

## PLAYFORD PARISH COUNCIL

A meeting of Playford Parish Council was held in the Village Hall on  
Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup> July 2007 commencing at 7.30 pm

### PRESENT

|                  |   |               |
|------------------|---|---------------|
| Dr D Lewis       | - | Chairman      |
| Mrs T Hanson     | - | Vice Chairman |
| Dr John Day      | - | Councillor    |
| Mr C Lofts       | - | Councillor    |
| Mrs J Gosling    | - | Councillor    |
| Mrs T Innes      | - | Councillor    |
| Mr R Herrington  | - | Councillor    |
| Mrs S Cartwright | - | Clerk/RFO     |

### **IN ATTENDANCE**

Mr P Gardiner  
Mrs D Gardiner  
Mrs S Herrington

### **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from WPC Victoria Gilmore and Mrs Kate Waddell (District Councillor).

1. Councillor Peter Bellfield gave his report first since he was required to attend another Parish Council Meeting immediately afterwards. Suffolk County Council had been busy discussing the issue that Ipswich Borough Council was applying for Unitary Status. They strongly oppose this (as does SCDC). One of the reasons being that they will take a large chunk of money away from the County Council (£32 million- excl. that needed for schools) which will make the "local resident" worse off. It is a tremendous period of uncertainty as Ipswich has a very strong MP and it will almost certainly be a political decision.

Signed .....  
Chairman

A development panel is set to look at all heavy goods vehicles transporting within the County. Mr Peter Bellfield who is on this panel has a considerable say in the “terms of reference”. Dr John Day asked about the bus service and the fact that some of the vehicles used are largely inappropriate for rural roads. What is the point of having a large and cumbersome bus with 2 people on it when a smaller mini bus would do the job? Mr Peter Bellfield pointed out that if it is a commercial route the County Council has no say over it and the size of the bus is not really taken into account as the expense of running a big bus is much the same as the expense of running a small bus and the initial “outlay” is not really looked at. Mr Charles Lofts addressed the issue of “pinch pointing” stating that the road has to be of a certain width to accommodate agricultural machinery.

Dr David Lewis and Mrs Tracy Hanson let Mr Peter Bellfield know that the Parish Council would be seeking funding for the Goal Posts. Indeed an application had already been put in for a grant. Mr Peter Bellfield would get back to them.

Before leaving Mr Peter Bellfield asked if there were any other questions and said he was available to us all at any time on the phone.

**2. To receive Councillor’s declarations of interest in any item on this Agenda.**

Mr Charles Lofts declared an interest as a Trustee of the Parish Hall Committee. 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.

**3. Approval of Minutes of Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> May 2007**

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup> May 2007 were approved as a true and accurate record of the discussion at that meeting. The minutes were then signed by the Chairman.

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

(i) Playford Website

Mrs June Gosling said that somewhere on the web the Village Hall has been given the incorrect address of “Humber Doucy” Lane. The Clerk said she would look into this. Mr Ted Herrington had been experiencing problems accessing the Parish Council Website.

The Chairman again asked if anyone had any old photo’s, letters, correspondence etc. they would be most gratefully received for inclusion onto the website and should be given to the Clerk.

Signed .....  
Chairman

**5. Parish Councillors Responsibilities**

- Internal Auditor - Mr Paul Gardiner.
- Footpath Representative - Dr David Lewis and Mrs Tracy Hanson
- Playing Field Representative - Dr David Lewis, Mrs Tracy Hanson & Mrs June Gosling
- SALC Representative - Mr Charles Lofts
- Highway Representative - Dr John Day (under Parish Plan) & Mr Ted Herrington (day to day)
- Environment Representative
- Litter Bins etc - Mrs June Gosling
- Welcome Pack - Dr David Lewis & Mrs Sarah Cartwright
- Website Representative - Dr David Lewis & Mrs Sarah Cartwright
- Tree Warden - Mr Ted Herrington
- Sand Bins - Mr Ted Herrington
- Parish Liaison/Police Forum - Mr Ted Herrington
  
- LDF Representative - It was agreed that the Parish Council would discuss who would be a representative as and when a meeting arose.

Once again Mr Paul Gardiner had done a brilliant job auditing the accounts and a card of thanks had been sent to him. However no payment had been received. It was felt that a nominal token of, say, £20 would be an appropriate sum to give. It was agreed to give a bottle of wine for the past financial year and in the future £20 for inspecting the books. Dr David Lewis proposed this. Mr Ted Herrington seconded this. Mr Paul Gardiner agreed to continue as the internal auditor.

The welcome pack has been given to Dr Gina Corani of the PCC to discuss and in the meantime a copy will be put in the brown envelope for circulation amongst councillors. The Clerk was to liase with Dr John Day about putting the template of the Welcome Pack onto the word processing package “Publisher”.

