

Minutes of Temple Guiting Annual Parish Meeting

Wednesday 4th May 2022 at 7.30 p.m.

in Temple Guiting Village Hall

1. Introductions

The Chairman thanked the three members of the public who attended and noted that copies of all reports would be available on the TGPC website at templeguitingparishcouncil.co.uk along with the minutes of the meeting.

2. Approval of minutes of Annual Parish meeting held on 26th May 2021

The Council approved the minutes and the Chairman signed the copy.

3. Report from Cllr Mark MacKenzie-Charrington, Gloucestershire County Council

Cllr MacKenzie-Charrington sent his apologies but had forwarded a copy of his annual report to TGPC in advance. The Chairman recommended the report – which would be posted to the TGPC website - as it contained interesting information about wider activities across the County.

Local highlights included recruiting a further 15 pot hole teams; an increase in the new school building fund (which would contribute to the cost of the new building at Temple Guiting school); a larger Community Speedwatch Safety Fund; the two-year trial of a new North Cotswold bus service which would start soon, and improved Social Services OFSTED reports across the County.

4. Report from Councillor Richard Keeling, Cotswold District Council

Cllr Krier outlined the main content of the report from Cllr Keeling, which included: increases to car parking charges across the district and the staged removal of cash payment facilities. Cllr Keeling also noted the potential parliamentary boundary changes which would create a North Cotswold constituency and a South Cotswold constituency. The consultation regarding changing the AONB to a National Park would also affect residents, especially with regard to planning. He also complimented the Quarry Working Party for its efforts to identify the source of the issues experienced by some residents in the North Cotswolds Cluster, and finding ways to establish the Cumulative Environmental Impacts of the quarries in the cluster by working with Cotswold District Council, Tewkesbury Borough Council, and other local parish councils.

5. Report from the Chairman of Temple Guiting Parish Council

Cllr Krier noted that the parish is the largest civil parish in Gloucestershire, covering Temple Guiting plus the surrounding villages as far away as Barton, Bemborough, Farmcote, Jackdaw's Castle, Pinnock and Trafalgar.

The full Council met 5 times in 2021-2022 plus holding planning site meetings where appropriate. Much of the Council's work had focused on the following, including:

- **Highways.** The Chairman and Clerk prevented diversions through Barton, Kineton and Temple Guiting to and from Fiddlers Green on the B4077, specified by Highways during roadworks to Buckle Street. This diversion was proposed four times during the year, although the PC contacted Highways after each announcement to request that the proposed diversion route be changed.
- **VAS.** The Chairman thanked Rob Graves, Community Speedwatch Officer, for charging and moving the VAS equipment.
- **Speeding.** The Chairman noted that Gloucestershire Highways and the local police both seemed reluctant to measure speed officially in Ford despite requests.
- **Quarries.** The work of the Quarry Working Party continues to raise the issue of the Cumulative Impact of local quarries as well as other specific issues such as lack of infill materials or planning. The Chairman welcomed the support of the District and County Councillors as well as that of other local PCs and the Environmental Health officers from Cotswold District Council (CDC) and Tewkesbury Borough Council (TBC).
- **Maintenance** of the village. The Chairman thanked residents for their informal litter picking which meant that a formal litter picking programme was not appropriate in the Parish at present.
- **Signs to the village hall car park.** A number of issues had arisen during the ordering of the signs but these had now been resolved and the posts would be installed shortly.
- **Ford phone box** had been adopted and will be maintained by Ford residents this summer with support from the Parish Council.
- **Planning.** The Council continued to respond to consultation requests, welcoming the proposal for a new, permanent building at the School, rather than another temporary building.
- **Finances** remained sound and the precept had been held at 2020-2021 levels leading to a small reduction in parishioners' Council Tax bills.

The Chairman then thanked the clerk and Councillors, especially Cllr Littlewood for her support as Vice Chairman, and Cllr Gower for his work on quarry issues.

6. Report from Poor Lotts Committee

Cllr Val Brown reported that Cllr Kate Mather and Carol Porter had replaced two previous committee members. This year, nine pensioners and three students were each awarded £100 grants by the Committee at Christmas.

7. Report from St Mary's Parochial Church Council

Ali Clifton Barnard (Church Warden) reported on activity Temple Guiting Parish Church, including:

- Most activities have resumed following an 18 month break due to Covid restrictions.
- Creative fundraising events have helped to improve the church finances. Mrs Clifton Barnard thanked the parish council for its contribution to the maintenance of the burial ground.
- The church has set up a Facebook page 'St Mary's Church Temple Guiting' providing information and news.

8. Temple Guiting School. The school did not provide a report this year.

9. Temple Guiting Recreational Society AGM

Cllr Krier proposed that the existing team of Val Littlewood (Chairman), Ian Littlewood (Treasurer and maintenance), Rob Graves (School Liaison) and Val Brown (Bookings Secretary) be retained. Councillors and officers agreed.

Val Littlewood announced that the school has been the major user of the village hall this year, with a few events now returning. On the financial side, income exceeded outgoings by £100 this year. However electricity meter payments continue to be far lower than the price charged by the suppliers.

The Society expects to collect donations for the maintenance of the hall at two forthcoming events to be held at the Recreation ground / Village hall – the Jubilee Picnic and performances by local bands.

The Chairman of the Parish Council thanked the Committee for its work this year.

10. Public comments and questions

None.

11. Closing comments from the Chairman

Cllr Krier thanked councillors and the clerk for enabling the Council to function so successfully.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.05 p.m.