

**Minutes of Playford Parish Council meeting held at the Village Hall
at 7.00pm on Wednesday 1st March 2017**

Present: Mrs Joan Metcalfe - Chairman
Mr Stephen Hicks - Vice-Chairman
Mr Tim Llewellyn - Councillor
Mr Ted Herrington - Councillor
Mr Neil Tibble - Councillor
Mr Keith Carson –Councillor
Mr Robert Whiting – District Councillor

In attendance:
Mrs Marian Hedgley - Clerk

Apologies for Absence:
Mr Adrian Melrose – Councillor

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

Joan Metcalfe declared an interest as Treasurer of Playford Village Hall committee and Tim Llewellyn declared an interest as a Trustee of Playford Village Hall and as a committee member of the Fynn Lark News. This information was duly recorded.

2. To approve the Minutes from the meetings held 11th January 2017.

Joan Metcalfe proposed acceptance of the minutes and this was seconded by Steve Hicks. The minutes were then signed by the Chairman.

3. Matters arising from the Minutes.

It was noted that the 12PT Tasking Group had been disbanded and that there is £3800 to be disposed of. This represents potential funding to buy 5 x flashing speed signs for use in East Ipswich and it has been suggested that the remaining £600 be donated to the childrens' charity EACH. PCSO Mike Sarbutts has volunteered to monitor control of this and the signs will be maintained by SCC Highways.

4. Action Log Review

AP-93 Unregistered FP from C330 to C3311. No further progress - still waiting to hear back from Definitive Map Officer as to when this will be prioritised.

AP-98 Temporary repair at the junction of Butts Road and Brook Lane where tarmac has fallen away. Co.Cllr Robin Vickery is trying to progress this with Highways but no further news as yet.

Signed

AP-100 Arm which has fallen off signpost at junction of C324 and Church Road – still awaiting repair despite being told by Saxmundham Highways that this should be attended to very soon. Clerk has spoken to Debbie Adams who will prioritise this.

AP-106 FP9 & FP13 overgrown with brambles – this has at last been cleared.

AP-108 Debris in Spring Meadow from fallen tree and laurel hedge that needs trimming. Work now completed.

AP-115 Build up of silt on C324 near Clematis Cottage. David Chenery of Highways Saxmundham has contacted the Clerk over this – it is unclear who the responsibility lies with. Co. Cllr Robin Vickery is trying to progress this.

AP-119 Repairs to tarmac in Butts Road –this is apparently not severe enough to be dealt with yet but Co. Cllr Robin Vickery is trying to push it forward.

AP-122 Ash tree in Butts Road – possible Ash Die-Back victim. This has been trimmed – clerk awaiting report and will chase it up.

AP-123 FP1 boggy section with fallen branches – Clerk has spoken to Debbie Adams – the correct alignment of the path needs to be established and the landowner needs to be consulted on the type of surfacing to be used. Also environmentalists need to advise on local wildlife before a decision can be made. No work can be commenced until the land has dried out which would hopefully be in late Spring.

For more details see Action Log appended at end of the Minutes.

5. County Councillor's report

Cllr Robin Vickery was unfortunately unable to attend and did not submit a report.

6. District Councillor's report

Robert Whiting reported that Suffolk Coastal is developing a more commercial approach to providing services. The 2017-2018 budget was agreed at the full council meeting on 23rd February and to provide high quality services would mean an increase of 3.5% in its portion of the council tax. We are faced with dwindling financial support from central government and need to ensure everyone is paying a fair share to support these services.

Deben Leisure Centre is being refurbished and planning permission has been agreed for the changes which include improvements to the changing facilities.

Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Councils have voted in favour of merging and this will be implemented in 2019 –working together so far has made a joint saving of £16m since 2010.

Signed

The consultation on Sizewell C ended on 3rd Feb 2017 and all formal responses are now being considered by EDF Energy.

Beach hut rents in Felixstowe are under review – the six week consultation period has ended and 700 responses are now being analysed – no decisions have yet been made on how the beach hut service will be managed or what charges will be levied in future.

Implementation of Parking Enforcement in SCDC is to be transferred to East Suffolk and a deficit of £¼m is to be passed over. On-street parking can be self-financing - there are pressures on local council funding and the profits from this can be investigated.

There are issues with parking at the new offices at East Suffolk House in Riduna Park and money is to be spent enhancing the parking facilities at Riverside Melton on the opposite side of the road.

