

**Minutes of Playford Parish Council meeting held at the Village Hall  
at 6.30pm on Wednesday 11th January 2017**

**Present:** Mrs Joan Metcalfe - Chairman  
Mr Stephen Hicks - Vice-Chairman  
Mr Tim Llewellyn - Councillor  
Mr Ted Herrington - Councillor  
Mr Adrian Melrose – Councillor

**In attendance:**  
Ms Marian Hedgley - Clerk  
Mr Keith Carson – prospective Councillor  
Mrs J. Saunders

**Apologies for Absence:**  
Mr Neil Tibble - Councillor  
Mr Robert Whiting – District 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. Co-option of new councillor**

Mr Keith Carson was proposed as a new councillor by Joan Metcalfe and this was seconded by Tim Llewellyn. Keith duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office form.

**3. To approve the Minutes from the meetings held 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2016.**

Joan Metcalfe proposed acceptance of the minutes and these were seconded by Keith Carson. The minutes were then signed by the Chairman.

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

The state of hedges bordering Butts Road to the north of Playford is still causing concern as these have not been attended to, despite the clerk writing to the landowner. Clerk to follow this up with a further letter. Complaints of dog dirt on the village playing field were voiced at the last meeting – it may be possible to fund an extra dog litter bin from Cllr Whiting's budget, quotes have been obtained for a smaller one at £175 or a larger one at £215 –prices would include emptying by SCDC.

**5. Action Log Review**

**AP-81** Byway 19. No further progress – it was decided to put this on hold.

**AP-93** Unregistered FP from C330 to C3311. No further progress - waiting to hear back from Definitive Map Officer.

Signed .....

**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.

**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 to chase, yet again.

**AP-106** FP9 & FP13 overgrown with brambles. Co. Cllr Robin Vickery to follow this up.

**AP-108** Debris in Spring Meadow from fallen tree and laurel hedge that needs trimming. SC Norse Ltd promised to clear this at end Oct/early Nov. Clerk currently trying to chase this up and is awaiting a report from Norse.

**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 as it has been caused by flood water from the adjacent field. Robin Vickery will try to progress this – see Agenda item 10.

**AP-119** Repairs to tarmac in Butts Road –no progress, this is apparently not severe enough to be dealt with yet - see Agenda item 10.

**AP-122** Ash tree in Butts Road – possible Ash Die-Back victim. This has been trimmed – clerk awaiting report. A second tree has been removed.

**AP-123** FP1 boggy section with fallen branches – Clerk is awaiting verdict of Debbie Adams’ meeting with contractors –to be chased up.

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

## **6. Planning Application DC/16/5007/FUL**

Address: Spindleberry, Church Lane, Playford, IP6 9DR

Applicants: Mr & Mrs P Saunders

Proposed: Roof Extension and Loft Conversion – revised design.

Plans were displayed before the meeting for anyone wishing to view them.

Councillors discussed the plans and concluded that there were no objections to be made. Joan Metcalfe proposed acceptance and this was seconded by Tim Llewellyn.

## **7. County Councillor’s report**

Cllr Robin Vickery’s full report is appended at the end of the minutes.

See also “Highways Issues” (Agenda item 10).

Signed .....

**8. District Councillor's report**

Robert Whiting was unfortunately unable to attend and did not submit a report.

**9. Finance**

- Reporting & authorisation of cheques/online payments:-

BACS	SC Norse Ltd - Grass cutting/Hedge trimming	£1052.40
Chq 780	Clerk's expenses – Ink cartridge/Stationery etc.	£34.99
  
- Bank balances:

Barclays Bank current account	as at 4. 1.17	£4782.32
NS&I Savings account	as at 4.1.17	£3316.17
  
- Clerk's Salary

Clerk's hours recorded over the last four months have averaged out at 10 per week, Joan Metcalfe proposed that the number of paid hours per week should be increased to reflect this with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2017.  
Councillors voted 5:1 in favour.
  
- Setting the Precept

The budget and provision for the year 2017-2018 was discussed. To allow for increased costs it was agreed that the Precept needs to be set at £7500 for the forthcoming year. Joan Metcalfe proposed this motion and it was seconded by Tim Llewellyn.
  
- Donation to Fynn Lark News for 2017

Joan Metcalfe proposed this should be increased to £150 per annum. A discussion ensued and it was unanimously agreed to do this.

**10. Highways**

Robin Vickery has taken up several outstanding Highway issues with Eastern Area Highways Manager, David Chenery:

The tarmac repairs at the junction of Butts Road and Brook Lane will be followed up.

The linear ruts in Butts Road are not deep enough to be repaired at this stage – however, there are a number of them and they are causing concern. Robin will try and push this forward, likewise the linear ruts in Dr. Watsons Lane, which have caused several people's tyres to be shredded.

The silt on C324 near Clematis Cottage has still not been cleared – there is a dispute over whether this is a Highways issue or the landowner's responsibility as the silt has washed off a nearby field. Robin will try to progress a decision on this.

Signed .....

