

**Minutes of Playford Parish Council meeting at Playford Village Hall
at 7.00pm on Wednesday 3rd November 2021**

Present: Mrs Joan Metcalfe - Chairman
Mr Steve Hicks - Vice-Chairman
Mr Ted Herrington - Councillor
Mr Keith Carson - Councillor
Mr Martin Hill - Councillor
Mr Ben Evans - Councillor
Mr Colin Hedgley - District Councillor

Also present:
Mrs Sue Kennedy
Mr Kevin Bennett
Mr Glen Thimblethorpe
Miss Tracy Herrington

In attendance:
Mrs Marian Hedgley - Clerk

Apologies for Absence:
Mrs Elaine Bryce – County Councillor

- 1. Welcome and Introduction** - The chairman opened the meeting at 7pm
- 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 meeting held 1st Sept 2021**
Proposed by JM and seconded by KC- the Chairman duly signed the minutes.

Matters arising: JM had agreed to make enquiries about the future of The Mere and reported that this was secure but no further progress had been made regarding the trust formed to oversee its upkeep.

Action Point Review:

- ❖ **AP135 – Ongoing problems with FPs 1, 3 & 20.** The paths are all usable at present but are getting increasingly soggy with the recent wet weather. Debbie Adams has promised 6 x A4 size “No Cycling on Footpaths” signs within two weeks, to deter cyclists and to get the netting on the bridge in the Alder Carr replaced.

Signed

- ❖ **AP155 – Drains on C324 blocked by silt/leaves etc.**
These still block up in times of heavy rain and cause flooding but the ESC will not undertake to clear the silt from the road on a more frequent basis. There appears to be no straightforward solution.
- ❖ **AP158 - Fallen willow trees across R Fynn at bridge on Butts Road.** Another tree has fallen across the river adding to the two already there. Cllr MH has cleared some of the wood but the bulk of it needs to be removed by the Environment Agency who are rather slow to act despite being chased.
- ❖ **AP160 - Mud, debris etc on Church Lane washed down by heavy rainfall.**
Clearance is still awaited by SC Highways despite being chased up.
- ❖ **AP-165- FP9 still closed following renovations to railway crossing in Feb.** A new metal staircase leading up to the crossing over the track, has been installed but is awaiting final testing for safety before the crossing can be used.
- ❖ **AP166- FP20 Three trees fallen across the path through the Alder Carr** – this has been reported to the landowner
- ❖ **AP167 – Disabled access to FP2.** The gate across the beginning of the track to Tuddenham is often locked and although pedestrians can easily access it around the side of the gate, it is not accessible to a motability scooter. It may be possible to find an access around the side of the gate, this is being investigated.

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

4. **County Councillor's report:**

Cllr Elaine Bryce sent her apologies and her full report (which was circulated prior to the meeting) is appended at the end of these minutes.

5. **District Councillor's report**

Colin Hedgley's report was circulated to councillors prior to the meeting and is appended at the end of these minutes.

Colin further stated that he had updated his earlier report on Climate Emergency and had circulated this to the Parish Council. Colin's Enabling Communities Budget funds were mostly earmarked for other projects but if Playford PC required funds for road signage (for problems on C324) then more would be available after 1st April next year. Alternatively, Cllr Tony Fryatt may have funds to spare from his budget.

TH questioned the outcome of the latest Chapel Field development planning application (Grundisburgh) and was told that the recent vote was 4:4 and the Chairman's casting vote had decided the result. However the overall result is still in the balance as the first application is in abeyance at the moment.

Signed

6. Finance:-Reporting & authorisation of cheques/online payments:

Already paid:

Cheque no.	Payable to	Reason for payment	Amount £
Online	M J Hedgley	Clerk's expenses – ink cartridge	33.16
Online	M J Hedgley	September salary	agreed in budget
Online	M J Hedgley	October salary	agreed in budget
825	HMRC	Tax Q2	agreed in budget

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

After a suggestion that the amount of the clerk's monthly salary payment should be made public, JM proposed that this was not necessary (having been advised by Jim Friend, CEO of SALC) as the gross amount is declared in the annual budget and the net amount and the amount of any deductions should remain confidential.

The vote was passed 5:1 in favour.

Credits:

Online	Barclays Bank	Interest on Business Premium a/c	0.21p
Online	A Burrows	Hire of Playing field 9.7.22	50.00

Bank Balances:

Current a/c	£3667.01
Reserve account	£8428.04

Bank reconciliation: SH confirmed the reconciliation from a copy of the Budget sheet with the latest Bank statement.

