

**Minutes of Playford Parish Council meeting held at Playford Village Hall
7.00pm on Wednesday 6th September 2023**

Present: Ben Evans – Chairman
Joan Metcalfe – Vice-Chairman
Steve Hicks - Councillor
Martin Hill – Councillor
Ursula Richards - Councillor
Colin Hedgley - District Councillor

Also present: James Wright – speaker, Speedwatch presentation
Mat and Ruth Schollar – applicants for planning application DC/23/3143/FUL
Sally Herrington
Tracy Herrington
Ben Wale

In attendance: Marian Hedgley – Clerk

Apologies for Absence: Elaine Bryce – County Councillor

Chairman Ben Evans opened the meeting at 7.00pm and welcomed everyone, including speaker James Wright.

1. 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.

2. To approve the Minutes of the meetings held:

	<u>Proposer</u>	<u>Seconder</u>
5 th July	JM	MH
12 th July	JM	MH
11 th August	JM	MH

The Chairman duly signed the minutes.

Matters arising – none

Action Point Review:

- ❖ **AP93 - Unregistered FP from C330 to C3311 needs reinstating.** No further progress – still awaiting results of appeal by landowner.
- ❖ **AP155 - C324 traffic priority problems:** Details of traffic priority signs have at last been revealed by Highways and it is hoped that the installation work can be fitted in with the drainage works scheduled within 10 months (i.e. by 2024). Elaine Bryce will keep us updated on the likely start date.

Signed

- ❖ **AP168 - Access to FP2 to Tuddenham by mobility scooter when gate is locked.**
Large farm gate across the beginning of this path has been left open for most of this year and does not pose a problem at present. SCC Footpaths Officer Debbie Adams will be contacted if the situation changes.
- ❖ **AP174 - “Unsuitable for Heavy Traffic” signs for Church Lane** – Locations have been agreed and work on this will be commenced shortly.
- ❖ **AP177 - Trip hazards found on FP5** – This problem is receding and not thought to be an issue now.
- ❖ **AP178 - Boules Piste repairs** – awaiting feedback from Ben Wale re team of volunteers – see item on main agenda para 11.

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

3. **Planning Application DC/23/3143/FUL** – No 2 Brook Cottages, Brook Lane.
Applicants: Mat and Ruth Schollar
Proposal: Side two-storey extension and rear single storey extension to supersede previous DC/19/3344/FUL application

The plans were displayed on the large screen TV and a discussion ensued. The applicants were asked to explain the plans and they stated that the idea of a two-storey extension was to let in more light through roof windows and to make the building as ecologically fit as possible. Reclaimed red bricks would be used as far as possible to blend in with the existing 1750’s brickwork and they planned to replace the windows with oak framed ones to match the originals. Existing concrete tiles on the roof would be replaced by slate tiles and solar panels would sit on the roof beams rather than the tiles – it was anticipated the majority of solar panels would be at the rear of the building.

The extension wall at the rear of the building is to become a party wall with the next door property and as the neighbours feel they may wish to extend their house in a similar manner at some time.

The present front porch is to be removed to make way for a small vehicle to be parked in front of the old front door as much of the present parking space would be taken up by the side extension and only enough room for one large vehicle remained there.

Drainage/sewerage is achieved by the existing septic tank which would serve a 4-bedroomed house if necessary. Rain water drainage is channelled to a soakaway at the front of the property.

Heating is to be provided by a log burner while it is hoped that the solar panels will provide the majority of electricity needed.

Signed

A full structural survey is to be carried out in a couple of months' time.

Councillors' questions included queries as to whether the amount of parking would be adequate and that the ratio of the size of the resultant building to the size of the plot may be rather too large.

The immediate neighbours are totally in favour of the plans but other nearby residents have cast doubts on the resultant amount of parking available when the building work is complete.

BE proposed acceptance of the plans and it was agreed to support the plans. The clerk will report this to East Suffolk planning team.

4. Talk on Speedwatch by James Wright.

James commenced by explaining that the idea for Speedwatch originally started in Somerset in 2001 and is now nationwide. There are 45 schemes currently in Suffolk. Its main aim is to remind speeding motorists to slow down and to adhere to the speed limit as speed is usually the worst culprit in any collision as opposed to drink/drugs or not wearing a seat belt.

Main operating times are morning rush hour and school arrival and departures times at locations authorised by the Police. The handheld speed device works up to a distance of 300 meters and relies on the Doppler effect to record details of speeds of offending motorists.

James is happy to support a speedwatch scheme in Playford if we can supply enough volunteers to man it (usually 3 for each occasion). The speed, date, time, make and model and registration no. of the vehicle is recorded and the data is analysed. A warning letter is sent out for a first offence, a stronger letter on the second, then the Police will swoop if anyone is caught for a third time.

Recruitment of new volunteers will be discussed at the next PC meeting.

5. County Councillor's report:

Elaine Bryce sent her apologies for non attendance. Her report is appended at the end of these minutes.

