

**Minutes of Playford Parish Council meeting held at Playford Village Hall
7.00pm on Wednesday 11th January 2023**

Present: Joan Metcalfe – Chairman
Ben Evans – Vice-Chairman (arrived 8pm)
Steve Hicks - Councillor
Keith Carson – Councillor
Martin Hill - Councillor
Colin Hedgley - District Councillor

Also present:
Glen Thimblethorpe
Tracy Herrington
Carl Stagg
Helen Stagg

In attendance:
Marian Hedgley - Clerk

Apologies for Absence:
Elaine Bryce – County Councillor

1. The Chairman opened the meeting at 7.00pm and announced that she had received the resignation of Councillor Ted Herrington to whom she would reply on behalf of the Parish Council.

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

JM declared an interest as Treasurer of Playford Village Hall Committee and as a Trustee of Playford Village Hall. This information was duly recorded.

3. To approve minutes of previous meetings:

	<u>Proposed by</u>	<u>Seconded by</u>
2 nd November 2022	KC	MH

The Chairman duly signed the minutes.

Matters arising – none

Action Point Review:

- ❖ **AP93 – Unregistered FP from C330 to C3311 needs reinstating.** The hearing on 15th Dec went in favour of reinstating the footpath but this may be appealed against. Several people are willing to attest that they have used the FP during the relevant 20 year period prior to the application being submitted.
- ❖ **AP155 – C324 traffic priority problems:** Elaine Bryce to be chased on the follow-up of a meeting with Highways officials who were to discuss this issue in November.
- ❖ **AP168 – Disabled access to FP2/track to Tuddenham.** This is no longer a problem while the main gate at the start of the FP remains unlocked.

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- ❖ **AP174 – Church Lane being used as diversion when Butts Road is closed.**
Co Cllr Elaine Bryce has offered help with funding this – she will be approached with some figures.
- ❖ **AP176 – Constant flow of water down Church Lane -** Highways to be approached again for a solution as this is a dangerous Health and Safety issue in Winter when the water freezes across the road.

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

4. County Councillor’s report:

Cllr Elaine Bryce sent her apologies as she is not able to attend Wednesday meetings at present. Her report was circulated to councillors prior to the meeting and is appended at the end of these minutes.

5. District Councillor’s report:

Cllr Colin Hedgley’s report was circulated to councillors prior to the meeting and is appended at the end of these minutes. Colin also added:

- There are funds left in his Enabling Communities Budget to be used up before the end of the financial year but there are several other parishes in need of this.
- Colin will be standing again at the next election in May – Tony Fryatt is standing down and Ben Coupe will stand in his place as the other candidate for Carlford and Fynn Valley. Colin will introduce Ben Coupe to Playford PC at the next meeting.

6. Finance:-

Reporting & authorisation of cheques/online payments:

Already paid:

Date/Chq no.	Payable to	Reason for payment	Amount £
4.11.22 Chq830	HMRC	Tax Q2	agreed in budget
4.11.22 Online	M Hedgley	Expenses July-Nov	34.56
22.11.22 Online	J Metcalfe	Defib battery - reimbursement	296.09
22.11.22 Online	M Hedgley	November Salary	agreed in budget
22.12.22 Online	M Hedgley	December Salary	agreed in budget

To be Paid:

Chq 831	HMRC	Tax Q3	agreed in budget
Online	M Hedgley	Expenses - Ink cartridges (including N/Plan usage)	99.23

All of above payments were proposed by KC and seconded by SH

Credits rec’d

30.11.22 Funds/Dist Cllr Colin Hedgley’s ECB for new Defibrillator battery £240.00
5.12.22 Interest on Business Premium account £9.31

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Bank balances /Bank reconciliation

Current account	£2355.16
Business Premium a/c	£15302.98

Steve Hicks confirmed the reconciliation from a copy of the Budget sheet with the latest Bank statement.

Clerk's salary increase as agreed by LGA and recommended by NALC (backdated to 1st April 2022). This increase was agreed. Proposed by JM, seconded by SH.

Budget 2023-24 – Predicted bank balances at financial year end indicate that approximately half the Precept amount for 2022-23 would be left available, which is adequate. Taking extra costs for next year into consideration i.e. various parish maintenance requirements, NALC-recommended increase in clerks' salary and increased costs of subscriptions etc it was generally felt that an increase of £500pa in the Precept for 2023-24 would be sufficient, as an amount of £1500 earmarked for emergencies, acts as a buffer. This was unanimously agreed although the clerk expressed reservations that this was minimal.

Precept:

Required amount of £10,500.00 for 2023-24 will be advised to Chief Finance Officer at ESC by 27th Jan 2023.