Budget 2020-21 – JM and BE confirmed the current budget was on track.

Precept – the amount required for 2022-23 will be decided at the January meeting.

7. Highways

- Traffic priority problems on C324 – Traffic Manager David Chenery has suggested new signage for this which would cost around £2000. TH has already spoken to David about this and it seems that further talks are needed to result in a viable solution. TH will circulate his proposals to the rest of the councillors.
- Footpath issues - this has been covered in para 3, Action Points review, AP135
- SIDs equipment – the new SIDs rota has been circulated – Playford is to have the equipment in January 2022.

Signed

8. Risk Assessment

A review of the Risk assessment and the Financial Risks was carried out and a few minor changes made to update them – these will be sent to JM for checking and forwarded to Phil Holmes for updating the website.

9. Neighbourhood Plan – update

KC has not yet received the quote from Ian Poole for his services as N/Plan consultant but this is expected soon.

Representatives from AECOM have spent time walking around the parish and taking photos. An answer should be received in 10 weeks' time regarding their grant offer.

10. Future of the Clothing Bank

This was discussed - KC felt that the Salvation Army should have prior claim to the donations received as they had done the original groundwork in setting up the scheme. It was put to the vote and agreed 5:1 in favour of the Salvation Army retaining the right to maintain the clothing bank at the village hall and to receive all of the profits from donated clothing. Clerk will convey this to the Salvation Army and to the EAAA who had pulled out of the original contract.

11. Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations

This was discussed – JM stated that the Village Hall Committee was also discussing the issue of how it should be celebrated and were hoping to hold a joint venture with the Parish Council. Details will follow.

12. PC Vacancy

It was decided that adverts should be placed in the Fynn Lark News and also circulated on goooglemail to encourage possible candidates to come forward. Clerk will arrange this.

13. Planning Issues

It was noted that the Archway Piggeries planning application DC/21/2171/FUL had gone to appeal following its refusal on 11.8.21 (DC/21/0057/REFUSAL).

Enforcements issues on Happy Acres Barn (application DC/19/0300/FUL) are still outstanding and ESC Planning Officer Rachel Lambert will be updated

14. Hire of Playing Field

The playing field has been booked in conjunction with a wedding reception at the Village Hall on 9.7.22. The booking was unanimously supported by councillors.

Signed

15. Dates of Meetings in 2022 – the following dates were agreed:

Weds 12th January
 Weds 2nd March
 Weds 4th May - APM (starts 6.30pm) & APCM
 Weds 6th July
 Weds 7th September
 Weds 2nd November

16. Correspondence – received up to 3rd November 2021

	Date	From	Subject	Ref
1	16.9.21	Community Partnership Workshop	Details of items discussed at workshop on 16 th Sept 2021	Andy Jolliffe
2	17.9.21	Discovering Suffolk	Fingerpost project (Steve has volunteered for this)	Ben Heather Green Access Officer, SCC PROW
3	20.10.21	Sizewell C	Briefing on planning process for Sizewell C update	
4	22.10.21	SCC - Transport	Lorry Route map Review	Cllr Richard Smith
5	1.11.21	East Suffolk Council	Notice of Consultation: SPD/Draft Cycling & Walking Strategy	Andrea McMillan
6	2.11.21	East Suffolk Council	Local Council Tax Reduction Scheme (LCTRS)	Phil Harris Communications Manager
7	2.11.21	SALC	Items of interest to councils: 1. Chief Constable & Police & Crime Commissioner Zoom meeting 8.11.21 2. Lorry Routes Review	Laura & Sandra at SALC
8	3.11.21	East Suffolk Council – Planning dept.	Community Partnership presentation Active travel consultation Cycling & Walking Strategy	Andy Jolliffe
9	26.10.21	East Suffolk Council	Climate Change – copy of letter sent to all residents of E. Suffolk	James Mallender SCC Cabinet member for Environment

Signed

17. **AOB**

- a. TH reported that bird scarers were being used in the field opposite his house and they were not complying with NFU guidelines of being 100m from a public highway. They were extremely loud and going off about 4 times per hour during daylight hours. CH suggested he report it to the Environmental Health dept. at ESC.
- b. BE enquired whether the PC might be interested in the free trees which were on offer from a recent project to plant more trees. The only available council land is the playing field and the village triangle and these areas were not thought suitable. BE will pursue this privately with local landowners.
- c. JM reported that Olle Nash had sadly died on 2nd November

The meeting ended at 9.30pm.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 12th January 2022 at 7.00pm

Signed