

# MINUTES OF MEETING OF PETTAUGH PARISH COUNCIL HELD

**7<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2014 IN ST CATHERINE'S CHURCH AT 6.00 p.m.**

Those present: Councillor Belinda Bulsing (Chairman), Councillor Andy Corrigan, Councillor Michael Hook, and Councillor Gordon Janson. Mrs Margaret Marlow was Acting Clerk. Four parishioners were also present.

- 1. Welcome by the Chairman.** The Chairman welcomed those Parishioners present at the meeting, and thanked them for their support in attending.
- 2. Apologies for Absence.** There were no apologies.
- 3. To receive Declarations of Interest.** There were no declarations of interest.
- 4. To approve the Minutes of Parish Council Meeting – 26<sup>th</sup> February 2014.** Councillors voted to approve the minutes. This was proposed Cllr Janson, seconded Cllr Bulsing. The minutes were accepted and signed as a true record.
- 5. Matters arising from the Minutes.** Item 12. Mendlesham Biomass Renewable Energy Plant Planning Application. It was noted that a similar planning application proposed for Kings Lynn, has been turned down and the project terminated .
- 6. To approve and accept the Parish Council accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2014.** Councillors were provided with copies of the year-end figures prior to the audit. The Parish Council finished the financial year 2013/14 with a balance of £6,014.77 of which £2,288.54 is allocated funds for Village Road Safety. Cllr Corrigan noted the substantial reserves held by the Parish Council. The reasons for these reserves were explained to Cllr Corrigan which he accepted. The Parish Council are aware these reserves are considerable for a small council. Councillors approved and accepted the accounts as presented. Acceptance proposed by Cllr Hook, seconded by Cllr Corrigan and agreed. Councillors then reviewed the annual governance statement section on the audit return prior to the internal audit. The form was signed by the Chairman, and the audit papers will now be completed and passed to SALC for internal audit.
- 7. To receive a report by the Acting Clerk and discuss, action and minute as necessary.**
  - i). Problems still being encountered with the Barclays bank accounts. The appropriate steps have been taken to rectify this matter.
  - ii). Publication by NALC of new 'Standing orders and Law and Procedure for Local Councils'. Councillors were given a copy of the new standing orders and will study them prior to the next meeting. At that meeting they will be amended, as necessary, and adopted.
  - iii). Cheque authorisation. Payment of cheque number 100332 for £15.00 to St Catherine's PCC for use of the church was authorised.
- 8. To discuss and update the position on Traffic Safety Matters.** It is hoped this initiative will make progress over the next few months. A meeting will be held on the 29<sup>th</sup> April for those willing to help with fundraising. Funding suggestions include approaching supermarkets, but the Parish Council would be grateful for any suggestions from parishioners on funding possibilities. The Parish Council had received replies from Stonham Aspal and Crowfield to its letter suggesting joint co-operation on any initiatives regarding traffic safety issues.

**9. To record correspondence received.** A list of correspondence received and sent for the period 27<sup>th</sup> February 2014 - 7<sup>th</sup> April 2014 was accepted for the record.  
Letter 27<sup>th</sup> February to MSDC with response to Open Space, Sport and Recreation Facilities questionnaire.  
Letter 27<sup>th</sup> February to Treasurer St Catherine PCC with cheque for church use. Acknowledgement received.  
Letter 2<sup>nd</sup> March to Mr Davies re the Metcalf Education Foundation.  
Letter 2<sup>nd</sup> March to Chairman of Trustees, Metcalf Charities re Metcalf Education Foundation appointment.  
Letter to Miss R Jack re Metcalf Education Foundation appointment.  
Letter 3<sup>rd</sup> March to Planning Inspectorate with further comments from the Parish Council re the planning appeal for the Mendlesham Biomass Plant.  
Letter 15<sup>th</sup> March from Mr Beavis re bank statements. Reply sent.  
Letter 31<sup>st</sup> March to Mid Suffolk Citizens Advice Bureau enclosing donation.  
Letter received dated 11<sup>th</sup> March from Stonham Aspal Parish Council replying to Parish Council letter of 13<sup>th</sup> February re collaboration on traffic safety matters.  
Letter received 27<sup>th</sup> March from Crowfield Parish Council replying to Parish Council letter of 13<sup>th</sup> February re collaboration on traffic safety matters.  
Confirmation received of VAT repayment.  
Letter from Community Action Suffolk re Suffolk ACRE subscription for 2014/15.  
Additional e-mails include weekly planning lists, and Rural Services Network bulletins.

The meeting adjourned to take the public forum.

#### **PUBLIC FORUM**

A parishioner highlighted the problem of a large pothole at the junction of the A1120 with the Debenham road. It was also pointed-out that the white 'stop' line was worn away, in effect making the sign illegal. An e-mail including a photograph will be sent to SCC Highways, asking for repairs to be undertaken as soon as possible.

The Chairman reopened the meeting and returned to item 10.

**10. Date of next meeting.** The next meeting will be the Annual Parish Council meeting and will be held on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May 2014 at 6.00 p.m. in the Church.

The meeting closed at 6.50 p.m.