

**Minutes of Playford Parish Council meeting held at the Village Hall at 7.30 pm on
Wednesday, 7th November 2012**

Present: Mrs Veronica Bunbury, Mr Bob Coppillie, Mrs June Gosling, Mrs Joan Metcalfe, Mrs Juannette Pettitt, Mr Peter Bellfield, Mr Steven Hudson

Also present: 5 members of the general public. Mr Chris Wakefield to talk to Councillors about Sevenoaks planning application

In attendance: Mrs Sarah Cartwright & Ms Marian Rosling, Acting Clerk

The planning application for Sevenoaks, Butts Road, Playford was put on display for ½ hour before the meeting began for residents to view.

1. Apologies for Absence

Mr Simon Hanson, Mr Steve Hicks

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 30th August 2012

These were signed as a true record.

4. County Councillor Peter Bellfield

P Bellfield reported:

- a) Good news that the County Council will not be increasing its element of Council Tax next year. It has only gone up 2.4% in 4 years. They are aiming to save £26 million this year and £26 million next year. In total £60 million needs to be saved.
- b) The County Council is consulting on whether the Fire Service should be merged with Cambridge & Peterborough. We probably won't notice much difference and big savings could come about.
- c) The County Council have decided not to re-negotiate their partnership with BT "Service Direct" which runs out in 2014. They are looking at two or three different partnerships rather than just the one and hopefully at a lower cost to County Council in the future. The Heritage and Records Office are expanding out of their sites and are looking at how to re-organise in the future either in Ipswich or Stowmarket.

Signed

- d) Care Homes are being taken over by Care UK – 16 homes will eventually close and 10 new ones built in their place (with an additional 100 beds suitable for the elderly with dementia). Understandably this does cause some upset to residents but the accommodation will be much better than before.
- e) Finally the County Council were signed off by the auditors and for the first time they got a clean bill of health.

Peter Bellfield asked if there were any questions?

Joan Metcalfe asked if he could shed some light on Bob Chamberlain’s email re the EAOW route and how they evaluated the northern cable route etc? Peter Bellfield replied that he hasn’t had it explained to him so that he couldn’t really comment. He did however say that if the route was moved further north the cable would have to turn more corners and cables and corners cause problems.

5. Matters arising from the Minutes/Action Point Review

Veronica Bunbury agreed to ask Colin Snowden for the use of his trailer to help clear the debris on the playing field. This could then be disposed of at Charles Lofts (tbc) - **AP14.**

The mud and soil on the road down Brook Lane has been flagged up again with Damon Bloomfield on 25.10.12. Joan Metcalfe suggested writing to the Anglian Water Board re drainage and also to Highways re the verges - **AP43.** The Mere and excess water build up needs to be reported. **AP57**

It was agreed to ask The Old Parsonage Garden Services for a quote for village hedge/grass maintenance and chase Ecosystems Tree & Ground Care Ltd for their quote and to approach other companies to compare – **AP48.**

The hedge along Dr Watson’s Lane, Ref: 2748004 is still a bit straggly – **AP50.**

The fly tipped tyres have still not been removed from Church Road and another pile of them has been dumped on top of the bridleway opposite Church Road/Bealings Road – **AP51**

6. District Councillor Steven Hudson

Steven Hudson reported that the District Council has been going through the annual audit and has had a pretty good report on “value for money”. There have been a few controversial planning applications but none of to report from Playford. Any questions? None

Signed

7. Report by Police

PCSO Jeanette Pither left her report to be read.

8. Planning Applications:

C12/2221 Part of garden South East of, Sevenoaks, Butts Road, Playford.

Construction of 2 no private residential dwellings with associated garaging, vehicular access and turning.

Chris Wakefield talked Councillors and public through the plans. He produced some large drawings by award winning architects of how the two houses might look. It was noted that the principal permission for planning is already in place but these houses are a new scheme. One of the houses will be a private residence for the developer (Nick Wakefield). Doubt over the height of bank in the drawings being to scale was raised however Chris Wakefield assured Councillors that it was correct.

