

**Minutes of Playford Parish Council meeting held at the Village Hall
at 7.00pm on Wednesday 6th November 2019**

Present: Mrs Joan Metcalfe - Chairman
Mr Steve Hicks - Councillor
Mr Ted Herrington - Councillor
Mr Keith Carson – Councillor
Mr Mike Brewer - Councillor
Mr Colin Hedgley – District Councillor

In attendance:
Mrs Marian Hedgley - Clerk

Also present:
Mr Chris Mason - Save the Admirals Head campaign
Mr Alexis Morcrette - Save the Admirals Head campaign
Mr Alun Jones - Save the Admirals Head campaign
Ms Tracy Herrington
Mrs Sally Herrington
Mrs Veronica Bunbury
Mr James Jary

Apologies for Absence:
Mr Adrian Melrose - Councillor
Mr Robin Vickery – County Councillor (no apologies received)

- 1. Declarations of Members' Interests in any items on this Agenda.**
Joan Metcalfe declared an interest as Treasurer of Playford Village Hall Committee and as a Trustee of Playford Village Hall. This information was duly recorded.
- 2. To approve the Minutes from meetings held 4th Sept & 30th Oct 2019 and matters arising/Action Point review.**
Minutes of 4th Sept were proposed by Mike Brewer, seconded by Keith Carson and signed by Joan as Chairman. Minutes of 30th October need a slight amendment and will be approved at the next meeting.

Matters arising.
Joan Metcalfe confirmed that she had looked into the issue of website Digital Accessibility and that no action was needed.

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Action Point Review:

- ⊠ **AP 115 – Build up of silt on C324.** Site visit with Highways manager Justin Lewis took place on 9th Oct and photos taken. No firm conclusions made, SCC Traffic Management team needs to be consulted re priorities of traffic, Norse to be contacted over clearance of silt. Clerk to contact landowner to request that drains on south side of road are kept clear as rainwater drains under the road in a southerly direction and this appears to be where it is backing up.
- ⊠ **AP131 – Water constantly trickling down FP7 making it hazardous.** Site visit with Highways manager Justin Lewis on 9th Oct – he will undertake some research & investigatory work before recommending any course of action but in the meantime will arrange for the moss, mud & silt to be cleaned up. Flagship Housing (on whose property the spring is erupting) has also arranged for their surveyor to report.
- ⊠ **AP 135 – Ongoing issues with FP’s 1 & 3.** Elizabeth Mansfield sent in two photos of these paths – FP1 appears to be improved but FP3 still has the fence rather closer to the field than was agreed and vegetation needs cutting back further. Still awaiting report from Debbie Adams.
- ⊠ **AP144 – Can size of vehicles using Church Lane be restricted?** Site visit with Highways manager Justin Lewis on 9th Oct – no reinstatement of verges deemed necessary as no change in levels between road side and garden borders. It was agreed that this was not a suitable route through which to divert heavy traffic – signs saying “Unsuitable for Heavy Vehicles” may be erected at each end of the road but Highways does not have available funds for this.
- ⊠ **AP145 – Church Road in a muddy state with ongoing potato and beet harvest and water standing on the road after heavy rainfall.** Clerk to contact farmer responsible for cleaning road after harvest has finished. Excess water standing on road has been reported to Highways.

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

3. Presentation by Friends of the Admirals Head team:

Alexis Morcrette, Chris Mason and Alun Jones.

Alexis Morcrette distributed factsheets explaining the need to raise finance for the purchase of the Admirals Head pub and how this was proposed. The premises are listed as an Asset of Community Value, the building is up for sale and the period for putting in a bid will expire on 23rd November when the pub would go on to the open market.

Their aim is to put in a bid, backed up with finance in principle. £450K is needed to buy the pub, refurbish it and retain some working capital. Approx £200K will have been raised by a combination of donations and pledges of community shares leaving £250K to be found.

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The three local Parish Councils can give support by taking out Public Works Loans (intended for assisting community projects) and these can be with various options from 2 years to 50 year terms. For most PC's the precept would need to be raised to accommodate the repayments and this would have to be approved by residents in a referendum. The preferred method is by 'On lending' whereby the loan is secured by the assets of the pub.

