

**Minutes of Playford Parish Council meeting held at Playford Village Hall  
7.00pm on Wednesday 6th July 2022**

**Present:** Joan Metcalfe – Chairman  
Ben Evans – Vice-Chairman  
Ted Herrington - Councillor  
Martin Hill - Councillor  
Colin Hedgley - District Councillor

**Also present:**  
Glen Thimblethorpe

**In attendance:**  
Marian Hedgley - Clerk

**Apologies for Absence:**  
Keith Carson – Councillor  
Steve Hicks - Councillor  
Elaine Bryce – County Councillor

1. The chairman opened the meeting at 7.20pm
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 meetings held:**

	<u>Proposed by</u>	<u>Seconded by</u>
27 <sup>th</sup> April 2022	JM	MH
4 <sup>th</sup> May 2022	JM	BE

The Chairman duly signed the minutes.

Matters arising – none

**Action Point Review:**

- ❖ **AP135 – Ongoing maintenance of FPs 1, 3 & 20.** Debbie Adams has been asked for a report on situation with these paths
- ❖ **AP155 – C324 traffic priority problems:** Elaine Bryce has promised a report on the situation with priority signage for this road as previously discussed - Traffic Manager David Chenery has been reminded of our need for progress on this.
- ❖ **AP160 - Mud, debris etc on Church Lane washed down by heavy rainfall.**  
Clearance is still awaited by SC Highways.

Signed .....

- ❖ **AP168 – Disabled access to FP2/track to Tuddenham.** No access for a mobility scooter when gate across the beginning of this track is locked. Small side gate to be supplied by Highways for this purpose is still awaited.
- ❖ **AP174 – Church Lane being used as diversion when Butts Road is closed - SCC** Highways do not suggest this as a diversion route but signage is sometimes unclear and it is inevitable that local traffic will use it unless warning signs are used to deter larger vehicles. Co Cllr Elaine Bryce to be consulted for help on this.
- ❖ **AP176 – Constant flow of water down Church Lane – SCC** Highways has passed details of this to Anglian Water so they can investigate for possible leaks.

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

**4. County Councillor’s report:**

Cllr Elaine Bryce sent her apologies for non attendance

**5. District Councillor’s report**

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

Colin also added:

- Blue flags have been awarded for beaches in Suffolk including Felixstowe South and Southwold.
- Apprenticeship schemes are starting up again
- CEO Stephen Baker will be retiring in December 2022
- Colin is willing to chase up any queries from the PC –please contact him.

**6. Planning Application: DC/22/1794/FUL**

Single storey side and front extension to The Old House, Bransons Lane.

The applicant, though invited, was not present. Plans were viewed on the large screen TV and a discussion ensued.

Details of extension were scant and it was difficult to ascertain precise measurements or exact materials intended to be used. It was felt that the extension was too big in relation to the rest of the house and the flat roof of the extension would be detrimental to the character of the house. It would also cut down the amount of natural light entering the rest of the interior of the house and would not be in keeping with the rural setting of the house and landscape.

JM proposed rejection of the plans and this was unanimously agreed by councillors. The decision will be conveyed to East Suffolk Planning dept by the clerk.

Signed .....

**7. Finance:-**Reporting & authorisation of cheques/online payments:Already paid:

Cheque no.	Payable to	Reason for payment	Amount £
Online	Zurich Town & Parish	Annual insurance premium - (agreed in principal at last meeting)	292.34
Online	M J Hedgley	May salary	agreed in budget
Online	M J Hedgley	June salary	agreed in budget

To be Paid:

828	HMRC	Tax Q1	agreed in budget
829	FLN	Agreed at last meeting but not issued	175.00
Online	M J Hedgley	Expenses: Clerks + SIDs	46.03

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

Credits rec'd

2 x £50.00 payments for playing field hire  
70p interest on Bus Prem. (Reserve) a/c

N/P grant of £5861.00 agreed and funds due any day now.

Bank balances /Bank reconciliation

Current account £4649.25  
Bus Prem a/c £11429.15

Martin Hill confirmed the reconciliation from a copy of the Budget sheet with the latest Bank statement.

Budget 2022-23 – It was unanimously agreed the current budget was on track.

Clerk's annual salary review:

JM proposed the clerk's salary should be raised to the next point up the NALC Annex1 spine from SCP15 to SCP16 as agreed in her contract, with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> Aug 2022. This was agreed by 3 votes, one councillor abstaining. This increase is separate from the EO1-22 National Salary Award, introduced by NALC in March 2022 (backdated from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021) which increased hourly rates by 1.75%.

