

DRAFT

MINUTES OF ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD 30th MAY 2014 AT 6.30 P.M. IN ST CATHERINE'S CHURCH

Those present: Four parishioners attended, including one Councillor, in addition to the chairman and clerk.

Councillor Belinda Bulsing as Parish Council Chairman chaired the meeting and Mrs Margaret Marlow (Acting Parish Clerk) took the minutes.

The Chairman welcomed everybody to the meeting and asked if those present had read the minutes of the meeting of 7th May 2013. The Chairman asked if anybody present was able to verify the accuracy of the minutes. The minutes were accepted as a true record by those present, and were signed by Councillor Bulsing.

The Chairman invited parishioners to put forward subjects for discussion.

Broadband. The meeting again discussed the position regarding Broadband. The Annual meeting had discussed this the two previous years, but parishioners felt there was no improvement in the speed of broadband within the village, in spite of promises from Government and BT that all rural communities would have improved speeds. Following last year's Annual meeting, the Parish Council had written to Dr Dan Poulter M.P. highlighting the village concerns. The reply from Dr Poulter indicated that he was continuing to push for upgrades for his constituents. Cllr Matthew Hicks, Suffolk County Council, had attended the recent Annual Parish Council meeting and had contacted the relevant person at SCC to indicate our ongoing concerns. The reply received from the Business Development Specialist said *'Pettaugh is currently in the 10-15% of Suffolk for which we do not currently have sufficient funding to deploy fibre broadband to. Therefore, the village will be subject to the 2Mbps minimum commitment by Autumn next year.'* He goes on to say that the village is included in the target area for the use of secured additional funding.

The meeting discussed the possibility of broadband being received via satellite dishes and various other options. It was thought that the need for high-speed broadband was becoming a more important consideration when people were wishing to move into this area.

Cllr Hicks had told the Parish Council meeting that there was a fund for small village/community projects, but these excluded church projects.

Pettaugh Website. Parishioners thanked Richard Clark for the work he had undertaken on the Pettaugh website over the past year. The meeting was grateful for continuing in his 'temporary' role of webmaster.

Flowerbeds. The meeting thanked Cllr Hook for his work on maintaining the flowerbeds, and the area around the village sign. This continues to much enhance this area.

Water supply. There appears to be a problem with the mains water pipe along Church Road. Anglian Water have been contacted by a parishioner complaining of a leak from the pipe and is looking into the matter for Anglian Water to take remedial action.

Mendlesham Renewable Energy Plant. The Appeal Hearing on the planning application is scheduled for mid-July. It was considered by those parishioners present at the meeting that the Parish Council's objections were valid. Increased heavy traffic of straw carrying lorries along the A1120, pedestrian safety and the recently reported potential loss of jobs within the local area were considered to be detrimental.

The meeting closed at 7.15 p.m.