

## PLAYFORD PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of Playford Parish Council was held in the Village Hall on  
Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2010 commencing at 7.30pm

### PRESENT

Dr John Day	-	Chairman
Mr C Lofts	-	Councillor
Mr R Herrington	-	Councillor
Mrs June Gosling	-	Councillor
Mrs Tessa Innes	-	Councillor
Mr Robert Coppillie	-	Councillor
Mrs Tracy Hanson	-	Councillor
Mrs S Cartwright	-	Clerk/RFO
Mr Peter Bellfield	-	County Councillor

### APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

#### **1. To receive Councillor's declarations of interest in any item 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.

#### **2. Approval of Minutes of Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2010**

**Amendments:** - Page 2009/10-22, Minute no 10 Highways, Line 10 erase last sentence. Line 12 replace "to each end of the playing field" with "off footpath no 6". Line 23 should read "Mr Charles Lofts had been on site....." not "Mr Ted Herrington had been on site". Line 27 – replace "off" with "in". Page 2009/10-23, Minute no 10 (cont'd) Line 13 replace "needed some attention was on Mr Fenton's land" with "needed some attention was adjacent to the bridleway". Minute no 11, Line 4 replace "Mr Ted Herrington supported the proposal" with "Mr Ted Herrington proposed". Subject to the above amendments the minutes of the meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> January 2010 were approved as a true and accurate record of the discussion at that meeting. The minutes were then put to one side to be signed by the Chairman at a later date.

#### **Approval of Minutes of Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2010**

**Addition:-** "Possible details of dwellings including square meterage was discussed briefly but it was agreed that this would be subject to detailed discussion when detailed planning application was received."

Subject to the above addition the minutes of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> February 2010 were approved as a true and accurate record of the discussion at that meeting. The minutes were then signed by the Chairman.

Signed .....

Chairman

**4. Matters arising from the minutes (not covered in Agenda items listed below)**

None

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

County Councillor Peter Bellfield reported that central government have been given a generous grant of a 4.4% increase. Mr Peter Bellfield felt it would be prudent to put some money aside (however this was not the majority's view). There has to be a dramatic reduction in spending with County Council cuts estimated to be 20% - 30% over the next few years. Mr Peter Bellfield felt that one way to save money was to have some form of a "co-operation" or "partnership" between the various bodies - this might spread costs more efficiently.

With regard to the Local Government Reorganisation, Mr Peter Bellfield reported that it has now come to the ridiculous situation where quite clearly the minister has opted out of making a decision. No one has got a clue what the county constitutional convention is and it seems unlikely that a decision will take place before the general election in May. The whole thing has been very unsatisfactory with people unsure as to whether or not they have got a job one/two years down the line.

The bad weather has inevitably caused suffering on the highways with pot holes and poor road conditions. Mr Peter Bellfield reported that he thought the gritting staff did a pretty good job working 12 hours on and then 12 hours off. Up to mid January £1.1 million has been spent on gritting the roads although they did virtually run out of salt. If we, as a Council want more grit to put down on the roads the County Council will deliver further grit. They have however asked that whoever "grits" the road be known to the Parish Council so the name can be passed on to SCC so they are insured. Mr Peter Bellfield reported that a letter has been written to Mr Parkin on the mess he has made on the roads.

Mr Peter Bellfield asked if there were any questions? There were none. The Chairman thanked Mr Peter Bellfield.

**6. Report by PC Richard Wright**

A brief report was given by PC Richard Wright. There has been one crime – burglary at Playford Church where the lead has been stolen. The same period last year also saw the recording of one crime.

There were speeding issues in village with the police intent on doing more work since they had discovered 1 in 5 cars speeding (on average) along the stretch of road on Butts Road (at the bottom of the hill, over the river). Councillors too said speeding was shocking. The stretch of road outside Mr Ted Herrington's house has also been subject to speed checks however this is a tricky bit of road to carry out speed checks. PC Richard Wright hoped to have some figures by the next meeting. Mr Ted Herrington said he would continue to be our representative at the 12PT meetings. Anyone was able to attend the public police meetings which are held regularly and should speeding become high on the agenda for Playford residents a show of parishioners at one of these meetings might encourage further investigation by the police.

Signed .....  
Chairman

**7. Parish Plan – Review of Progress**

As the Parish Councillor representative Dr John Day reported back from the Action Monitoring Group (AMG). Councillors had been sent an up to date copy of the action points made by the AMG and Dr John Day proceeded to run through them. He pointed out that they were not in numerical order as they have been prioritised high importance, medium, low etc:- **No 4** “..... improve communications”. This has been met with googlemail successfully set up and running and the benefice newsletter has been put “on line”. **No 5** “.... Consider data from parish plan... keep under review the need for further housing surveys...” JD reported that they were going to look at this on a 1 to 2 yearly basis. **No 13** “consider inter-village sports day.....” JD mentioned Suffolk Open Weekend (covered on the agenda, item no 10) **No 14** “..... Film club....”. JD reported that we await further proposals from the active group that is established. A discussion followed as to how successful these film showings were. JD reported that they broke even most of the time. **No 15** “..... Mobile phone coverage”. JD reported that the AMG had felt this was important and phone coverage varied with networks. Mr Phil Holmes was in talks with Suffolk ACRE. Perhaps it is a question of putting a mast up? **No 27** “.... Cycle route from Playford to Bealings”. JD reported that this was unlikely to happen and Mrs Tracy Hanson pointed out that if it ever was made into a cycle path the free bus service would be stopped so Playford Parish Council would not be pursuing the cycle path. **No 31** “..... Notice Boards”. REH has been renovating the Playford sign and will be putting the top piece of it back imminently. **No 3** “..... grants for insulation”. JD reported that people should be made aware that grants are available for home insulation once again. **No 8** “.... Cables underground with service providers”. Mrs Tracy Hanson reported that the power lines over Brook Lane are not “coated” and that she has seen sparks fly off them. JD will report this to the AMG for information. **No 12** “.....Work with residents”. JD asked if councillors would consider adopting a road to look after/visit elderly/new residents to the village – once every 3 to 6 months. This was met with mixed reaction. Mrs June Gosling reported that the WI hoped to help with this as it had been a particular factor during the bad weather. REH said he thought the church has a role. Mrs June Gosling will report back with what the WI is doing to move this forward.