Dr John Day raised concerns that some expertise might be called for in dealing with trees and the potential danger they can cause to roads and traffic if not looked after properly. It was suggested that an inspection be carried out once a year by a forestry expert. This would cost approx £250 per day. Mr Ted Herrington was to bring back information on this.

It was stipulated that these posts would not have executive authority and should continue to report back to the Parish Council via the Clerk.

Footpaths number 5, 7, 8, 20 and 23 were reported to be overgrown and one was with a dangerous style. The Clerk agreed to contact SCC and report.

Signed .....  
Chairman

**6. Parish Plan**

Dr John Day and Mrs Tracy Hanson reported back on the progress that the Steering Group was making with the Parish Plan. Meetings were now being held once every three weeks in the Admirals Head Pub with no charge being incurred for the use of a room. Though costs were being kept to a minimum the Steering Group still felt obliged to ask each of the Parish Councils involved to cough up £50. This was proposed by Dr David Lewis and seconded by Mrs Tracy Hanson. Since Playford was holding the money for the Parish Plan Steering Group it was agreed to “ earmark” this £50; no cheque need be written. The Steering Committee was on the point of having a draft budget and Mrs Joan Metcalfe was elected as the Treasurer. Dr John Day and Mrs Tracy Hanson were to be added as named signatories on the Barclays Mandate thus enabling them to sign cheques between Steering Group Committee meetings. Dr John Day gave a handout on Stakeholders and Residents and the two different pathways they follow. He reported back that all in all things were looking very optimistic though taking longer than expected.

**7. Standing Orders**

The Clerk was asked to give each Councillor a copy of the current Standing Orders. To be put on the Agenda for the next meeting.

**8. Goal Posts – Playford Playing Field**

As stated previously Mrs Tracy Hanson had approached Mr Peter Bellfield for some money. She had also made tentative enquiries to see if the Village Hall has any money to contribute.

**9. Planning.**

There had been two applications which were in circulation; 1 Church Lane and Mill Cottage, Butts Road. The Clerk would reply to SCDC once they were returned to her. Permission had been granted for Sidehill, Spring Meadow. Dr John Day made the point that all planning applications that come in seem to be making 3 to 4 bedroomed houses into 5 to 6 bedroomed houses. He asked what we felt about houses for the cheaper end of the market, ie, for first time buyers or retired couples downsizing and affordable housing? As Parish Councillor’s don’t have any guidance it was suggested that ¼ an hour be put aside at the beginning of a meeting to discuss planning in general and what “We” as a Council felt was right or not. (Agenda Item for next meeting).

**10. Finance**

The Annual Return was approved by the Councillors and signed by the Chairman and Clerk. Five weeks notice has been given to parishioners to inspect the accounts should they so wish at the Clerk’s house. The Annual Return will be sent off on 16<sup>th</sup> August 2007 when the 5 week period is up and the Notice will be taken down. Clerk’s expenses of £52.86 were approved and 1/3<sup>rd</sup> of the cost of hiring the Angela Cobbold Hall for the Parish Plan Steering Committee was also approved. This was for £5.

Signed .....  
Chairman

**11. Correspondence**

The Chairman had received an e-mail from Miss Kate Waddell asking if there were any objections to the John Belstead Playing Field project? No objections were raised. Miss Kate Waddell had also prepared a detailed report (since she could not attend the meeting). Dr David Lewis gave a brief resume of this report which would be made available to everyone on the parish council website. In addition a hard copy would be circulated around the Councillors.

WPC Gilmore's had also e-mailed a report on police activities. This was read out by the Chairman and would be made available on the website as well as being circulated to the Councillors.

The Clerk had received an email from Little Bealings Parish Council asking for support in reducing the speed limit along the A1214 and pinch-pointing also. It was resolved that the parish council would write and support Little Bealings on this matter.

**12. Any Other Business**

Mr Ted Herrington suggested a bus to and from Little Bealings School might be a good idea to help reduce the carbon footprint etc. Mrs Tracy Hanson made the point that there is actually a social reason to dropping your own kids off to school and that the school is not really accessible by a bus. The safety issue would concern her.

The Clerk was asked to speak to Highways about the new road surface they had been completing in the village. The tarmac is too high of the ground in certain areas at the edges, for instance near the telephone kiosk.

Floodlighting the area outside the Village Hall came up again and was to be put on the Agenda for the next meeting.

How do we spend the recycling credits this year? Agenda item for next meeting.

The meeting ended at 9.45 pm

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, 5<sup>th</sup> September 2007

Signed .....  
Chairman