**8. Highways**

- Traffic priority problems on C324:  
We are awaiting details from Elaine Bryce who has approached David Chenery with suggestions of various amendments.
- Road closures in the parish without prior warning from Highways:  
This appears to be happening frequently and Co Cllr Elaine Bryce will be asked for advice.

Signed .....

- SC Norse - Frequency of cutting verges in Hill Farm Road:  
This is being carried out too often. It was agreed that once a year (preferably in June) was probably sufficient and the clerk will convey this to SC Norse.
- Norse leaving debris in ditches when trimming hedges:  
This is a regular occurrence and the clerk will speak to Norse again, also requesting that the ditch bordering the road at the front of the Village Hall, should be dug out later in the year, perhaps in October.
- Footpaths issues - these have been covered in para 3, Action Points review.
- SIDS update:
  - A second SIDS device has been obtained and will be shared between Playford and LBPC. It was unanimously agreed that a contribution of approx £5 pa towards the insurance of the device should be paid to LBPC.
  - James Wright from SAVID has asked if he could bring his Speedwatch team to Playford to use their equipment – this was unanimously agreed.
  - Outstanding bill of £190.00 in respect of supplying one SIDS pole in Playford – after a discussion it was agreed that this should be paid to Highways after some confusion over whether this amount was due or not (and the original invoice not being received).

**9. Annual Review of Parish Standing Orders**

This was circulated to councillors before the meeting and all points found to be still relevant. JM proposed acceptance and this was unanimously agreed.

**10. Neighbourhood Plan – update**

Chairman Keith Carson sent his apologies as he was unable to attend the meeting. The application for the new Locality grant of £5861.00 was submitted on 17<sup>th</sup> June 2022 and sanctioned by Groundwork UK. Funds should be credited to the PC's bank account within 3-5 working days. Consultant Ian Poole has been advised of this and it will enable the NP to be completed.

**11. Rota for watering the WW1 memorial Oak tree on the playing field**

The rota for watering the new oak tree on the playing field is working well and another couple of months has been added – this will take us up to September.

**12. Bottle Bank issues**

Concrete forming the base of the bottle bank site has broken up and this appears to be the reason for Norse not replacing the containers tidily after they are emptied. A contractor needs to be found to do this work and several names were put forward.

**13. Other Planning Issues**

- Archway Piggeries: DC/22/1156/FUL  
The applicant has contacted the Chairman requesting a site visit as he is contesting some of the PC's objections to his application. It was felt that if a site visit were to take place, then this should be attended by the full council but it is unclear what this would achieve as the objections cannot be withdrawn.

Signed .....

The applicant's only option is to contact the District Council planners if he wishes to contest the PC's statement and JM will convey this to him.

- Enforcement issues  
An excessive number of cars parked in Hill Farm Road recently has been reported to the Enforcement Officer, who is currently investigating the situation.
- SALC planning survey– details should be received soon.
- East Suffolk's small scale consultation on Housing in the Countryside ends on 5<sup>th</sup> August – this needs to be responded to. Clerk to re-circulate the relevant email to all councillors for their views.

- 14. Playford Playing field** - Requests to sanction hire of playing field:  
Richard Westley hired the field 2.6.22 for a family afternoon (retrospective)  
Emma Robinson is to hire the field 27.8.22 for her wedding reception

The above requests were sanctioned unanimously.

- 15. PC Vacancy** - the vacancy still has not been filled

- 16. Correspondence** – received up to 6th July 2022

	Date	From	Subject	Ref
1 & 2	11.5.22 & 27.5.22	East Suffolk Council	Community Governance Review – draft recommendations consultation	ESC Electoral Services Manager Karen Last
3	19.5.22	East Suffolk Council	Adoption of Affordable Housing SPD	Andrea McMillan Principal Planner
4	20.5.22	East Suffolk Council	New company <b>East Suffolk Services</b> to replace Norse in just over a year's time	Kerry Blair – ESC Head of Operations
5	6.6.22	East Suffolk Council	Publication of the Statement of Modifications to the E Suffolk CIL Charging Schedule	Adam Nicolls Principal Planner (Policy and Delivery)

- 17. AOB**

JM wanted to give an update on Playford's memory box currently being created by John Royle – he will be back from Australia at the end of July and should be able to update us then. The Walking Trail in particular needs to be progressed. BE alerted us to the History section on East Bergholt's website as an example of how it could be added.

Signed .....

TH is experiencing internet problems with intermittent interruptions –this is thought to be a BT issue.

GT reported the basketball post and net on the playing field is in need of attention – SH is dealing with this.

Village Welcome Leaflet – a new rep has been found to organise this task following Veronica Bunbury’s departure from the village after many years of dedicated work.

The meeting ended at 9.45pm.

**Date of next meeting:** Wednesday 7th September 2022 at 7pm.

Signed .....