

**Minutes of Playford Parish Council meeting held at the Village Hall  
at 7.30pm on Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> September 2013**

**Present:** Mr Simon Hanson, Mrs Joan Metcalfe, Mrs Veronica Bunbury, Mr Stephen Hicks,

**In attendance:**

Ms Marian Rosling, Clerk

**Also present:** Mr Ted Herrington, Mrs Sally Herrington, Mr Nathan Ashton & Mr Matthew Percy.

**Apologies for Absence.**

Mr Peter Bellfield

Mr Bob Coppillie

PCSO Sally Thomas

Simon Hanson (e-mailed to say he would be late arriving).

The meeting was opened by Joan Metcalfe in Simon Hanson's absence – he arrived at 8pm and took over the Chair.

**1. Declarations of Members' Interests in any items on this Agenda.**

No members of the council declared any interest.

**2. To approve the Minutes from the Meeting held on 1st May 2013.**

These were not signed at the last meeting as a minor amendment was required but this has now been rectified and the minutes were duly signed.

**3. To approve the Minutes from the Meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2013.**

These were signed as a true record.

**4. Matters arising from the Minutes.**

There were no matters arising.

**5. Action Log Review:**

**AP46** - The two websites are still causing confusion and two parishioners were unsure where to find the agenda for this evening's meeting. A discussion ensued – it was finally decided that the two websites should be linked, with the OneSuffolk site being used for parish council business, minutes, agendas etc. and the Playford.org.uk site being used for general village business. It was resolved that Joan Metcalfe would contact Phil Holmes (who looks after the Village website) to discuss and Steve Hicks would liaise with Phil Holmes so that the Parish Council pages on the Village site could be replaced with a link to the OneSuffolk site which will deal exclusively with Parish Council matters.

Signed .....

**AP65** – The trees on Butts Road which were fouling overhead BT cables were struck in July by a large vehicle delivering building materials to the Sevenoaks development site. Emergency measures had to be brought into force to sort out the trees. This has resulted in the cables now being freed from entanglement.

**AP70** – Footpath no. 8 from Hill Farm Road to Sandy Lane, Lt Bealings has now been cleared of stinging nettles and weeds.

**AP71** – The two sand bins which were smashed when the roadside verges were trimmed back in early June, have still not been cleared away or replaced. Clerk to chase this up.

**AP72-** The drainage ditch in Butts Road outside the Village Hall has still not been cleared as SCC Highways claim that the nettles and weeds were not causing a blockage to the drainage. Joan Metcalfe has phoned Tom Duchesne of The Old Parsonage Garden Services and agreed that he should clear the weeds from the ditch in the first instance for £30 and then £10 or £15 for each subsequent cutting depending on how long it takes him. It was decided to ask him not to cut the grass on 5<sup>th</sup> September as scheduled but to cut the ditch instead. The clerk will contact him.

**AP73-** The building contractors have placed road signs on either side of the entrance to Church Lane from the Butts Road end, to direct lorries delivering materials to the Sevenoaks site. A further sign is still required to deter larger vehicles from entering Church Road from the North end of the village because of the restrictive bend at Church Corner Cottage. Clerk to enquire from Tony Buckingham of SCC as to whether the council would be charged for such a sign or whether he has any other suggestions to make.

**AP75 -** The Village Hall committee are currently considering sourcing an industrial sized bin for recycling materials. This would have the advantage of simply being too heavy to move. The present system is not working as bins are being moved (by teenagers trying to access the Village Hall roof). Also the bins are being used for rubbish other than recyclables. The council resolved to await the Village Hall's decision before taking any further action.

**AP77 & AP78-** Footpaths no/s 1 & 20 have still not been cleared of weeds despite being reported on 20<sup>th</sup> August. In both cases the middle sections have been cleared but the Playford entrances are still badly overgrown. These are frequently used paths – clerk to chase Highways department over this.

**6. County Councillor Peter Bellfield's report.**

There was no report from Peter Bellfield

Signed .....

**7. Report by Police**

The Clerk read the Police report sent from PC Shaun Brett which stated that the only crime in Playford over the last two months was the arson attack (at Lux Farm). This may or may not have been connected with other similar attacks in neighbouring parishes. As enquiries are currently ongoing it was felt inappropriate to comment further although the 12PT Monthly Parish Council report states that 3 people are currently on Police bail pending further enquiries.

**8. Finance**

**• Reporting & authorisation of cheques:-**

Cheque No 700	ICO	£35.00	Data Protection Insurance
Cheque No 701	Old Parsonage Gdn Services		
		£232.50	Grass & hedge cutting - June
Cheque No 702	Bealings V Hall Trust	£132.76	John Belstead Playing field maintenance
Cheque No 703	HMRC	£32.00	Tax on Clerk's salary -July
Cheque No 704	HMRC	£33.80	Tax on Clerk's salary -August
Cheque No 705	Old Parsonage Gdn Services		
		£157.50	Grass cutting - July
Cheque No 706	M J Rosling	£30.65	Clerk's expenses

The balance of the account is:-

Barclays	£1062.04
NS&I	£1,765.88

The second half of the Precept for this year should be received at the end of September.

**9. Planning Application: ref: DC/13/2224/FUL**

Proposed single storey extension at 1 The Courts, Playford, IP6 9DR, together with replacement of existing felt roof with grey single ply roofing membrane.

Signed .....

Mr Nathan Ashton, owner of the property and architect of the plans, had explained the alterations prior to the beginning of the meeting. These involve the addition of a dining room, utility room and an extra bedroom with en suite facilities on the North side of the property. Immediate neighbours had been asked for their views and no-one had raised any objections.

