

**Minutes of Playford Parish Council meeting held at the Village Hall at 7.30 pm
on Wednesday, 6th March 2013**

Present: Mrs Joan Metcalfe, Mrs Veronica Bunbury, Mr Bob Coppillie, Mr Stephen Hicks, Mrs Juanette Pettitt, Mr Peter Bellfield,

In attendance:

Ms Marian Rosling, Clerk

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

Apologies for Absence.

Mrs June Gosling, Mr Simon Hanson, Mr Steven Hudson.

The chair was taken by Joan Metcalfe in Simon Hanson's absence.

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

No members of the council declared any interest.

2. To approve the Minutes from the Meeting held on 9th January 2013.

These were signed as a true record.

3. Matters arising from the Minutes.

Mr Ted Herrington queried the fact that the council's Action Log was not available to the general public and said that this did not promote transparency. This was discussed at some length and it was resolved that as the Action Log is really only an aide-mémoire for councillors and consisted of numbers given to jobs that needed carrying out, it was not necessary to make this public as long as details of the jobs were included in the minutes and the names of councillors appointed to carry out these tasks were recorded.

4. County Councillor Peter Bellfield's report.

- a) Council Tax is not going up this year. The leader of the Council has stated that if the Conservatives are re-elected, Council Tax will not go up for four years.
- b) Schools are being reorganised from a 3-tier system to a 2-tier system, Stowupland being the last area to be sorted. Out of 7427 applicants for secondary school places last year 97½% got their first choice - only 35 pupils did not get the school of their choice. A-level results were good.
- c) The Council is trying to promote Suffolk as a county – a new strategy has been launched recently.

Signed

- d) Ten flashing road signs checking speeds above 30mph have been installed in the area. These are not solar-powered.
- e) The amalgamation of the Fire Services is not going ahead. Cambridge has put up its precept and if the merger went ahead, Suffolk would be subsidising Cambridge.
- f) EAOW – Peter Bellfield has made a big commotion at the Council cabinet meeting because the villages concerned were not adequately informed over routing of traffic, HGV's and other details. He wanted to see proposals and to know what discussions were taking place between contractors and Highways department and will pass this information on to the five parishes in his area.
- g) Highways did a good job with gritting in the bad weather this Winter.

No questions were asked.

5. District Councillor Steven Hudson

Mr Steven Hudson did not attend due to illness and sent his apologies.

6. Report by Police

PCSO Justin Moss reported that there has been only one crime in Playford in the last two months and this was the theft of a battery from an electric fence, no-one has been apprehended for this as yet.

Ted Herrington asked if PCSO Moss had any statistics on speeding checks in the area and was told there are none available.

Joan Metcalfe asked if we could have PCSO Moss's telephone no. for the Playford's Welcome Leaflet and was told that he and the rest of the team could be contacted on '101'.

7. Action Log Review

AP14 – The old elm wood was finally cleared from the village hall site on 16th February by Colin Snowden with his trailer, helped by councillors Bob Coppillie, Steve Hicks and Veronica Bunbury, Eric Metcalfe also assisted. Letters of thanks were sent by the clerk to Olly Nash who assisted, Colin Snowden and to Charles Lofts for permitting us to deposit the debris on his land.

AP43 – Mud & soil in Brook Lane has still not been cleared despite chasers in November, January & February. Potholes reported in January (chased in February) also not repaired. Clerk to chase yet again.

AP46 – a website has been created by Steve Hicks www.Playford.OneSuffolk.net and Steve invited everyone to view it and make to comments. It was resolved to collect everyone's ideas once they had looked at the new website and to invite Simon's comments as chairman before progressing any further.

Signed

AP52- Problems with drainage of Byway 19. Nigel Meadows of SCC has taken this over as Debbie Adams has broken her leg – he will contact owner, Richard Innes and discuss what is to be done.