6. 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 gave a simple précis of his report and further stated that he and co-councillor Dan Clery had come to an agreement to split the parishes in Carlford and Fynn Valley ward between them and to swap round after a year. If any parish wished to see both district councillors at once, this could be arranged.

If there are any comments/problems please contact Colin.

Signed

7. Public Forum

Ben Wale announced a Harvest Swap to be held in the Village Hall on Sat. 9th September when surplus goods and garden produce can be swapped between residents of Playford and neighbouring parishes. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Ben also mentioned a stream of water in Brook Lane which has been running constantly down the footpath. Anglian Water is investigating this for leaks and will report in due course.

8. FinanceReporting and authorisation of cheques/online paymentsAlready paid:

Date/Chq no.	Payable to	Reason for payment	Amount £
17.7.23 833	HMRC	Tax Q1 (Clerk's salary)	agreed in budget
17.7.23 Online	M Hedgley	Clerks exp: Ink cartr + stationery	79.57
17.7.23 Online	Lt Bealings PC	Donation towards SIDs insurance	10.03
20.7.23 DD	ICO	Annual subscription	35.00
22.7.23 Online	M Hedgley	Clerk - July salary	agreed in budget
27.7.23 Online	SL & CL Webber	Bottle Bank renovations	514.24
27.7.23 Online	ESC	Uncontested Election costs	56.10
22.8.23 Online	M Hedgley	Clerk - Aug salary	agreed in budget

To be Paid:

Due now	M Hedgley	Clerks exp: Ink cartr + stationery	66.91
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All of above payments were proposed by JM and seconded by BE

Bank balances /Bank reconciliation:

Current a/c £1143.37
Bus Premium a/c £10,337.84

SH confirmed the reconciliation from the Budget sheet with the latest Bank statement.

Budget 2023-24 – The budget was found to be on track and was unanimously agreed.

9. Highways

- Traffic priority problems on C324 - see Action Point AP155.
 - Road signs in Church Lane to deter use by unsuitably large vehicles. See Action Point AP174. Materials and signs can now be ordered.
 - Footpaths issues – FP2 issue over small gate – see Action Point AP168.
 - Possibility of Church Road being designated as a Quiet Lane. This was discussed and JM and SH will investigate further to see whether it is feasible.
- SIDS update – Tracy Herrington gave her SIDs report. Data from August this year shows that numbers are slightly down from last time and as all of the reported incidents were of speeds less than 34mph, no police involvement had been necessary. The SIDs equipment will next be in Playford in October and Road Safety week will be from 19th – 26th November 2023.

Signed

10. Neighbourhood Plan - update

Ian Poole has been contacted for an update the Plan is in the pipeline to be submitted to East Suffolk Council imminently, for approval.

- 11. Boules Piste repairs** – Ben Wale is currently trying to get a team of volunteers together to do the work at cost price. Given the price of railway sleepers or whatever wood is to be used, we could need £500-£750 for materials. District Cllr Dan Clery is to be approached for a grant to help out and possibly Playford Village Hall committee could make up the shortfall if necessary. See AP178.

12. Planning Issues:

- **DC/23/5004/FUL** Sinks Pit – retention and construction of building and use of land for vehicle and plant hire - this application is in Lt Bealings but Playford has been asked to comment as a neighbouring parish. No comment thought necessary.
- **Enforcement issues** - None

- 13. PC Vacancies** – Mat Schollar has offered to come to the next meeting as a possible candidate

14. Correspondence – received up to 6th September 2023

	Date	From	Subject	Ref
1	27.7.23	Barclays Bank Mandate Change Team	Confirmation of Mandate Change request	Adding 2 x cllrs as signatories to the Bank account
2	Aug 2023	Barclays Bank Business banking Team	Closure of Woodbridge branch on 1 st Dec 2023	Business banking Team
3	8.8.23	Citizens Advice East Suffolk	Public meeting 20 th Sept 2023 at Blyburgate Hall, Beccles. Guest speaker: Chris Bally CEO ESC. Please advise if you would like to attend	East Suffolk Planning Team
4	11.8.23	East Suffolk Co	Information session on Asset of Community Value (Right to bid) 28 th September 2023	Andy Jolliffe – Communities Officer ESC
5	30.8.23	East Suffolk Co	Have your say on a new planning document covering custom and self- build housing.	Anthony Taylor Senior Planner (Policy and Delivery) ESC
5a	6.9.23	East Suffolk Co.	Update on above	
6	31.8.23	Citizens Advice East Suffolk	Email attaching Annual report of CAES	Sally Blake Communications, Community Engagement & Fundraising Coordinator

Signed

15. Items for next agenda

- District Cllr Dan Clery is to be invited to a future meeting at Playford.
- Volunteers are required for a Speedwatch Team – an approach to achieve this aim needs to be discussed.
- Possibility of gateway sign for Playford at one or both ends of the village.

The meeting ended at 8.50pm.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 1st November 2023 at 7pm

Signed