

**Minutes of Playford Parish Council meeting held at the Village Hall
at 7pm on Wednesday, 2nd July 2014**

Present: Mrs Joan Metcalfe - Chairman
Mr Stephen Hicks - Vice-Chairman
Mrs Veronica Bunbury - Councillor
Mr Bob Coppillie - Councillor
Mr Tim Llewellyn - Councillor

In attendance:
Ms Marian Rosling - Clerk

Also present:
PCSO Justin Moss
Mr Ted Herrington,
Mrs Sally Herrington

Apologies for absence:
Mr Peter Bellfield – County Councillor
Mr Steven Hudson – District Councillor

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

Joan Metcalfe declared an interest as a treasurer of Playford Village Hall committee.
Tim Llewellyn declared an interest as a trustee of Playford Village Hall committee
and also as a member of the Benefice Magazine team. This information was duly
recorded.

2. To approve the Minutes from the meeting held on 7th May 2014

Minor alterations to the wording of para 8 (Finance - Statement of Accounts
2013/2014) concerning the internal audit were unanimously approved and the minutes
were signed by the Chairman.

3. Matters arising from the Minutes
None

Signed

4. Action Log Review

AP-46 – Website issues. It was decided to defer this matter indefinitely.

AP71 – Two sand bins smashed by SCC vehicle when the roadside verges were trimmed back in June last year. The technician assigned to this task has moved on, leaving a backlog of work. David Chenery, Road Safety Group Manager, SCC, apologised for the delay and advised that green plastic bins are now available and will be installed at the end of the Summer. It was suggested that these new bins could perhaps be marked by a flag on a pole so ensure their future safety – Clerk to speak to SCC again to enquire.

AP78 –Footpath no. 20 is now clear.

AP-81 Byway 19 has now dried out and repairs can be effected. Debbie Adams from SCC Highways has been approached regarding downgrading this to a Bridleway but says that repairs must be carried out first and that downgrading would be a last resort only if other measures failed. It has been reported that two small 4x4 vehicles have been racing along the track – if anyone can supply registration no/s for these vehicles, the police would be willing to talk to them about safety measures and the fact that they are degrading the surface of the roadway.

AP82 - Surface water in Church Lane. Contractors working locally have repaired the underground pipe which appears to have been causing the problem. Clerk to write letter of thanks on behalf of the Council.

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

5. County Councillor Peter Bellfield’s report.

Peter Bellfield had emailed his apologies to the Clerk as he is unable to attend due to recent illness. His brief report assures us that the council leader, Mark Bee has set out future priorities as education, roads and supporting the vulnerable. SCC has been awarded a silver medal by the Royal Society for the Prevention of Accidents, Occupational Health & Safety Awards 2014 in recognition of its work done on improving health, safety and wellbeing to all in Suffolk. He also assured us that he is involved in the debate regarding the pension fund holding stakes in tobacco stocks and that this will be discussed at the next council meeting.

6. District Councillor Steven Hudson – no report.

Signed

- Online banking:
The clerk reported that of the number of options available with Barclays Bank, the most appropriate online service seems to be Dual Authorisation whereby payments can be set up by one authorised signatory, then sanctioned by another online at a later time. It was felt that despite considering other options recently, it was reasonable to keep the accounts with Barclays Bank - Joan Metcalfe proposed this and it was seconded by Veronica Bunbury. It was unanimously agreed to go ahead with online banking and the clerk will contact Barclays Bank for authorisation forms.

9. East Anglian Offshore Windfarm

East Anglia THREE Limited (EATL) is the new joint venture between Scottish Power Renewables and Vattenfalls Wind Power Limited, and a subsidiary of EAOW. It forms part of the next stage of development in the East Anglia Zone. It is proposed that a new windfarm site will be constructed 69km off the coast from Lowestoft and will cover an area of approx 305km². As the project will have an installed capacity of 1200 MW, it will come under the title of “Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project” (NSIP) and an environmental impact assessment will need to be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) who will examine on behalf of the Secretary of State before a development consent order can be granted.

More details of this project including a digital version on CD are currently being circulated to all councillors.