Questions asked:

- How will they ensure the pub will make money?
- How will it be run?
- There have been no trading figures for 7 years, how will this encourage the right calibre of tenant?
- What is the vision for the pub?
- What arrangements have been made for managing extra traffic and parking at the premises?
- What size loan would Lt Bealings apply for?
- What amount of loan were they hoping Playford would consider?
- There was a sewage/drainage problem in the past, how will this be resolved?

Chris Mason explained that they have a full business plan and the figures are all in the share prospectus sent out to all residents of Gt and Lt Bealings and Playford. Best option for running the pub would be to have a tenant as the pub manager and to charge rent so that a regular income would be guaranteed.

Alun Jones stated there has been interest in the pub already, indicating a reasonable viability. There is a good catchment area, including new houses, so trade should be sustainable provided they offer a service that people want. The emphasis will be on providing good food, maybe a micro brewery if that would draw people in. The pub car park would reopen. The team will liaise with Angela Cobbold Hall, Lt Bealings Village Hall and All Saints Church to ensure no clash of interests.

Anglian Water is looking at the drains problem, the pub has a septic tank at present and this is not up to the task of coping with the demands of a busy pub – if this is not resolved by the time the pub is sold, they may be able to negotiate a lower price.

The size of Lt Bealings' loan would depend on what Playford and Gt Bealings PCs might consider – it is not thought fair to ask for a pro rata amount based on number of households in each parish as the premises are in Lt Bealings. LBPC ought to put forward considerably more than the other two parishes (assuming residents are willing).

Joan Metcalfe thanked the team for their presentation and they left. A discussion ensued where mixed views were expressed. If a loan were taken out it would have to be secured – a loan would have priority over shareholders if the venture failed. Various loan options of how much and over how long were considered and it was resolved that the village should be consulted, especially since a loan would mean an increase in the Precept and therefore also in council tax payable.

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It was unanimously agreed that the figure of £25K should be put forward to be considered by the village in a referendum and that it should be taken out as a fully secured loan. This cannot not be achieved by the deadline of 23rd November.

4. County Councillor's report - There was no County Council report

5. District Councillor's report

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

In addition, Colin stated:

- Orange juice cartons can no longer be disposed of in blue waste bins as they contain plastic in the paper body which cannot be separated. They should instead be placed in grey waste bins.
- Community Partnership Workshop, Martlesham & Kesgrave area – if we join this scheme there is £10K to share out over this year for whole community projects such as solving isolation for the elderly. The next meeting is in January 2020.
- County boundaries are being reassigned to balance up the numbers – Woodbridge ward does not have enough and would like to take on the Fynn Valley element of Carlford and Fynn Valley ward. This is to be avoided if at all possible and individuals are being urged to write in to the Boundary Commission to object, by email to: reviews@lgbce.org.uk or by post to: The Review Officer, Local Government Boundary Commission for England, 1st Floor, Windsor House, 50 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0TL.
- Pre planning advice is still being offered by East Suffolk planning department despite a misinterpretation that this is to be discontinued.

6. Finance

Reporting & authorisation of cheques/online payments:

- 13.9.19 £250.00 to STOP Northern Bypass campaign
- 18.9.19 £1260.00 to SWT Trading Ltd – fee for report on Playford Mere
- 27.9.19 £286.00 to HMRC – Q2 tax on clerk's salary
- 23.8.19 £14.75 to M Hedgley – Clerk's expenses for stationery
- Clerk's salary for September & October - as agreed in the budget

Above payments proposed by Joan Metcalfe and seconded by Keith Carson

Credits received: 17.9.19 A Melrose - Playford Mere report £1050.00
27.9.19 East Suffolk Co. 2nd half of Precept £3750.00

Bank Balances:

Current a/c	£7168.26
NS&I	£3376.13

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Budget for 2019 – clerk reported that the budget for 2019 was on track. Budget for 2020/21 to be discussed at January meeting before Precept for next year is determined

7. Highways

- Grit bins update - Joan Metcalfe has submitted forms for location of second grit bin from Robin Vickery's budget and is awaiting approval.
- SAVID update - SAVID needs funds to continue its work and has asked parish councils which it serves, for donations. This will be considered at January's meeting when the new budget will be discussed.
- Footpaths Issues - See Action Log

8. Neighbourhood Plan – update

The final draft has now been circulated and sent off to ESC for review and screening – this should take about 6 weeks. NP Chairman Keith Carson has signed the Service Level Agreement. Joan Metcalfe proposed a vote of thanks to Keith for all his hard work in achieving this. There will be a remaining payment of £350.00 to pay to Planning Direct at the end of the project.