The major area of concern was the drainage/run off water. Chris Wakefield reported that it is illegal for water to run out of a drive on to the street and it will be a requirement of SCDC that a stringent scheme designed appropriately will ensure that this does not happen. There will have to be a permeable surface with the excess water draining into soakaways. Bill from Copyhold, (immediate neighbour) asked where sewage would go? Chris Wakefield reported that there would be a private treatment system but all this will all have to be agreed by SCDC. Bill from Copyhold was also concerned about the aesthetics of the build - will the house fit in with the rest of the village? Concern was raised about the zinc features around the dormers and on the garage roof. Finally the impact during the build period/the mechanics of the operation was queried? Chris Wakefield informed residents that access will probably have to be put in first during construction and the build period will be approximately 8 months.

It was **RESOLVED:**

- not to object to the planning application however mention our concerns about drainage.
- monitor what is happening throughout the build period making sure that the plans the PC has had sight of are the ones used and not diverged from.

9. Contract of Employment

Marian Rosling's Contract of Employment was signed by the Chairman of the Council.

Signed

10. Finance:- Reporting & authorisation of cheques:-

Cheque No 665	£751.11	Election costs
Cheque No 666	CANCELLED	
Cheque No 667	£250.00	Playford Village Hall - donation
Cheque No 668	£100.00	Angela Cobbold Hall Fund – Benefice donation
Cheque No 669	£50.00	SARS - donation
Cheque No 670	£100.00	East Anglian Air Ambulance - donation
Cheque No 671	£8.27	M Rosling -Memory stick for transfer of PC data and future back-up.

The authorisation of payment for reflective backed signs (£240 approx) was to be revisited at the January meeting. P. Bellfield said that £1000 of the cost of these signs might be available if nothing else more important cropped up in the meantime.

Councillors were asked to look at the Draft Budget. It was **RESOLVED**:

- to reduce donations to SARS to £25 and East Anglian Air Ambulance to £50.

It was thought that the precept could be increased by £500 for 2013/14 however a firm decision would be made in January when the precept would need to be set. (delayed to January – NALC “No precept should be formally approved until *after* the publication of the Draft Report (early Dec 2012)”. There was some objection from the audience about raising the precept when the Reserves held were quite large. Mrs Joan Metcalfe said she would talk to the Village Hall Management Committee about the Parish Council’s possible donation of £250. It was noted that income from the bottle bank had recently been removed.

11. **East Anglian Offshore Windfarm – Council discussion and draft response letter by Little Bealings**

Discussion re removal of “compensation” paragraph in letter to EAOW. It was **RESOLVED**:

- To keep the paragraph but change the wording to “we would expect commensurate community funding to ameliorate the massive impact of this project” before letter is sent

A representative needs to be sent to the next EAOW meeting (26th Nov or 10th Dec) at Little Bealings. Steve Hicks’ name was put forward in his absence on preferred date of week beginning 10th December. Joan Metcalfe can go on 26th November if Steve cannot.

Signed

It was also **RESOLVED** that Playford would join the joint committee of local parishes objecting to the cable route.

12. Website

The Council noted Phil Holmes email expressing disappointment that the Parish Council had decided to move the website back to ONE Suffolk without any acknowledgement or consultation with him. The situation needs clarifying.

13. Village Review/Neighbourhood Plan

No comments received via email. Letter from Great Bealings Parish Council noted. It was **RESOLVED**:

- That Playford did not wish to discuss consultation arrangements with Gt Bealings.

14. Highways – any new issues

See action log

15. Correspondence

None

16. Set meetings for 2013

1st Wednesday of every other month from March onwards. June Gosling will confirm actual dates and report to Clerk

16. Date of next meeting:

3rd January 2013

Signed