AP54 – Footpath 7 from Church Lane to Spring Meadow -the slippery moss first reported in Nov 2012 has been chased twice – it is now with Highways dept and we are awaiting a date for it to be sprayed.

AP55 – Footpath from village hall to Church Lane – as this is not regarded as a high priority by SCC, Bob Coppillie has kindly undertaken to clear this himself.

AP56 – Layby in Spring Meadow filled with weeds & grass clippings. Juanette Pettitt will check the situation and report back.

AP57- Blockage under bridge in Brook Lane. Having reported this to Highways in November and chased it twice, an email was received from Tony Buckingham at SCC to say that this is the Environment Agency’s responsibility. The EA claim that as the stream is only a minor tributary and not a named river, it is the responsibility of the landowners (jointly John Fenton & Charles Lofts). Joan and Eric Metcalfe volunteered to clear the weeds and resolve the problem.

AP63 – Problems with unwashed bottles being left outside village hall after hall has been hired. Joan Metcalfe will bring this matter up at the next village hall meeting and request a notice to be put up at the village hall saying that hirers of the hall will not have their deposit returned if the area is left in a mess.

AP65- Trees fouling overhead power lines in Butts Road. This was reported to EON via website on 1.2.13. Clerk to chase.

AP67- Footpath no 5 – Church Lane to Playford Mount. No Footpath sign in evidence – clerk to phone Highways dept. Saxmundham to enquire.

8. Finance:-

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

Cheque No 681	HMRC	£32.00	Tax on clerk’s salary -Jan
Cheque No 682	SALC	£30.00	Training course for clerk
Cheque No 683	HMRC	£32.00	Tax on clerk’s salary -Feb
Cheque No 684	M J Rosling	£18.18	Clerk’s expenses (stationery, postages)

The balance of the account is:-

Barclays	£812.77
Barclays no. 2 a/c	£132.76
NS&I	£1,756.43

Signed

9. East Anglian Offshore Windfarm –

The submission of 500 words stating Playford's position on the cabling depot and associated traffic issues was discussed at length. The original draft for submission to PINS on 24.1.13 was used as a basis and this was amended and updated following the presentation by EAOW on 20.2.13. Joan Metcalfe offered to consolidate everyone's views and to condense into 500 words for the clerk to submit to the PINS website by 11.59pm on 7th March 2013. A copy of this can be seen on the Playford Village website.

10. Risk Assessment

It was felt that the question of risk assessment should be deferred to the next meeting.

11. No 2 Community a/c. Balance £132.76

This is the remains of the grant from Suffolk Acre and belongs jointly to Playford, Great & Little Bealings. It was resolved to leave it untouched.

12. Outdoor Play Space Scheme

There is a small amount of money available to Playford (approx £1100) under the Outdoor Play Space Scheme in respect of the two new houses being built at Sevenoaks. This must be used to purchase equipment for the children's play area or for picnic tables and seats on communal sites. Quotes would need to be submitted to the OPSS at SCDC along with their application form. To attract ideas from the community it was resolved to ask parishioners for their views via e-mail and notices in the Benefice magazine. Clerk to arrange this.

13. Correspondence received:

- Letter from Barclays Bank plc confirming Joan Metcalfe as a signatory to the main bank account.
- Key to playing field gate, returned from SCC, after the grass cutting contract was cancelled.
- Report from Annette Robinson of SCC Highways confirming she considered the electric fence beside the footpath from Brook Lane to Bransons (FP no. 3) was the correct distance from the path but was poorly signed. The fence has now been removed, thus resolving the problem.

Signed

2012/13-28

- June Gosling's declaration of interest form was returned to the clerk from SCDC stating that this should be completed online. Clerk explained situation of councillor's present incapacity and it was agreed that they would accept the form by post if it were returned.
- Planning permission C12/2221 has been granted for the two new dwellings in the garden of Sevenoaks, Playford.

14. Date of next meeting: Wednesday 1st May 2013

The meeting ended at 9pm

Signed