Footpaths 9 & 13 have not been cleared of weeds and FP13 has been unusable for some time because of this. Robin will chase up but in the meantime, the clerk will ask Debbie Adams of Highways Saxmundham for her report.

#### **11. Neighbourhood Plan – progress**

Gillian Benjamin (Active Communities) and Steve Brown (SCDC Planning Policy & Delivery) were welcomed to the meeting by Joan Metcalfe to discuss the merits of adopting a Neighbourhood Plan.

Steve Brown stated that Playford residents should ask why it was felt we needed our own Plan given the huge amount of work involved in its preparation. The relationship with the District Plan and the new Local Plan Review should be considered carefully as this would maybe fill that need. Timing is tricky because of the changeover to the new Local Plan (which has not been made public yet).

A Neighbourhood Plan comprises a set of policies, it is not an action plan and cannot stop development. It would have to fit with the strategy of the Local Plan, which cannot be changed although it can be added to. It cannot stop encroaching development but could possibly influence it and could be used to protect a specific area, such as a green area or a unique landscape such as the Fynn Valley.

Rather than concentrating on housing, a Neighbourhood Plan can have a focus on conservation and protection - it could be used to support the beauty of the Fynn Valley by protecting it. There are a number of Non-designated Heritage Assets in Playford which need protecting and also a number of local footpaths which should be conserved for future generations to enjoy. A recent wildlife survey completed by SWT for Gt Bealings, demonstrated the rich variety of flora and fauna in the area and this needs consideration.

Gillian Benjamin stated that an application form could be downloaded as a starting point and this needs to be submitted to SCDC Planning Dept. outlining the boundaries of the area that we wish to include. The Locality Budget will provide funding for any costs involved. She also said that we should look at the Core Strategy for Ipswich (not yet up for public scrutiny but will be imminently).

Gillian & Steve left the meeting at 8.40pm and a discussion ensued. It was agreed to concentrate on environmental issues and to promote footpaths and walking areas as Playford's assets, together with Non-designated Heritage Assets and the value of the Fynn Valley. Joan Metcalfe proposed that the process of creating a Plan should be started and all councillors were in favour. The provisional date of 25<sup>th</sup> January 2017 for a public meeting should be postponed until a more detailed approach had been prepared to present to the public as a way forward. The Clerk was instructed to obtain an application form.

Signed .....

**12. EAOW compensation/disruption caused by cable route – update**

Work on EAOW cable route from Bawdsey to Bramford is due to commence in February 2017 and diggers will start work in August 2017. Gt Bealings PC has approached Playford and Lt Bealings PC's to ask for volunteers to help monitor work being carried out on the cable route as it proceeds through the local parishes. It is hoped that any problems could then be reported and dealt with promptly. Ted Herrington has agreed to participate in this.

**13. Speedwatch Issues**

A policy document has been drawn up by Rushmere St Andrew PC to agree terms for the Community Speedwatch project between Kesgrave, Rushmere St Andrew and Playford . Playford PC was asked to reverse its decision to reject the merger with Kesgrave, at a meeting in November at Tower Hall Rushmere St Andrew.

Playford and Rushmere St Andrew PC's were initially awarded £700 each from the Locality Budget to fund the scheme and the current proposals are that Kesgrave would fund the ongoing maintenance costs (which would amount to approx £100 per year) up to a maximum of £700. It was felt that this was disproportionate given the size differentials of the three parties involved. It was also felt that there was a real danger that Playford would not get a fair share of the speed monitoring given that there were so many more agreed locations in the bigger parishes.

Joan Metcalfe proposed that Playford should stand by its decision to exclude Kesgrave and to pull out of the scheme – this was unanimously agreed. Clerk to relay this information to Rushmere St Andrew PC.

**14. Correspondence received:**

- a) SCDC re removal of BT payphone from the Village Green – Playford PC has no objections to this.
- b) Suffolk Constabulary and Police & Crime Commissioner re Suffolk Local Policing Review – views sought.
- c) SALC re Neighbourhood Planning Bill – to help identify and free up more land for development and to speed up delivery of new homes.
- d) SALC – LAIS1395. Consultation on Video Conferencing.
- e) Ipswich Borough Council, Town & Country Planning Act 1990 – regarding development of land to the south of railway line at Westerfield Road.
- f) Suffolk Coastal & Waveney District Councils – details of proposals for merger. Council's decision will be in Jan 2017, Secretary of State's decision is Sept 2017.

Signed .....

- g) SCC re Minerals & Waste Local Plan – Issues and Options consultation.  
Consultation will run until 5pm on 6<sup>th</sup> Feb 2017 – proposals to remove sites at Eye/Yaxley, Foxhall, Layham, Sproughton & Thorington – other smaller sites may be put forward.
- h) Sizewell C – Stage 2 Consultation 23<sup>rd</sup> Nov 2016 – 3<sup>rd</sup> Feb 2017. Details of this is available on a CD.

**15. AOB**

None

**Date of next meeting:** Wednesday 1st March 2017 at 7.00pm

The meeting ended at 9.50pm.

Signed .....