Overall Dr John Day said he found it encouraging the progress the AMG had made with keeping the Parish Plan alive and working. JD to keep the Parish Council informed of further activities.

**8. Highways**

REH has informed the clerk that the oak tree on Parkin’s land has been cut down in the interest of safety. The self sown saplings have been reported to Damon Bloomfield. The Clerk was asked to report the oak tree alongside the public ROW to Debbie Adams. Some tidying up of the road surface has been done by Mr Parkin. The Clerk was asked to obtain a copy of the letter SCC had reportedly sent out to Mr Parkin.

Signed .....  
Chairman

It was reported that the hand rail for footpath 6 is still “in the loop” though things looking tight for this financial year. SCC reported that it will be the first job in April 2010.

The hedge (running along the footpath from Playford to Bealings) is to be maintained by SCC.

An email had been received from Mr Daniel Wareing saying that there was no problem with cars blocking the access to the recycling bin therefore there was no need for the Clerk to pursue.

REH reported that he had been investigating who owns the strip of land on the corner of Church Road and the Bealings Road since there is a large oak tree which needs cutting down as it obstructs motorists view. It was recommended that the Clerk contacts SCC Highways with a view to them taking action/cutting it down.

**9. Registering Parish Council Land with Land Registry**

Two quotes have been obtained. One from Birketts and one from Barker Gotellee. Both quote between £300 - £350 plus disbursements. Councillors expressed preference to Birketts. The original deeds (which are needed to register the land) have been mislaid and need to be traced. To be an agenda item at May meeting. TI proposed having the land registered and this was seconded by REH.

**10. Suffolk Open Weekend**

Councillors said that at the last Parish Council meeting they were unaware that this weekend was to take place on one weekend in July (the 24<sup>th</sup>) and since this was the first weekend of the school holidays and that Great and Little Bealings were holding an event on the Saturday it was not achievable for Playford to hold an event. TH reported that thus she had not applied for the grant.

**11. Planning**

An email has been received “SCDC Scrutiny working group – feedback on the Council’s planning service”. The Chairman asked if anyone had anything that they wanted to report? He thought that time was very often tight in which to reach a decision on a planning application. The question was raised as to whether it was necessary or appropriate for Councillors/Chairman to visit the site.

Mrs Tracy Hanson said that she felt that although we were consulted initially on a planning application we were often then not included in any amendments that might follow after which seemed wrong. Also it was not presumed that the planning department informed all neighbours of property.

Tuddenham Burial Ground. Mr Ted Herrington has met with Mr Milligan and he (along with other persons) was driven around the site – which he says was vast. He has written a report which will be circulated around councillors. A report by SCDC should be written in 5 or 6 weeks.

Signed .....  
Chairman

**12. Finance**

The following cheques were reported:-

Cheque No. 608	£111.00	Playford Parish Hall
Cheque No. 609	£ 23.49	Phil Holmes (website domain)

**13. Correspondence**

Suffolk Coastal Area Meeting is being held on Monday, 8<sup>th</sup> March. No-one was able to attend.

Draft Action Plan 2010 – 2011. The Clerk was asked to reply to this consultation which ends on Friday, 30<sup>th</sup> April.

Various letters/emails/correspondence were put in the brown envelope for circulation.

**14. Any Other Business**

TH reported disintegration of the road in Brook Lane. JD reported that he had spoken to a lorry driver and asked him if he could clear up. Some people had had letters informing them of work that is to go on for 12 weeks. JD suggested that the Parish Council should write to them re damage done by bore holes.

REH informed the Parish Council that since he clears the drains it should be minuted thus ensuring that he is insured by SCC to carry out such work.

REH felt that Mr Bob Coppillie should be given a copy of a) the Risk Assessment document, b) Map of the Village and c) Good Councillors Guide.

Mr Bob Coppillie asked if any action had been taken over the dog at Bransons. Mrs June Gosling reported that they had been taken to court.

Mrs June Gosling reported that the WI was going to have a litter pick. SCDC will be supplying them with the necessary equipment. She said she hoped that we were supportive of this to which JD confirmed we were.

The telephone box is in a terrible state and needs cleaning and glass replaced. The Clerk to follow up

Mrs June Gosling has the post code for the village hall. It is not on Butts Road but on Hill Farm Road and the post code is IP6 9DU.

REH reported that the bird scarer season is upon us and that two bird scarers in adjacent fields are unnecessary when one will suffice. He reported that they are set up to go off all day. Dr John Day to investigate

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

The next meeting:- The Annual Parish Council Meeting for Playford will take place on Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> May 2010 after the Annual Parish Meeting commencing at 7.30 pm in Playford Village Hall.

Signed .....  
Chairman