

**Minutes of Playford Parish Council meeting held at the Village Hall  
at 7.00pm on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2016**

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

**In attendance:**  
Ms Marian Hedgley - Clerk  
Mr Keith Carson – prospective Councillor

**Apologies for Absence:**  
Mr Neil Tibble - Councillor  
Mr Adrian Melrose – Councillor  
Mr Robin Vickery – Co. 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. This information was duly recorded.

**2. To approve the Minutes from the meetings held 7th September 2016.**

Tim Llewellyn proposed acceptance of the minutes and these were seconded by Steve Hicks. The minutes were then signed by the Chairman.

**3. Matters arising from the Minutes.**

None.

**4. Action Log Review**

**AP-81** Byway 19. No further progress

**AP-93** Unregistered FP from C330 to C3311. Joan Metcalfe has received a letter from Definitive Map Officer, Alexandra Maher to say the claim will be prioritised after their Nov. meeting. A form has been sent to the landowner with details of the claim but no response received back as yet. Joan to chase if necessary.

**AP-98** Temporary repair at the junction of Butts Road and Brook Lane where tarmac has fallen away – no progress has been made with this repair, Clerk to contact Co. Councillor Robin Vickery to ask for his assistance with this.

**AP-100** Arm which has fallen off signpost at junction of C324 and Church Road – still awaiting repair. Saxmundham Highways apologised for delay in this repair - they had logged the wrong location but this should now be attended to very soon.

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**AP-106** FP9 & FP13 overgrown with brambles. SCC Footpaths Officer thought this had been cleared but it is still a problem and FP 9 is impassable. She will get it assessed again but as no progress has been made on this for 18mths, it was decided to ask Robin Vickery to intervene.

**AP-108** Debris in Spring Meadow from fallen tree and laurel hedge that needs trimming. SC Norse Ltd has promised to clear this at end Oct/early Nov. Clerk will monitor situation and chase if necessary.

**AP-115** Build up of silt on C324 near Clematis Cottage. This has been re- reported as no action as yet. Robin Vickery to be advised and asked to chase this up.

**AP-119** Repairs to tarmac in Butts Road –no progress, this is apparently not severe enough to be dealt with yet. Robin Vickery to be consulted.

**AP-121** Brambles overhanging carriageway on C324. The clerk has written to landowner to request clearance but so far no progress has been made.

**AP-122** Ash tree in Butts Road – possible Ash Die-Back victim. Derek Oldham, SCC Eastern Area Highways Manager has inspected this and will call in the arboriculturist. A second tree is also thought to be affected, Derek Oldham to be advised of this.

**AP-123** FP1 boggy section with fallen branches – Debbie Adams is aware of this and is meeting with contractors to discuss a remedy.

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

## **5. County Councillor's report**

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

## **6. District Councillor's report**

Robert Whiting delivered his report. SCDC is in the process of moving offices to East Suffolk House, Riduna Park, Melton and this will probably not be completed until early in the new year.

Robert has funds available in his Budget for this year – this may be used to purchase new chairs for the Village Hall.

There is a meeting on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2016 regarding Devolution. Norfolk is not keen on having to fund a mayor and this will be discussed.

Talks on the proposed merger of Suffolk Coastal with Waveney District are still progressing and a vote will be held early in the new year. Any objections to this proposal may be sent to [merger@eastsoffolk.gov.uk](mailto:merger@eastsoffolk.gov.uk) but must be received by 12<sup>th</sup> December 2016.

Signed .....

The Better Broadband scheme has now extended its offer to people who currently get less than 2MB/second and there are no other means of getting higher speeds in their property. A free voucher may be available from [www.betterbroadbandsuffolk.com](http://www.betterbroadbandsuffolk.com) to help with connection costs of a service from an approved supplier. Any problems should be emailed to [broadband@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:broadband@suffolk.gov.uk)

Canvassers are calling on residents in the area to establish whether they are listed on the electoral roll for voting. This is a follow-up to the new registration process adopted for compilation of the Electoral Register to ensure that no-one has slipped through the net.

Cycling along the promenade at Felixstowe is now officially permitted. There is a 12mth trial period from October 2016 to October 2017 after which a report will be prepared to determine the success (or otherwise) of this venture.

£3.5m is to be spent on Deben Leisure Centre to improve the changing facilities and to incorporate a new sauna, steam room and ice room.

Arthur Chavonia is the new Chief Executive of SCDC.

## 7. Finance

- Reporting & authorisation of cheques/online payments:-

22.9.16	Clerk's salary, September	
18.10.16	HMRC –Q2 tax on clerk's salary	£125.40
22.10.16	Clerk's salary, October	
2.11.16	Clerk's expenses	£26.08

- Bank balances:

Barclays Bank current account	as at 1.11.16	£4782.32
NS&I Savings account	as at 1.11.16	£3316.17

- Bank Reconciliation

Steve Hicks checked the Budget figures against the Bank Statement and signed to say that they agreed.