Robert’s Enabling Communities Budget has been increased to £6000 for the coming year – Playford PC is considering applying for the funding of two new Dog Litter bins at an approximate cost of £400.00

7. Finance

- Reporting & authorisation of cheques/online payments:-
Chq 781 Clerk’s expenses – Ink cartridge/Stationery etc. £24.13
- Bank balances:

Barclays Bank current account	as at 1.3.17	£3438.84
NS&I Savings account	as at 1.3.17	£3336.10
(Savings interest rec’d 1.1.17 £19.93)		

A bank reconciliation was carried out and signed by Steve Hicks.
- Budget for 2017-2018
The budget for 2016/17 is on track and there should be an overall surplus of £6000 to carry forward to the new accounting year – this includes £700 grant for addressing speeding issues and contingency funds for emergencies. VAT amounting to £664 has been reclaimed for amounts paid over the last two years. The budget for 2017/18 was discussed and agreed. It was proposed by Tim Llewellyn and seconded by Keith Carson.

8. Highways

Hedges bordering the paddock at Archway House have been trimmed back but those in Brook Lane have yet to be done. Clarke & Simpson have been asked to do this on behalf of the landowner and the clerk will chase this up again.

Signed

It was noted that the build-up of silt on the C324 has yet to be cleared. Robin Vickery is currently chasing this up and we are awaiting results. It was also noted that white road markings at the junction of Butts Road and Playford Road have disappeared and the clerk will report this to SCC Highways.

9. Neighbourhood Plan – progress

The Clerk has obtained an application form and will complete this and submit to the Planning Department together with a boundary map to show the parish boundary as being the area relating to the plan.

10. EAOW cable route – update

Work on EAOW cable route from Bawdsey to Bramford due to commence on 28th February has been delayed. This is partly due to traffic plans for diversions not having been passed yet by SCC Highways but also because of archaeological investigations not having been completed on the route. A presentation by Scottish Power Renewables will be held on 6th March at Lt Bealings Village Hall, immediately before their APM. The public is invited to attend and there will be an opportunity to ask questions.

11. Dr Watsons Lane – proposed restrictions of right hand turns

It has been proposed by SCC Highways that restrictions on right hand turns at peak times at the junction of Dr Watsons Lane with the main A1214 should be introduced as this impedes the traffic flow at the traffic lights with Bell Lane and the A1214. Several responses have been received by the clerk and the chairman stating that this would have a negative impact on communications and through routes to Kesgrave, Woodbridge, Foxhall and Felixstowe and would severely inconvenience people travelling to work and taking children to school at peak times. A number of alternative remedies have been suggested. The clerk has written to Kier Services/Highways with these comments and has received a reply stating that if the scheme proves to be viable, we should be made aware of any consultation that may take place.

12. Speedwatch Issues

We have £700 from the District Council Enabling Communities budget to invest in schemes to regulate traffic passing through Playford. It seems that a Speedwatch project may not be viable but investment in vehicle activated signs (VAS) might be a way forward. Clerk to enquire from PCSO Mike Sarbutts for advice and if possible invite him to the next meeting.

Signed

13. Correspondence received:

- a) Ipswich Borough Council: re Ipswich Local Plan – publication of inspector’s report
- b) Suffolk Coastal and Waveney District Council re: vote to merge councils.
- c) Mark Edgerly, Principal Planning Officer, Planning Policy & Delivery, Suffolk Coastal & Waverney DC’s re: Adoption of Local Plan Documents
- d) Parish Council Websites – Gloucs-based company, offering Transparency Code compliant websites for Town & Parish Councils

14. AOB

The blue plaque at Airys Cottage, describing it as the former dwelling of the artist Anna Airy, has been absent for some time but has reappeared on the fence outside the property.

The newly erected fence at Playford Grange appears to be higher than regulations permit. As no objections have been received in respect of this, it was resolved not to take this matter up but if anyone wished to object, they should write to SCDC Planning Dept.

It was noted with sadness that farmer and local landowner, Charles Lofts had died on 27th January 2017. He was also a former parish councillor for a great many years.

Date of next meeting:

Annual Parish Meeting, Wednesday 3rd May 2017 at 6.30pm followed immediately by the Annual PC Meeting.

The meeting ended at 8.40pm.

Signed