No objections were raised by the parish council and it was resolved to support the application.

Whilst on the subject of planning permission, Ted Herrington from the public domain, queried the ongoing works at Sevenoaks and commented that it had been a condition of the planning permission that the access road should have been completed before vehicles were allowed to enter and leave the site. The council were unanimous in the view that it was not reasonable to tarmac this road until heavy lorries had finished the bulk of the work at the site. Simon Hanson said that Building Regulations Inspectors would ensure that plans were adhered to despite not being Planning Inspectors.

**10. East Anglian Offshore Windfarm**

The Planning Inspectorate is arranging site inspections and hearings in relation to the application by East Anglia One Ltd for an order granting development consent for the East Anglia One Offshore Wind Farm.

The site inspections will take place on 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> September and will trace the proposed route of the cable from the landfall at Bawdsey, the Deben crossing, the proposed and alternative A onshore cable corridors at Bealings and the construction sites on the A12 at Sandy Lane and on the A14 at Claydon, finishing up at the converter station at Bramford. The clerk, Marian Rosling, has offered to attend these inspections and will report.

There is an Open Floor Hearing at the Town Hall in Ipswich on 12<sup>th</sup> September at which Veronica Bunbury will represent Playford Parish and express our views.

There are also Issue Specific Hearings on various subsequent days, the ones relevant to parish councils being:

- a) 25<sup>th</sup> September - Traffic and Transport, Drainage & Water Supply – this will be attended by Veronica Bunbury.
- b) 26<sup>th</sup> September – Socio-economic issues including relevant DCO provisions  
- this will be attended by Joan Metcalfe.

Signed .....

**11. Outdoor Play Space Scheme**

Of the several options presented by the Clerk, of affordable items to be purchased with the Play Space funds available, the favourite was an aluminium outdoor table tennis table at £648. The Village Hall committee will be consulted when a decision is made regarding how the money is spent - the location of the table would of course need to be agreed, should we go ahead with the purchase.

Joan Metcalfe undertook to contact the company selling the table to find out more details e.g. what surface is needed underneath and how it is secured.

**12. Discussion on possible reduction of no. of Parish Councillors**

So far no suitable candidates from the parish have presented themselves for co-option onto the Council despite advertisements having been posted around the village and flyers put through letter boxes. The Clerk has sought advice from SALC and the Elections Office at SCDC and been informed that it is possible to continue with just 5 councillors up until the next election in 2015. If it was then decided that 5 councillors was a sufficient number, then this could be made official in 2015.

Brian Seward had been contacted by Veronica Bunbury and has brought forth some interesting history on the number of councillors in the recent past and the reasons for changes to those numbers – this was discussed.

Joan Metcalfe proposed that we coast along with the current 5 members of the council to see how it works until the next election. Simon Hanson endorsed this and it was seconded by Steve Hicks.

**13. Safe guarding Policy**

A safe-guarding policy has been drafted by the Clerk, this was read out at the meeting, duly proposed by Joan Metcalfe and seconded by Simon Hanson.

**14. Electoral Review of Suffolk Coastal**

The review aims to ensure that each Suffolk Coastal councillor represents roughly the same number of voters and that ward boundaries reflect the interests and identities of local communities. There would be 43 councillors in Suffolk Coastal.

No strong views on this were expressed by the council.

**15. Requests for donations towards June Gosling's retirement gift**

A gift of a potted plant and a card were given to June & Derrick Gosling in May of this year. Donations have now been received by councillors to cover the cost of this.

Signed .....

**16. PC's policy on anti-social behaviour in the village**

This topic was discussed but it was felt that any action on behalf of the council in this respect would be beyond its remit.

**17. Correspondence received:**

- a) Planning permission has been granted for the alterations to Clematis Cottage, ref: C13/1152 to be commenced within 3 years of the date of permission (2<sup>nd</sup> August 2013).
- b) Acknowledgement and thanks have been received from Bealings Village Hall Trust in respect of the funds (jointly held by Playford, Gt & Little Bealings) sent for the maintenance of the John Belstead Playing Fields, from the remains of the Suffolk Acre grant.
- c) An e-mail has been received from Tim Llewellyn registering his dissatisfaction with the Playford website and the fact that the councillors' Register of Interests has still not been corrected.

The website issues should be resolved very shortly as detailed above and the Clerk has the matter of the Register of Interests in hand.

**18. AOB**

Ted Herrington enquired why Playford was not adopting a Neighbourhood Plan like that of Gt Bealings. Joan Metcalfe replied by saying that we had taken advice on this from Suffolk Acre two years ago and been told that it would be too expensive to achieve because of the legal fees involved. Simon Hanson agreed it was unnecessary as we are adequately protected by the broader plan of Suffolk Coastal. The only reason for having a Plan would be if we wanted to develop housing in the parish. We have been reassured by SCDC recently that no developments in Playford are envisaged at all in the foreseeable future.

Veronica Bunbury brought up the subject of maintenance of the village notice board. She has made enquiries and been told that it should be regularly treated with linseed oil to maintain its appearance and has offered to do this on a regular basis. The cork board also needs some attention as it is deteriorating at the bottom edge. Joan Metcalfe has undertaken to look into this.

Joan Metcalfe requested that future meetings should commence at 7pm instead of 7.30pm – no objections were raised.

**19. Date of next meeting:** Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2013 at 7pm

The meeting ended at 9.00pm

Signed .....