

**Minutes of Playford Parish Council meeting held at the Village Hall
at 7.00pm on Wednesday 6th July 2016**

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

In attendance:
Ms Marian Rosling - Clerk

Also present:
Mrs Sally Herrington
Mr Chris Shelley

Absent:
Mr Adrian Melrose, 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 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 4th May, 1st & 13th June 2016.

Joan Metcalfe proposed acceptance of the minutes and these were seconded by Ted Herrington. The minutes were then signed by the Chairman.

3. Matters arising from the Minutes.

None.

4. District Councillor's report

In the absence of a County Councillor, District Councillor Robert Whiting reported on behalf of the County that a discussion between Norfolk, Suffolk and all districts had taken place and that it had been agreed to take Devolution on to the next stage, although four districts in Norfolk did not support it. All Suffolk districts were in favour but it remains to be seen how the scheme will work out. There may be a discussion at County level in October. It is proposed that a Mayor would be appointed as the 4th level of government (parish councils being 1st level).

Signed

It seems that Suffolk County Council has turned a corner in education and the John Leman High School in Beccles has won School of the Year award.

New powers are to be in force to tackle fly-tipping.

It is hoped that the new website for Suffolk County Council will improve communications.

An Enabling Communities Roadshow will take place at Stratford St Andrew on 19th July and another at Lowestoft on 25th July to help communities independently address local issues. Robert has funds available in his budget for Fynn Valley ward.

£90K has been invested in part-time lighting in the County.

A World of Planning event will take place at SCDC offices on 13th July to update councillors with the latest information on planning rules.

Questions:

Joan Metcalfe asked when the grass verges around Playford would be cut. This will be chased up.

Ted Herrington asked if the County can afford enforcement of planning procedures which had not been carried out as directed - local issues are not being addressed. It is a question of priorities and minor issues are being pushed back. Ted also asked why pre-planning advice sought by individuals is not freely available to Parish Councils to assist with decisions but this is confidential and cannot be passed on.

5. Airys Cottage - planning issues

The unsuitable kerbstones and shingle placed on the outside of the boundary wall have yet to be removed and the retrospective planning application for landscaping/excavations has not yet been circulated. Any objections to these plans must be restricted to planning issues and not personal feelings.

Joan Metcalfe commented that the roof angles of the proposed changes to the main building are not consistent and Ted Herrington agreed that they should all be the same to give a pleasing visual aspect. These plans may yet go before the planning committee for approval as several objections have been lodged by members of the public as well as the parish council's objections. Ted Herrington said that Anglia Water should be consulted as mains drainage would be up to capacity with the number of occupants in the property..

6. Action Log Review

AP-81 Byway 19. This will be held over as Adrian Melrose was not present to take it further.

Signed

AP-98 Temporary repair at the junction of Butts Road and Brook Lane where tarmac has fallen away has not been successful –Clerk will continue to chase progress on this.

AP-100 Arm which has fallen off signpost at junction of C324 and Church Road – still awaiting repair.

AP-106 FP9 & FP13 overgrown with brambles. This is in the hands of the contractors and we are still awaiting some action. The field has grown over again – Clerk to ask Debbie Adams to chase this again.

AP-108 Fallen laurel tree in Spring Meadow. The clerk asked SC Norse Ltd to quote for clearing debris/ivy etc left from contractors responsible for removing the tree –this has now been overtaken by brambles. Chris Green from Norse will clear this in Oct/Nov after grass cutting season finishes and also attend to adjacent laurel hedge which is badly in need of a trim.

AP-115 Build up of silt on C324 near Clematis Cottage. This has been reported but SCDC unable to clear for 3 weeks because of other work loads.

AP-117 Safety issue in Church Lane where FP from childrens’ playground enters. This has been reported to Highways but they do not consider it a high enough priority to take any action.

AP-118 Blocked drain at top of Church Lane. This has been reported and will be dealt with under SCC Highways’ planned maintenance programme in due course.

AP-120 Sand/silt build up in Church Lane washed down from Field behind Church Corner Cottage – this has been reported but it will be 3 weeks before it can be dealt with.

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

7. Finance

○ Reporting & authorisation of cheques/online payments:-

100775	M J Rosling – clerk’s expenses	£21.01
100776	HMRC – tax Q1	£125.60

Bank balances:

Barclays Bank current account	as at 4.7.16	£2975.43
NS&I Savings account	as at 4.7.16	£3316.17

Steve Hicks (as a non- signatory) agreed the Bank reconciliation with a copy of the latest Bank statement.

