

**Minutes of Playford's Annual Parish Council Meeting held at  
Playford Parish Hall on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2025**

**Present:** Ben Evans –Chairman  
Joan Metcalfe –Vice-Chair  
Steve Hicks - Councillor  
Lee Knighting - Councillor  
Colin Hedgley - District Councillor  
Elaine Bryce – Suffolk County Councillor

**In attendance:**  
Wendy Cook - Clerk

**Also present:**  
2 members of the public for all or part of the meeting

**Apologies for Absence:**  
None Received

**1. Welcome and Introduction:**

The meeting started at 7.08pm

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

Cllr Metcalfe: Other Registrable Interest as treasurer and trustee of Playford Village Hall

Cllr Evans: Non-Registerable Interest as resident/neighbour Hill Farm Road agenda item 4

This information was duly recorded.

**Minutes of Meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> May 2025**

It was **RESOLVED:**

- To approve the minutes as drafted

**Action Points Review**

- ✧ **Smashed grit bin at southern end of Butts Road needs replacing** – New Grit Bin has now been received and will be installed in due course
- ✧ **Drainage Ditch beside Village Hall** – The Drainage Ditch still requires digging out ahead of the winter months. Clerk will check progress.
- ✧ **Uncut Grass Verge corner of Church Road and Church Lane** – This has been reported to Suffolk Highways

For more details see Action Log appended at end of the Minutes

**2. Reports**

County Councillor Elaine Bryce apologised for missing the last meeting. She reported that Suffolk Libraries will move back in-house and that they will now be known as Suffolk Community Libraries. A new strategy has been launched to tackle violence against women and girls in Suffolk aiming at making Suffolk a safer place for all. She mentioned the Council reorganisation and urged people of Suffolk to have their say. She attended a national Infrastructure conference where Suffolk County Council have challenged the Government on the emerging Planning and Infrastructure Bill. The

Northern Bypass has been spoken about recently, However Cllr Bryce believes there are other solutions to increased traffic when Bridge is shut or work being carried out. Plug in car clubs have arrived. Six electric Vehicles are now at three locations for communities to use.

District Councillor Colin Hedgley spoke about the Westerfield Quarry and that a planning application is due. Operation Camouflage is back for another year, there are still places available for children aged between 8 and 16. Grants are available for Rural Village Halls and Community Centres for repairs and improvements from the Rural England Prosperity Fund. Cllr Hedgley also echoed Cllr Bryce's comments about the Orwell Bridge works.

**3. Public Forum**

A Resident spoke about the state of the footpath between Spring Meadow and Church Lane.

A resident spoke about Planning application DC/23/3143/FULL, 2 Hill Farm Cottages. As owner of the property, he explained his reasons for change of use.

**4. Planning Application: ref: DC/23/3143/FUL**

Address: 2 Brook Cottages, Brook Lane, IP6 9DZ

Proposed: Erection of 2 storey side extension and balcony

It was **RESOLVED:**

- That having looked at the revised plans there were no objections.

*Cllr Evans left the meeting in accordance with his declaration of interest and Cllr Metcalfe took the Chair.*

**Planning Application: ref: DC/23/3143/FUL**

Address: 2 Hill Farm Cottages, Hill Farm Road, IP6 (DT

Proposal: Change of use of Home Office to Holiday Let including change to fenestration

Having heard from the applicant and after a brief discussion

It was **RESOLVED:**

- That there were no objections

*Cllr Evans returned to the meeting*

Signed .....

## Other Planning Updates

DC/25/1376/FUL Erection of 2 Storey side extension and balcony, 1 Brook Cottages, Brook Lane, IP6 9DZ - Application permitted

DC/25/1068/FUL Single storey extension to rear of dwelling. (Between two existing extensions) Sonnet House Butts Road Playford Ipswich Suffolk IP6 9DP - Dealt with under our established delegated authority – Application Permitted

DC/25/0996/P3Q Prior Notification - Change of Use of Buildings on Agricultural Units and former Agricultural Buildings to dwellinghouses (Class C3) - Conversion of barn to 1 no. dwelling Lux Farm Playford Road Playford Suffolk IP5 1DA – Approval Refused

DC/25/1731/LBC Listed Building Consent - Internal strengthening to existing chimneys and related works Playford Hall Butts Road Playford Ipswich Suffolk IP6 9DX – Dealt with under delegated authority – Pending Decision

## Major Agenda Items

### Finance:

Reporting & authorisation of cheques/online payments since last meeting:

Already paid:

Date/Chq no.	Payable to	Reason for payment	Amount £
22.5.25	W Cook	Clerk – May Salary	agreed in budget
22.6.25	W Cook	Clerk – June Salary	agreed in budget
22.6.25	HMRC PAYE	National Insurance	£69.20
24.3.25	HMRC	Q1 tax on clerk's salary	agreed in budget
4.6.25	Gladston	Grit bin	£260.95 + £52.19 Vat
4.6.25	SALC	Membership	£157.85

It was **RESOLVED:**

- That the following expenditure be incurred

To be Paid:

Due	Fynn Lark News	Donation (S137 LGA 1972)	£200

Credits received since last meeting:

- No credits received since last meeting

Bank balances:

Current a/c	<b>£5731.75</b>
Bus Premium	<b>£7589.58</b>

**Public Notice of Accounts.**

The period of public notice of accounts was from 17<sup>th</sup> June until 28<sup>th</sup> July. The Exemption Certificate has been submitted to the external auditor

**Authorisation of donations:**

It was **RESOLVED:**

- To donate £200 to the Fynn Lark News

**Clerk's CiLCA Qualification:**

Playford Parish Council shares its Clerk with Little Bealings Parish Council. The Clerk is currently training for her Certificate in Local Council Administration. Little Bealings Parish Council have requested that Playford contribute towards the cost of her training.

It was **RESOLVED:**

- That Playford Parish Council will pay for half of the costs - £400

**Highways**

- Footpaths update – See Action Points for details
- C324 Traffic Priority problems/new road signs - Cllr Bryce said that there may be funds available from her locality budget to get the work completed.
- Potholes in Butts Road – Work has been carried out on repairs
- SIDS update - Tracy Herrington wishes to stand down from being the Parish Council's SID representative. Cllr Evans expressed thanks for her hard work.

It was **RESOLVED:**

- That Cllr Knighting would take on the role

**Standing Orders**

There has been a Standing Order update from NALC

It was **RESOLVED:**

- To adopt the new Standing Orders

**Emergency Plan** - The Emergency Plan is now available on the Parish Council's website and information has been circulated to residents via the Fynn Lark News and Enews.

Signed .....

**PC Vacancies** – A resident has expressed an interest in becoming a councillor. One vacancy still exists – please contact the Clerk or the Chairman for more details if you are interested in joining the parish council.

**Correspondence** - received up to PC meeting 7<sup>th</sup> May 2025

	<b>Date</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>Subject</b>	<b>Ref</b>
1	19.6.25	Community Partnership	Inviting a representative from Playford to join	Pip Alder Democratic Services

**5. Councillors comments -**

- Cllr Metcalfe commented on the new website and the Parish Council’s requirements for the old site.

**6. Items for next agenda -**

- Community Partnership
- Website
- Box for Sports Equipment

**Date of next meeting:**

The next meeting of the Council will be on Wednesday 3 September 2025 at the Playford Village Hall.

There being no further business to discuss the meeting closed at 8.11pm

Signed.....