Regarding EAOW1 Ted Herrington commented that despite notices having been placed in Butts Road, Holly Lane and at Culpho Hall, concerning the proposed work schedules, no notices have been placed in the Church Road area of Playford. The Clerk will contact Philip Watkins (director of Eastern Edge Ltd) who is co-ordinating the project.

10. Highways

Colin Hedgley, Vice-Chair of Great Bealings PC has written asking once again whether Playford PC would be willing to appoint a representative to join in efforts to minimise speeding through the local villages. The main area of Playford affected by speeding is Butts Road and as this already has a speed limit sign in place, it was felt that not much more could be done. Joan Metcalfe proposed that we do not send a representative to their meetings but that we offer our support in name only and ask to be kept in touch with their progress. This can be reviewed at the next meeting. The proposal was seconded by Tim Llewellyn.

11. Local Code of Conduct – new guidelines.

Joan Metcalfe proposed adoption of the changes in para 72 of the revised Local Code of Conduct, concerning Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI's). This was seconded by Tim Llewellyn and Joan undertook to make the necessary changes to the village website.

Signed

12. Governance & Accountability procedures.

NALC & SLCC published a new edition of Governance & Accountability for Local Councils in June 2014. This is a 106 page document which has been updated to make it more readable and jargon-free. It was resolved to defer this until the next meeting to enable it to be properly looked at.

13. Auction of Pocock paintings.

The auction took place very successfully on 25th June. All the paintings exceeded their reserve prices and were bought by parishioners, one ex-resident and one was bought by the Friends of Ipswich Museum. The net profit of £810.00 was donated to the Parish Council by Joan Metcalfe to be used to improve parish amenities.

14. Rural Services Network – Questionnaire on rural housing.

This was discussed and completed by the councillors. The general feeling was that although there is a need for more rural housing, there are no suitable sites in the parish for more such housing and no infrastructure to support anyone living in them. Also, there is no scope for any further permitted development at this moment.

15. Outdoor Playspace funds.

Despite discussing the issue with a member of the Outdoor Playspace Team in February of this year, no-one appears to be available to further assist with an application and telephone calls have not been returned. Clerk to pursue this and take it higher if necessary.

16. Discussions of village amenities

Joan Metcalfe has obtained information from Glasdon UK Ltd and various other suppliers regarding a new bench for the village green as the old one now seems beyond repair. The favourite was the Phoenix bench made from recycled materials and is offered by Glasdon at £365 (ex VAT) including delivery. Joan Metcalfe proposed we go ahead with this and it was seconded by Tim Llewellyn. The bench would need anchoring to the ground (Anchor kit £34.37 ex VAT) and the possibility of a plaque (£64.80 ex VAT) was also discussed. Joan will contact Steven Hudson to enquire whether grant money can be used for the purchase.

There is a pile of rotten logs on the playing field which need clearing away. Bob Coppillie has undertaken to do this.

Joan Metcalfe has received a complaint about a lime tree in the village hall car park whose branches are overhanging one of the parking spaces. Ted Herrington kindly offered to see to this. Joan also commented that there is a gap in the hedge between the playing field and Butts Road, which needs attention. Steve Hicks has offered to screw in some wooden bars to fill in the space.

Signed

17. Correspondence received:

The Clerk has received a request from Gt Bealings asking the council to complete a questionnaire for their Neighbourhood Plan. This had been circulated via email to the councillors prior to the meeting. As the questions appeared to be aimed specifically at residents of Gt Bealings, it was felt that any views which Playford could supply would not necessarily be relevant and that the answers could distort the outcome of the survey. It was unanimously agreed therefore not to complete the questionnaire and the Clerk will write to Gt Bealings' Clerk to explain this.

18. AOB

Sally Herrington has noticed that cars have been seen parked in front of the large gate in the fence between the playing field and the car park at the village hall. This gate is for use by emergency vehicles, should they be required, and must not be blocked at any time. It was suggested that a notice be strategically placed requesting that the gate is kept clear at all times. Joan Metcalfe has undertaken to look into this. It was further suggested that a key to the gate should be kept in the key cupboard at the village hall.

19. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 3rd September 2014

The meeting ended at 8.55pm

Signed