

**Minutes of Playford Parish Council Meeting held at the Village Hall  
at 7.00pm on Tuesday 10th December 2019**

**Present:** Mrs Joan Metcalfe – Chairman  
Mr Ted Herrington – Councillor  
Mr Keith Carson – Councillor  
Mr Mike Brewer – Councillor  
Mr Colin Hedgley – District Councillor

**In attendance:** Mrs Marian Hedgley – Clerk

**Also present:** Mr Robin Baker

**Apologies for Absence:**

Mr Steve Hicks  
Mr Adrian Melrose – no apologies received

1. **Declarations of Members' Interests in any items on this Agenda.**  
Joan Metcalfe declared an interest as Treasurer of Playford Village Hall Committee and as a Trustee of Playford Village Hall. This information was duly recorded.
2. **Planning Application: ref: DC/19/4634/FUL**  
Address: 5 The Courts, Playford, IP6 9DR  
Proposed: Single storey rear extension with internal alterations

The meeting started at 7.00pm and the applicant, Mr Robin Baker explained the plans which were displayed on the large screen. The house is at present a single storey flat roofed bungalow with room for an extension at the rear of the property – this is to be used as a utility room to free up space in the present kitchen. The current garage may have asbestos in the roof and this will be dealt with at the same time as the building work. A minimum of 2m will be left around the property for access.

Neighbours have been consulted and all are happy with the plans.

Joan Metcalfe proposed support for the plans in their entirety and this was agreed unanimously by the council. Clerk will convey the above to the Planning Team at East Suffolk Council by email.

3. **Possibility of the Parish Council assisting with the purchase of the Admirals Head Public Houe by buying Community Shares**  
This issue was discussed in some detail. The previous resolution to consider loaning £25K to the Admiral's Head project by means of a Public Works Loan has been quashed by SALC (who advised this cannot be sanctioned). Playford PC has now been asked by Friends of the Admirals Head (FotAH) to consider buying Community shares instead. This would be a less secure option – although backed by the

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Community Benefit Society and presumably a safe investment, it could be a longer term commitment and would be less easy to liquidise than a straightforward loan. The shares would not increase in value and Playford PC would be liable for interest on the loan taken out for the initial purchase, which would not be reflected in the value of the shares although dividends may offset some of this. If the venture failed, share holders would be last in line to be repaid.

However, the main objection was the fact that it is a huge commitment for residents, due to the required increase in council tax liability, when there are other areas for spending which would benefit the parish as a whole, rather than just a small minority. Also the whole community has been invited to buy shares as individuals if anyone wishes to do so.

Joan Metcalfe proposed a motion that Playford PC should not agree to buy any community shares in this project and this was passed unanimously.

Clerk will convey this information to Alexis Morcrette, Vice Chair of FotAH.

4. **To authorise payment of final invoice from Planning Direct**

Planning Direct's invoice of £350.00 is outstanding - this was intended to be a final charge when everything was complete and the Neighbourhood Plan had been adopted. It has not been finalised yet as ESC is querying several items regarding layout, content and presentation of the final document – these issues need sorting out by Planning Direct. A meeting with Andrea MacMillan of ESC Planning and Andrew Cann of Planning Direct has been arranged for Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at East Suffolk House and Keith Carson will attend with Joan Metcalfe. The payment will be sanctioned when everything is finalised.

5. **AOB**

The road rain outside Bridge Cottage, Butts Road is blocked and paving close by is precariously loose as it is balanced over a sizeable cavity which can be seen by looking under the bridge from the field. The blocked drain has been reported – clerk to chase progress and update Highways that this situation is potentially dangerous.

Clerk to chase SC Norse Ltd again re overflowing ditch outside the front of the Village Hall at the border with Butts Road.

Joan Metcalfe reported that the replacement oak tree arrived recently and has since been kindly planted in the position of the former tree, on the playing field by David Bagley. The PC extends their thanks to David for his efforts with this.

The meeting ended at 8.05pm

**Date of next meeting:** Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2020 at 7.00pm

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