

**Minutes of Playford Parish Council meeting held at the Village Hall at 7.30 pm
on Wednesday, 3rd July 2013**

Present: Mr Simon Hanson, Mrs Joan Metcalfe, Mrs Veronica Bunbury, Mr Bob Coppillie,
Mr Stephen Hicks, Mr Peter Bellfield,

In attendance:

Ms Marian Rosling, Clerk

Also present: Mr Ted Herrington, Mrs Sally Herrington, Mr Tim James & Mr Matthew
Percy.

Apologies for Absence.

PCSO Sally Thomas

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

No members of the council declared any interest.

2. Declaration of Acceptance of Office of Chairman.

This was duly signed by the Chairman whose signature was witnessed by the Clerk.

3. To approve the Minutes from the Meeting held on 1st May 2013.

Mrs Sally Herrington pointed out that in para 14 regarding use of Outdoor Playspace
Fund, she did not "offer", she was asked, and then agreed to approach the WI and the
Village Hall Committee for ideas on how these funds should be spent.

Minutes to be amended by the Clerk and signed at the next meeting

4. Matters arising from the Minutes.

Ted Herrington stated that Juannette Pettitt's apologies for absence should have been
received before the meeting on 1st May but in point of fact, there was a delay in
receiving her e-mail containing her apologies.

5. Action Log Review:

AP46 - Simon Hanson queried why the new website with OneSuffolk was taking so
long to get going but the delay was perceived to be caused by conflicting views on
how it should look. A strong identity is desirable and the front page should stand out
to reflect this. New photos of councillors are being organised to appear on the
website. Joan Metcalfe said that we cannot continue to operate two websites as
people find it confusing but Steve Hicks explained that one linked into the other. The
revised website should act as an important communication channel for the village and
information should be readily available from it. Booking the Village Hall via the old
website made life easier and was an improvement to the service and it was felt
generally that this website served its purpose.

Signed

It was resolved that all the councillors would look at Little Bealings' village website to compare and would e-mail thoughts to Steve Hicks. Phil Holmes can then be asked to implement any necessary changes if this is feasible.

AP52 – Drainage problems in byway 19. These problems have been resolved as much as possible.

AP54 – Footpath from Church Lane to Spring Meadow covered in slippery moss. The moss was eventually sprayed and the problem appears to have been resolved.

AP55 - Weeds partially blocking footpath from Village Hall to Church Lane – this has now been cleared and is looking much tidier.

AP61 / AP69 – Cutting grass verges in village. This was done by SCC Highways Dept in late June. Two wooden sand bins were demolished in the process –these have been reported to SCC and the Clerk will further advise SCC of exact location of these bins.

AP65 – Fallen trees resting on overhead wires across Butts Road. This has still not been satisfactorily resolved. Clerk to further contact Openreach to see if they have changed their policy of refusing to act unless damage has occurred.

AP67 – Footpath sign is now in evidence on Footpath no.5 (Church Lane to Playford Mount)

AP68 – Loose netting on Brook Lane bridge – this has been taken up while conditions are dry and will be replaced when weather deteriorates.

AP70 – Footpath from Hill Farm Road to Sandy Lane, Lt Bealings is full of stinging nettles. This has been reported to SCC and will be dealt with week commencing 8th July.

6. County Councillor Peter Bellfield's report.

Peter Bellfield reported:

- a) £26million had been saved from the accounts this year plus an extra £3½million from other sources. £150million must be saved over the next 4 years out of a total budget of £530million.
- b) More money is being put into road maintenance. A concentrated effort has been made recently to reduce potholes – 200 areas will be resurfaced or top-surfaced this Summer.
- c) The back office contract with BT runs out this year and it was decided not to renew it as the cost had escalated tremendously and a separate bank account would have been required to accommodate this. However, BT have come back with new proposals to reduce costs and to produce the extra savings required. The details of this proposal need to be checked carefully before being accepted.

Signed

Questions:

Veronica Bunbury enquired about the shortfall of places for Primary school starters in the new school year. Peter Bellfield replied that Suffolk is not suffering as the result of cuts for 5 year olds. Suffolk is going over to a 2-tier system instead of 3-tier and buildings are being adapted to bring them up to standard.

Simon Hanson asked about the state of the road going past Culpho Hall. The road surface is disintegrating and not improved by recent work done to it. Peter Bellfield replied that Water Leak Investigators are looking at it and that he will personally follow this up.

Simon Hanson also asked what could be done about large farm vehicles eroding the banks on village roads. The gap between road surface and verges appear to be getting wider. Peter Bellfield replied that there is a lack of desire to kerb country roads partly because of costs involved but also to prevent damage to vehicles that might clip them. There is a distinct increase in the volume of traffic using Butts Road in the last two years and this is contributing to breaking down the banks. It is possible that Highways Dept will kerb the banks if boundaries can be established with private landowners.

Peter Bellfield left the meeting at 8.25pm

7. District Councillor's report

There was no District Councillor's report.

8. Report by Police

There was no Police report

9. Finance

• **Reporting & authorisation of cheques:-**

Cheque No 693	AON Insurance	£357.47	Annual insurance
Cheque No 694	HMRC	£32.00	Tax on clerk's salary-May
Cheque No 695	Old Parsonage Gdn Services	£90.00	Grass cutting - April
Cheque No 696	M J Rosling (Annual payment)	£150.00	Storage of filing cabinets, use of computer, electricity etc.
Cheque No 697	Old Parsonage Gdn Services	£45.00	Grass cutting - May
Cheque No 698	HMRC	£32.00	Tax on clerk's salary-June
Cheque No 699	M J Rosling	£30.28	Clerk's expenses

Signed

The balance of the account is:-

Barclays	£1839.51
NS&I	£1,765.88

- **No/. 2 Community Account**

This account has now been closed (as of 16.5.13) and the balance of £132.76 transferred to the main account. These funds are owned jointly by Playford, Gt & Lt Bealings; authority has been received from both Bealings to put this money towards maintenance costs of the John Belstead Playing Field and it was resolved that Playford would agree to this. Clerk to organise funds to be transferred.