- Clerk's Salary

Monitoring of the clerk's hours spent on parish matters has shown that an average of 10.3 hrs /week was spent in September and 9.7hrs/wk in October, whereas only 5 hrs/wk are currently being paid for. To increase the number of hours paid per week would mean an increase in the annual amount of Precept granted each year in order to fund it - this would not require a referendum.

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It was decided that the clerk should continue to monitor her hours worked until the next meeting in January 2017 to give a better picture and a decision will be taken with the annual Budget review. It may be possible to award an ex-gratia payment to compensate for extra hours worked in 2016.

- Budget Update.  
The budget was considered and found to be on track for this year. Joan Metcalfe proposed acceptance of this and it was seconded by Tim Llewellyn.
- Financial Regulations update  
Joan Metcalfe has reviewed this and recommended no changes.

### **8. Highways**

Concern was voiced regarding the state of roadside hedges in the parish and the need for landowners to keep them trimmed. It was resolved that the clerk should write to Derek Oldham, Eastern Area Highways Manager and suggest he gets the hedges cut, then invoices the landowners concerned. This has been successfully carried out with roadside hedges along the A1214.

The clerk will also contact Clarke & Simpson (who are currently acting for the landowner) regarding the hedges in Brook Lane which need attention and three ash trees near the roadside which are possibly suffering from Ash Die-Back.

### **9. Neighbourhood Plan – progress**

Andy MacGibbon of SCDC Planning Policy & Delivery Team for Neighbourhood Plans is willing to attend a meeting in of interested parties in Playford to discuss the commencement of a Neighbourhood Plan for Playford. A date of Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2017 at 7pm has been agreed for this (with the possible alternative of 25<sup>th</sup> January) and the clerk will convey this to Mr MacGibbon. This date will need to be circulated by email and/or flyers around the village to alert parishioners.

### **10. Kesgrave Town Council's Neighbourhood Plan– update**

Approval has been received for this Plan using KTC's actual town boundaries and no extras. They now have a mandate to proceed.

### **11. Speedwatch Issues**

James Wright of Rushmere St Andrew parish and co-ordinator for Speedwatch has contacted the clerk to ask whether Playford would consider including Kesgrave TC in the joint Speedwatch venture of Rushmere St Andrew and Playford. He is strongly in favour of this and made assurances that Playford would not be sidelined.

A discussion ensued and it was resolved not to agree to the merger as Kesgrave is so much larger and has many more locations to be monitored. There is also a danger that Playford could be subsumed and lose control over how the venture was run. Playford

Signed .....

would have enough volunteers to be trained along with Rushmere St Andrew but so far no dates for training sessions have been suggested.

Joan Metcalfe undertook to write to James Wright to explain our reservations.

## 12. Parking in Church Lane

Parking issues continue to be a problem in Church Lane and a large vehicle recovery truck is regularly parked there overnight. This could pose a hazard if a fire engine or ambulance needed to gain access to properties in the road. It is unfortunately not a parish council issue but residents should contact the local housing association, then the Police if a satisfactory resolution cannot be reached.

## 13. Correspondence received:

- a) Letter from Dept. for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy re: EA ONE Offshore Windfarm Order 2014 saying there is no requirement to install all of the cable ducts referred to in the order.
- b) LAIS 1393 re: Precept Consultation
- c) SCDC - Site Allocations & Area Specific Development Plan Document: Felixstowe Peninsula Area Action Plan, Proposed Main Modifications & Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulations Assessments Consultation.
- d) The Planning Inspectorate – Application received for EAOW3
- e) MAGPAS Air Ambulance – request for funds.
- f) SCDC: Invitation for the Chairman, Clerk and one other to attend the Annual Town & Parish Council Budget Liaison Event on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2016 at The Council Chamber.
- g) Ipswich Borough Council: Ipswich Local Plan Public Consultation Core Strategy & Policies Development Plan Doc. Review, Site Allocations and Policies (incorporating IP-One Area Action Plan) DPD.
- h) The Pensions Regulator: reminder to complete Playford PC pension declaration.

## 14. AOB

A letter has been received complaining about the amount of dog dirt in the village especially on the footpath used by school children to access the school in Lt Bealings. It has also been a problem on the playing field near to the children's swings.

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**2016/17-32**

There is currently a notice saying “NO DOGS” at both ends of the footpath running across the playing field but it is difficult to enforce this unless owners can be identified.

SCDC is holding an open day at their offices in Melton Road on Sat 5<sup>th</sup> November to reallocate office furniture which will be surplus to their requirements after the move to Riduna Park. Parish Councils and charities have been invited to attend – the clerk will look for a new filing cabinet for PC use and conference chairs for the Village Hall.

Airys Cottage – planning permission for work on a new conservatory, which was finally granted in August 2016 may be quashed by an appeal – it is to go to Court in the new year.

**Date of next meeting:** Wednesday 11th January 2017 at 7.00pm

The meeting ended at 9.08pm.

Signed .....