

**Minutes of Playford's Annual Parish Meeting held at Playford
Village Hall at 7.00pm on Wednesday, 7th May 2014**

Present: Mrs Joan Metcalfe - Chairman
Mr Stephen Hicks - Vice-Chairman
Mr Bob Coppillie - Councillor
Mr Tim Llewellyn - Councillor
Mr Steven Hudson – District Councillor

In attendance:
Ms Marian Rosling - Clerk

Also present:
Mr Eric Metcalfe
Mr Ted Herrington
Mrs Sally Herrington

The meeting started at 7.10pm and Joan Metcalfe took the Chair

1. Apologies for Absence

Mr Peter Bellfield
Mrs Veronica Bunbury

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

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on Wednesday, 1st May 2013 were proposed as correct by Tim Llewellyn, seconded by Steve Hicks, then signed by the Chairman.

3. Matters arising from the Minutes: None.

4. Chairman's Report

Joan Metcalfe began her report by thanking the rest of the Council for their support since she took over as Chairman following Simon Hanson's resignation last September, and to say that we were subsequently very happy to welcome Tim Llewellyn as a newly co-opted Councillor in November 2013.

She went on to say that the Council was still operating on a fairly tight budget so donations to projects outside the village had been reduced in favour of keeping the village hall grounds and green areas managed and well-cared for.

A larger than normal number of planning applications have been dealt with over the last few months, mainly due to house extensions and improvements. The Parish Council strives to be impartial and each application is reviewed carefully on its merits, bearing in mind the impact it will have on the village and its inhabitants. We are also awaiting the results of the major planning application for the East Anglia Offshore Windfarm Project, having attended several public meetings regarding the siting of the service depot and cable and transport routes.

Signed

Keeping the verges and roadsides tidy is always an important on-going task and we are working with farmers and landowners to counteract the damage to verges from large farm vehicles. The village sign, notice board and one of the benches is in need of renovation and we hope this work will be carried out soon.

A full copy of this report can be viewed on the website; www.playford.org.uk

5. County Councillor Peter Bellfield's Report

Peter Bellfield was unfortunately unable to attend due to illness.

6. District Councillor Steven Hudson's report

Steven Hudson apologised for not having a written report.

Planning. The District Council has produced its own Local Plan but this appears to clash with the government's plans and they are currently trying to resolve this.

Windfarms. The cable route has been agreed but disruption to roads and transport is still an on-going concern.

Northern Development.

Tuddenham St Martin Parish is trying to form a pressure group with Westerfield to discuss the impact of increased traffic in the area in the light of the proposed Garden Suburb development to the north of Ipswich. The northern boundary of Ipswich will stretch as far as Westerfield, possibly without a gap but the District Council are trying to oppose this and insist on a green space of ½ mile or so in between. The impact of the increased traffic flow through the villages would be significant as there could be an extra 3,000 new houses built.

Finance.

The District Council has kept its budget in order and there is no increase in Council Tax again this year. They are still contemplating moving offices to new purpose-built premises which would naturally provide better IT facilities and a better working environment but this has to be offset by the cost of such a move.

The Boundary Commission have produced their verdict on the new boundary proposals – Steven Hudson has outlined the problems to them regarding the inadequacies of Playford being combined with Rushmere and we await their final decision.

7. Police report.

There was no attendance by the Police.

8. Open Forum.

It was noted that photos of Joan Metcalfe and Tim Llewellyn are needed on the parish website.

9. AOB - none

The meeting closed at 7.35pm

Signed
Chairman