9. Ipswich Northern Bypass

The results of the responses to the Northern Bypass proposals are still being analysed and an announcement is expected by the end of the year. It was a massive response and over 4000 submissions were received.

10. Planning Issues.

Two new applications have been received for the two separate dwellings on the Archway Piggeries site:

- DC/19/4255/PN3 Poultry sheds - building C on the original plans
- DC/19/4256/PN3 Piggeries - building A on the original plans

Joan Metcalfe took the hard copies of these plans to look through and report back.

The clerk has requested of ESC planners that the original comments made by Playford PC on the initial application, should hold good for the new applications, provided that no material change has been made on the new plans.

Happy Acres Barn DC/19/0300/FUL – it has been reported that building work on this application is not being carried out according to approved plans, this has been logged by ESC as an enforcement issue and an agent will inspect.

11. Neighbourhood Watch

There have been concerns in the village regarding thefts, burglaries etc in Gt Bealings, also reports of an unattended ladder being left around which could encourage would-be offenders. Police and Crime Commissioner Tim Passmore has

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been made aware of this. Police do not have sufficient funds and cannot attend on a regular basis to check premises. The old Neighbourhood Watch scheme lapsed due to lack of a co-ordinator and the fact that there is no longer any support for them from the Police - they are run purely in an advisory capacity.

It was resolved that the clerk should ask Fynn Lark News to print a warning advising residents to be vigilant with regard to articles left unattended.

12. History Project

In addition to the written History of Playford currently being undertaken, John Royle has offered his services in writing Playford stories – this will take the form of:

- Talking books or oral histories to be made available online, material for this will be obtained by talking to people in the village about bygone days.
- Memory Box of old photos
- Digital walking trail as a Smartphone App

Colin Hedgley has offered funding of £750.00 from his District Council budget and can put forward £750.00 for this project. Joan Metcalfe proposed this idea should be taken up and it was unanimously agreed by all.

13. Town and PC Forums – planning update for clerks & councillors 27th Jan 2020

Questions for this forum must be submitted by 22nd November to the planning team at ESC in Melton. Joan Metcalfe has offered to attend. Questions to be sent to the clerk for onward transmission.

14. Dates for next year's meetings – these were agreed as:

8th Jan, 4th March, 6th May, 1st July, 2nd Sept, and 4th Nov all commencing at 7pm with the exception of the May meeting which will start at 6.30pm.

15. Co-opting a new councillor - No further progress has been made on this yet.

16. Correspondence – received up to 6th November 2019

- Ipswich Borough Co** - Draft Suffolk Coast European Sites Recreational Disturbance Avoidance and Mitigation Strategy SPD (SC RAMS SPD) – draft SPD available from 18th Sept on Council's website.
- Suffolk Local Authority Parish Engagement** – meeting 15th Oct at Stowmarket
- East Suffolk Community Safety Partnership** Event 9th Dec 2019
- GRAHAM.co.uk** – Upcoming works at A14 junction 53 Mon 30 Sept
- Suffolk Electoral Review** – briefing for town & parish councils 10th Oct
- Police & Crime Commissioner** – Tell us what you think? Event 31st Oct 2019
- East Suffolk Community Partnerships** – Workshop 29th October
- Assets of Community Value** – Workshop 29th Jan 2020
- Suffolk Minerals & Waste** - Local Plan Modification Consultation
- East Suffolk NORSE Ltd** – new contact details

Signed

17. AOB

- Progress with new signatories to the Bank account – both new signatories have been accepted for signing documents and are awaiting online signing procedures to be completed.
- It was requested that the clerk should contact Parken’s farm to ask their contractors not to use the Church Lane route when accessing the hardstanding near the Church from Culpho direction.
- It was further requested the clerk should chase Norse Ltd regarding hedge trimming.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 8th January 2020 at 7.00pm

The meeting ended at 9.55pm.

Signed