- **Annual Audit**

The annual return has been passed by external auditors BDO Stoy Hayward and the notice of conclusion of audit will be displayed for 14 days on the village notice board. Joan Metcalfe proposed to accept the accounts and this was seconded by Simon Hanson. The return may be viewed at the Clerk's house by appointment up until 10th July 2013.

10. East Anglian Offshore Windfarm –

The consultation meeting at Little Bealings on 6th June 2013 was attended by Joan Metcalfe and Veronica Bunbury. The proposed HDD technique cannot be used at Great Bealings as the soil will not support it so it is proposed to use a shallower method of burying the cables. This should have the advantage of taking less time to implement and may reduce the time that the Playford depot is required for.

There are still transport problems to be overcome – a circulatory system has been suggested so that construction lorries do not need to pass each other. However it appears that all angles have not been considered and farm vehicles will inevitably need to pass these lorries. We have asked for clarification but so far nothing has been received. It was resolved that we must keep asking. It is still doubtful that the Playford depot is really necessary as other sites could be more suitable.

Hearings are being held in Ipswich but registration details have not been widely advertised.

Signed

11. Outdoor Play Space Scheme

Ideas for using the available funds have come forward from the WI via Sally Herrington. These include:

- Netball or Basketball Rings
- Concrete table tennis table
- Outdoor gymnastic equipment
- Sky walkers
- Sun shades
- Extra seating
- Toilet facilities (for when the Village Hall is unavailable)

It was felt that the costs of a table tennis table and toilet facilities would probably be above the funds available but the clerk will price up the options and report to the next meeting.

12. Risk Assessment - This was last updated in July 2011.

The following amendments were adopted:

Veronica Bunbury will monitor the Recycling bins, the goal posts on the village playing field, the village Notice Board & seat and the fencing, gates & seats on the playing field and also report on the rabbit situation .

Simon Hanson will continue as Parish Tree Warden and oversee the Boules Piste and the condition of the entrance roadway and tarmac.

The grass is currently being looked after by The Old Parsonage Garden Services.

Any other damage or problems to be reported to the Clerk.

13. Safe guarding Policy

Veronica Bunbury suggested the council should have a safe-guarding policy in place with respect to children. Clerk to investigate and to find a standard policy to adapt for the council's use.

14. Changes to Planning:

Changes to Permitted Development Rules have been noted and will be filed for future reference.

Signed

15. Correspondence received:

- E-mail received from Tim Llewellyn regarding:
 - a) Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting – the Open Forum discussion at the end of the Agenda was missed off the minutes – clerk to add these as an addendum and these will be agreed and signed at the next APM in May 2014.
 - b) Playford Village website – despite discussion at the APM, an old photo of ex-councillors still appeared on the Parish Council page of the village website and updating has not occurred. This has now been addressed and a new photo will appear soon.
 - c) Councillors’ Register of Interests. Three councillors had not declared in SCDC’s Register of Interests that they had property in the village – this was due to misleading advice in the guidance notes from SCDC and the matter will be addressed soon. Clerk to ascertain how these amendments may be implemented.

- Planning permission for alterations to AKENWAY has been granted.
- Resignations received from Mrs June Gosling & Mrs Juanette Pettitt.
- Expression of interest in the role of Councillor from Mr Matthew Percy.
- Email received from Ted Herrington expressing dissatisfaction in the way in which previous co-option was processed & suggesting that we consider reducing size of council down to 5 councillors.

The above topics were discussed at some length and it was resolved to convene an extraordinary meeting to discuss this matter separately and to reach agreement on a course of action.

- Email from Ted Herrington requesting sight of the Financial Standing Orders. These are incorporated in the main body of Standing Orders which need re-categorising. Joan Metcalfe offered to do this.

Signed

**16. AOB
Planning Application C13/1152/ Clematis Cottage, Playford Mount, Playford,
IP13 6PJ.**

Ted Herrington had arrived early to explain the plans to interested parties before commencement of the meeting. Plans have been drawn up to add two bedrooms and bathrooms at first floor level above the existing flat-roofed extension at the rear of the present building. There will be no changes to the front of the dwelling.

Mr & Mrs Herrington have wanted to extend their property for some time but were unable to do this until current planning laws had been relaxed to allow this to happen. Concerns have been raised that the property might be used as a Bed & Breakfast establishment with the attendant problems of extra traffic but Sally Herrington assured us that they had no intention to do this whatsoever.

There are two posts at the front of the drive, which can be removed to allow access for construction vehicles to enter, and there will be turning space for them within the grounds of the property so that they do not need to reverse out onto the road. Deliveries will be times as far as possible to avoid "rush-hour" traffic.

There is a Right of Way issue as a footpath follows the eastern boundary of the property but this is far enough away from the house and in any case, shielded by trees so that the house is not visible from the footpath, so should not cause a problem.

The present arrangement of septic tank drainage will continue – there will be no change to the number of persons using the house so this is unlikely to be a problem.

The Council resolved to support the application.

17. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 4th September 2013

The meeting ended at 9.20pm

Signed