7. Highways

- Traffic priority problems on C324 - see Action Points review AP155
- Church Lane still being used by unsuitably large vehicles - see Action Points review AP174. Options for possible signage were discussed and will be costed up and sent to Elaine Bryce for an application for funding.
- Unregistered Footpaths claim – see Action Points review AP93. An advert needs to be placed in FLN for people to come forward to confirm their historic usage of this FP.
- SIDS update – Following Cllr TH's resignation, Tracy Herrington is happy to continue to be a volunteer with SIDs. At present, Playford has the use of the equipment every other month, shared with Lt Bealings. SAVID has had a successful year and increased its membership – there are now funds available for another SIDs. Rushmere St Andrew PC has joined and they have spare volunteers who are willing to work in neighbouring parishes.

8. Neighbourhood Plan – update

The Neighbourhood Plan is nearing its consultation period and a separate website is needed to process comments and to publicise maps and documents - immediate consideration is required for this as it needs to be up and running before the start of the consultation period in March. A date of Saturday 18th March 2023 has been set for a

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drop-in event at the Village Hall for parishioners to review the Draft Plan and residents will be urged to attend and give their views.

9. Memorial Oak tree on the playing field – watering rota

This is to be reviewed at the next meeting.

10. Bottle Bank - repairs

- Quote: East Landscape & Fencing for rebuilding the bottle bank Clerk £3338
- Quote: DJC Services is £5353.17
- Dist Cllr CH could provide £1895 from his ECB budget towards this.

The above was discussed - the clerk will ask DJC Services to quote for just a new concrete base and not the surrounding fence and JM will make sure that East Landscape's quote is still up to date before a decision can be reached.

11. Boules Piste

This will be a project for the next financial year and will be discussed at the next PC meeting in March.

12. Planning Issues

- Ben Evans' plans for Hill Farm:
- A low key "glamping" site is proposed at Hill Farm – permission has been granted for an exempted site which does not need full planning permission. A maximum of 3 units is envisaged. No touring caravans, motorhomes or tents will be permitted and it is intended that the sites will be rotated to prevent wear on the natural grass/vegetation. No permanent hard surfaces will be created, compost toilets will be utilised and a horse box is to be converted to a mobile shower unit. Trees will be planted as a screen and the site will hardly be visible from footpaths or approach roads.
- The Old House, Bransons: DC/22/1794/FUL – permission has been refused .
- 2 Hill Farm Cottages: DC/22/3153/FUL - these plans have been accepted.
- Enforcement issues - No further problems at the moment
- Kiln Farm Nursery DC/22/4902/FUL – an application for alterations of land and buildings at Kiln Farm Nursery has been received and will be discussed at a meeting to be held on 25th January 2023.

13. Website updating

Information regarding Playford's emerging Neighbourhood Plan needs to be publicised on a website which is immediately accessible to council members. Comments on the draft plan from the public will be posted and documents will need to be available for amending by councillors as and when necessary. A separate website will be set up for this as it cannot be achieved via the main website as at present.

14. History Board for Playford

Glen Thimblethorpe has forwarded quotes for an interactive history board to inform the public of local points of interest in Playford. These will be considered in the next financial year along with a possible grant from District Cllr CH's budget.

15. PC Vacancy – two new councillors now required. Some names have been suggested.

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16. Correspondence – received up to 11th January

	Date	From	Subject	Ref
1	2.11.22	East Suffolk Council	New Byelaws in respect of Skin Piercing	Clive Pink Environmental Health Officer ESC
2	16.11.22	East Suffolk Council	National Planning Policy Framework's (NPPF) annual update statement setting out supply of deliverable sites for housing to provide at least 5 year's worth of supply against housing demand	Colin Hedgley Dist Cllr ESC
3	30.12.22	Ruth Goudy	Forthcoming Planning Application for Kiln Farm Nurseries – setting out basic changes re entrance and gen. layout of the grounds, moving position and enlarging cafe, altering ethos towards Garden Therapy and Quiet Spaces etc	

17. AOB

- a. Donation of a Christmas tree to be planted on the playing field was discussed – this will be put on the agenda for further discussion at the next meeting.
- b. King's Coronation on Sat 6th May 2023 – JM stated that the Village Hall Committee would most probably arrange some celebrations for the occasion.
- c. Repairs to the basketball post and net on the playing field were discussed, costs to be assessed and agreed at the next meeting.
- d. JM announced that she wishes to give up the Chair at the end of the current financial year.

The meeting ended at 9.18pm.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 1st March 2023 at 7pm.

Signed