

**Minutes of Playford Parish Council meeting held at Playford Village Hall at 7.30 pm on  
Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2011**

**Present:** Mrs Veronica Bunbury, Mr Bob Coppillie, Dr John Day, Mrs June Gosling, Mr Simon Hanson, Mrs Joan Metcalfe and Mr Tom Norfolk

**Also present for part of the meeting:** Mr Peter Bellfield, SCC Councillor, Mr Steven Hudson, SCDC Councillor, Mr & Mrs R Herrington

**In attendance:** Mrs Sarah Cartwright, Clerk to the Council

During the period of public participation before the meeting the following matters were discussed:

Mr Ted Herrington reported that a copse has been cut down (it had been very much a part of the established landscape for well over 100 years). This happened last Friday afternoon and Mr Herrington reported this to Ms Anne Westover, Principal Landscape Officer at SCDC. She was distraught. The Police were also called because it is a criminal offence. Ms Westover would welcome support from Playford Parish Council to ensure that this does not happen to the 2<sup>nd</sup> (larger) copse. Mr Herrington informs us that it is not easy to put a preservation order on a group of trees. The Parish Council **RESOLVED** to:

- Write to SCDC asking for a preservation order to be put on the second copse.

The discussion ended at 7.40 pm

**1. Apologies for Absence**

No police representative was available.

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

Mrs June Gosling declared an interest as a member of the Parish Hall Committee. This was written in the "Declaration of Interest" book and signed by the Chairman.

**3. To approve the Minutes from the Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> September and 5<sup>th</sup> October 2011**

These were signed as a true record.

**4. Matters Arising from the Minutes (Not covered in Agenda items listed below)**

None.

Signed .....  
Chairman

**5. Report by County Councillor Peter Bellfield**

Mr Bellfield reported that they have appointed a new Chief Executive. Her salary is less than £155,000 and no bonuses. The third lowest County Council Chief executive's salary in the country. Mr Bellfield reported that the first Scrutiny meeting - since the consultation - was held today to discuss the Budget. There will be road shows later this month and early next month which the Parish Council will be invited to attend. They are on track to save £50 million over the next 2 years. No libraries will close and the libraries scheme will save about 28% of costings. Dr John Day asked if the refuse collection is going to stay the same as it is? Mr Bellfield referred this question to Mr Steven Hudson who said that no one has contacted him so there does not seem to be much of a problem. Dr John Day asked if there was any interest in the policy of second homes getting tax rebate? Mr Bellfield replied that while the District Council collect the Council Tax, the major benefactor is the County Council adding that Mr Pickles (Eric Pickles, Secretary of State, Communities and Local Government) recent comment was extremely misleading. Mr Steven Hudson mentioned that he hadn't seen any figures but commented that the Council Tax discount for second home owners was only 10% so a change wouldn't make a huge difference

The Chairman thanked Mr Peter Bellfield.

**6. Report by District Councillor Steven Hudson**

Mr Hudson suggested joining in on the discussion later on in the meeting when Neighbourhood Planning was discussed.

**6. Report by Police**

There have been 0 crimes to report in Playford for September and October. A Police Report has been received which was circulated to Councillors before the meeting.

**7. Highways and Footpaths  
Footpath between Butts Rd and Church Rd**

A letter was written on the 15<sup>th</sup> September to Mr Parken re the possibility of re-instating a "path" (which is on his land) running between Butts Road and Church Road. No reply has been received to date.

**Kerbing outside High Meadows**

The Chairman reported that Mr Derek Oldham had confirmed he had written to Mr Ashfield, owner of High Meadows, to discuss changes to the kerbing outside High Meadows. Mr Oldham would update in due course.

**Foodbridge, Footpath 23**

Highways has replaced the wire meshing at the end of footpath 23. It was agreed to monitor how often the wire would need to be replaced.

Signed .....  
Chairman

**Spring Meadow layby**

The layby in Spring Meadow is still overgrown. Mrs Veronica Bunbury reported that the men from Highways were out there today but unable to cut it back as two cars were parked in their way. Mr Damon Bloomfield has assured the Clerk that it will be dealt with tomorrow morning.

**Brook Lane Hedge**

The hedge (Cricket Meadow side) down Brook Lane needs cutting back. Mr Simon Hanson said he will have a chat with Mr Charles Lofts to see if this can be done.

**Church Lane wide loads**

Mr Derek Oldham had been out to visit the damage caused by Mr Leggett’s wide loaded farm vehicle down Church Lane. He was given Mr Leggett’s contact details and resolved to write to him on behalf of the Parish Council.