Signed

○ Budget Update 2016/2017

The budget was circulated to the councillors prior to the meeting. Joan Metcalfe proposed agreement that it was on track and this was seconded by Tim Llewellyn.

8. Highways

- a) A letter regarding concerns about traffic in Butts Road has been received from Jo Burrows of Sevenoaks and she suggests that priority signs be placed at each end of the narrowest section to prevent accidents. This has been reported to Highways who do not consider the problem sufficiently significant at the moment, however, the parish council will hold this information to be used at a later date.
- b) Repairs in Butts Road have been requested by Simon Hanson as the road opposite his house is particularly in need of the edge being restored.
- c) Drainage issues/Ditch clearance. An email from Hilary Legard has been received by the clerk pointing out the general state of drainage in the village with particular regard to recent extreme weather. It was resolved to ask SC Norse Ltd to dig out the ditch in Butts Road in front of the village hall to a deeper level and to ensure that debris was cleared out of it, sooner than being left to rot inside it. Clarke & Simpson will be asked to clear the ditch in Hill Farm Road again as they are currently overseeing this area for the landowner and will be asked to ensure that this drains adequately into the drainage channel above Glemham in Butts Road which then leads into the river. It was noted that Sam Williams has cleared the ditch in Butts Road on the opposite side to the village hall but that a grid was missing from the drain. Clerk to report this to Highways.

9. Outdoor Playspace project – progress

Hexasport Ltd (who provided the basketball equipment) has been contacted by Joan Metcalfe as the backboard to the basketball post has failed. It appears that this may have been subjected to undue strain from incorrect usage but the N-plate needs to be removed and the arm replaced. Joan will liaise with Hexasport about a replacement arm. The clerk has been advised that the residual funds for payment of the equipment will be forthcoming within the next few days

10. Neighbourhood Plan - progress

There are potential problems with Kesgrave Town Council who wish to include part of Playford land within their Neighbourhood Plan. It had been suggested by Principal Planning Officer, Hilary Hanslip that Playford may not necessarily benefit from its own Neighbourhood Plan but it was now felt that we should reconsider this in the light of protecting Playford's best interests.

Tim Llewellyn will contact Adrian Melrose with a view to proceeding with this. It was further proposed that Joan Metcalfe, Tim Llewellyn and possibly Adrian Melrose should attend the neighbourhood Planning Networking Event at Hacheston village hall on 7th September 2016.

Signed

11. Correspondence received:

- a) Letter from Suffolk Constabulary re Clarification over Community Engagement and Neighbourhood Priority setting processes.
- b) Letter from SCDC re: Engagement Forums and Devolution plans
- c) Letter from Suffolk Fire & Rescue Services detailing their Integrated Risk Management plans for 2015-2018
- d) Letter from the Planning Inspectorate regarding the application by EAOW3 for an Order Granting Development Consent for their Windfarm project.
- e) Letter from Ipswich Borough Council regarding Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.
- f) A letter has been received from Astrid Llewellyn saying how much better the village looked since SC Norse Ltd has been looking after the grass cutting. However, she requested that the PC contacted the local landowners to keep verges and hedges trimmed. She also wrote regarding the signage at Kesgrave Cemetery as she felt this was misleading and could indicate that the grounds were actually in Kesgrave when they are in fact within the Playford boundary. It was suggested that the clerk should write to the PCC of All Saints Kesgrave asking them to amend the sign to “All Saints Church Cemetery” instead of “Kesgrave, All Saints Church, Cemetery”, and to send a copy to Mrs Llewellyn.

12. AOB

Tim Llewellyn enquired whether Playford has an Emergency Plan –it appears not.

Tim also reported that the hinges on the wooden carcassing of the bottle bank were breaking up and needed replacing and that the hardstanding was breaking up too. Clerk to phone SC Norse Ltd and ask them to see to it.

Ted Herrington suggested that as Highways have no funds for restoration/road repairs that Playford PC should perhaps increase their Precept and then fund the repairs themselves. Joan Metcalfe replied and said there should be a village meeting and a vote before deciding upon this.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 7th September 2016 at 7.00pm

The meeting ended at 9pm.

Signed