p>AOB Cllr. Fraser suggested a working party again to Church/Millennium Garden. DATE DECIDED ON 15TH OCTOBER 2022.</p>	
<p>Date of next meeting NEXT MEETING – will be 20th September at the METHODIST CHAPEL, STATION ROAD. 19.30 HRS.</p>	

The Chairman thanked everyone for their contribution on such a very hot day.

The meeting closed at 22.00 hrs.

<p>I certify these Minutes to be a true record of the Ordinary Meeting held on the 19th July 2022.</p>	
<p>Signed..... Chairman</p>	<p>Date.....</p>