**Correcting sat-navs**

An email has been received “Correcting Sat Navs to prevent HGV’s using unsuitable roads”. A link on this email allows you to “log” roads unsuitable for HGV’s/Wide loaded vehicles. Mrs Joan Metcalfe said she would fill this in on line and perhaps it might act as a deterrent for future wide loaded vehicles travelling down Church Lane/Hill Farm Road.

**Village help in winter**

An email has been received from SCC “Preparations for the coming winter” asking for the names of volunteers who may want to spread grit on the road (for insurance purposes they need to be known to SCC). Dr John Day volunteered to check the 10 locations they have on their database for ensuring that grit is deposited should we have a harsh winter. Some of these sites have bins others are just piles where grit is left.

**Butts Road hedges**

Mrs Joan Metcalfe reported that the hawthorns/blackberries on Butts Road need cutting back. She reported that they will scratch your car should you pull in when a passing vehicle comes the other way. It was **RESOLVED** to:

- Write to Mr William Stennett

Mr Tom Norfolk asked Mr Peter Bellfield if there was a “slush fund” to tap in to re purchasing grit bins? Mr Bellfield said yes we can certainly ask though he is not sure how much is available at present – he has a big job on in Grundisburgh.

**8. Playing Field Hedge and Planting of Sweet Chestnut Tree**

The Chairman reported that he has received 2 quotes for hedge trimming the length and breadth of the playing field and for felling a dead Horse Chestnut tree. The quote from Suffolk Coastal Services being the cheaper of the two is the one that was discussed. It was **RESOLVED** to

Signed .....  
Chairman

- Inform Paul Tynan from SCS that we would be happy with his quote on the condition that he would chop the wood from the dead tree into logs included in his quotation of £619 plus VAT.

It was also **RESOLVED** subject to the above being agreed to

- Send a googlemail alert out to villagers advertising the availability of logs for private collection, subject to a donation to Parish Funds.

The Chairman suggested that once the playing field hedge was topped the Community Payback Team could regularly trim the hedge as long as they could reach the top with shears. This would provide an annual saving of £250 for the maintenance of the hedge.

The Chairman read out a letter received from Mrs Judith Dunnett on the 17<sup>th</sup> October. In the letter she says that she will not be planting the Sweet Chestnut tree after all because she has received letters of objection from people opposed to the planting of it. Councillors said that they thought this was very sad and Mr Simon Hanson said he would talk to her at the first opportunity to see if the tree could still be salvaged.

Mr Simon Hanson said that he would see what he could do to dispose of the pile of debris on the playingfield.

Dr John Day reported that the fence he had erected as a safety barrier to stop children speeding on their bikes through a hole in the hedge and on to the road has been vandalised – it has been “cut” on purpose.

## **9. The Queen’s Diamond Jubilee**

Correspondence has been received highlighting the opportunity to register and build a Beacon as part of the Diamond Jubilee commemorations to be held on 4<sup>th</sup> June 2011. Mrs June Gosling informed the Council that Mrs Judith Dunnett has been planning a Street Party in Spring Meadow for the 2<sup>nd</sup> June to celebrate this event. She has been planning this for some time. The Chairman thought that it would be a good idea if someone from the Parish Council has a chat with Mrs Judith Dunnett and involve the WI and perhaps someone from the Parochial Parish Council as well. The Chairman suggested that a separate Committee could be set up that could be manned by volunteers (and not necessarily from the Parish Council or WI). He said it was an opportunity not to be missed and explained that there are two types of Beacons; one for display on a church tower and another “bonfire”. Mrs Joan Metcalfe thought that if we were to have a bonfire there would have to be other events to pull people in such as mulled wine/barbeque. The idea of approaching Mr Charles Lofts to do something in Cricket Meadow was to be explored. It was **RESOLVED** that:

- Mr Simon Hanson would have a chat with Mrs Judith Dunnett

Signed .....  
Chairman

**10. Welcome Leaflet**

During the first three minutes (for public to speak) Mr Ted Herrington questioned the necessity of reproducing 150 booklets for distribution to villagers. He said that he felt it was a waste of £65.00 approx and that a Welcome Leaflet was totally redundant. Mr Simon Hanson asked for comments? Mrs Veronica Bunbury said she totally agreed with Mr Herrington. Dr John Day said he felt it was a good way of introducing oneself to newcomers. following a discussion it was **RESOLVED** that:

- Mrs Joan Metcalfe would print off a dozen or so Welcome Leaflets and give to the Clerk for distribution as and when new people came to the village.
- Mr Bob Coppillee’s partner would sketch an illustrated map of the for use in the leaflet and in other places, for example the village notice board.

**12. Wind Farm (East Anglia Wind.com)**

Mrs Joan Metcalfe reported back on the meeting she had attended by Scottish Power and Vattenfall on the proposed off shore wind farm which will be 43 km’s off the coast of Suffolk. This wind farm is going to be 6,000 square kilometres and the mainland connection will go to a sub-station at Bramford. They are looking/examining potential routes for the export cables (which will be underground). Playford is in the possible “search area”. The preferred “corridor” will be confirmed in February 2012. For more information on this project please look at the website [www.eastangliawind.com](http://www.eastangliawind.com) .  
The Chairman thanked Mrs Joan Metcalfe.

**11. Neighbourhood Plans**

The Chairman asked if Councillors wanted to deal with this Agenda item at the next Parish Council meeting since time was running short. The question arose of “Neighbourhood Plan” versus a revised “Parish Plan”? Mrs Joan Metcalfe felt that the two were very different and one could not replace the other. Mr Simon Hanson informed Councillors that Neighbourhood Plans can’t reduce development in a village but they can increase development and also gives some control of types in terms of shape and form. The Chairman asked Mr Steven Hudson to email SCDC’s draft response to DNPPF. It was agreed to look at this Agenda item in greater detail at the next Parish Council meeting.

Signed .....  
Chairman

**13. Planning including DNPPF and Applications.**

The Clerk reported on the following planning applications:

C/11/1395 Part OS 0006, Butts Road, Playford.

Change of use from agricultural land to allotments.

This has been approved as lawful

C/11/1925 Valley House, Spring Meadow, Playford, IP6 9ED

Erection of extension to dwelling together with alterations and resurfacing of driveway.

This was approved on the 17<sup>th</sup> October

No decision yet on C/11/2040 Bransons College, Bransons Lane, Playford, IP6 9DN

Erection of two dwellings (submission of reserved matters under outline planning permission C10/0131)

No decision yet on C/11/2099 Playford Mount, Playford, IP13 6PH

Alterations and extensions to facilitate conversion of outbuilding to annexe (existing modern stables to be demolished)

C/11/2097 Playford Mount, Playford, IP13 6PH

Resiting of existing stables.

**14. Finance****i) Reporting/authorisation of cheques**

Cheque No	643	£111.00	SALC subscription
Cheque No	644	£250.00	Playford Parish Hall (donation)
Cheque No	645	£100.00	East Anglian Air Ambulance
Cheque No	646	£ 50.00	SARS
Cheque No	647	£100.00	Benefice Magazine
Cheque No	648	£ 67.04	Sarah Cartwright (salary shortfall)

**ii) Draft budget for 2012/13**

Councillors had been sent a copy of the draft budget prior to the meeting. The precept will go up £500 to £4,000 for the year 2012/13. It was **RESOLVED**:

- To formally adopt the budget with two amendments:- the Welcome Leaflet reserve of £100 could be abolished and the cost of Hedge Maintenance for 2012/13 - £300 could also be cut out.

In addition to the above and in response to a letter from the Benefice Newsletter team asking for an increase in donation of £100 to £150 it was **RESOLVED** to:

- Inform the Benefice Newsletter that we would not be increasing our annual donation

Signed .....

Chairman

**iii) To approve Clerk's hours and rates of pay**

Presently 4 hours @ £8.919 per hour. To be increased to £9.253 per hour for 2012/13. The revised figure for next year will be £160.39 per month commencing April 2012. This was proposed by Mr Simon Hanson and seconded by Mrs Veronica Bunbury.

Signatures from Mrs June Gosling and Mr Simon Hanson were required as the new signatories for the Barclays mandate form.

**15. Fix meetings for 2012**

4<sup>th</sup> January 2012

7<sup>th</sup> March 2012

2<sup>nd</sup> May 2012

4<sup>th</sup> July 2012

5<sup>th</sup> September 2012

7<sup>th</sup> November 2012

**16. Correspondence**

An email has been received from Little Bealings Parish Council outlining the costs of bespoke training. Councillors viewed this option as too expensive and did not want to explore this. They felt that there were other ways of getting that knowledge and perhaps they would be better off engaging with other more experienced Councils.

**17. Any Other Business**

Mr Herrington brought up the fact that Mr Charles Lofts service of 52 years was not mentioned/recorded in the Benefice Newsletter.

The meeting ended at 9.45 pm.

Signed .....  
Chairman