

MINUTES OF MEETING OF PETTAUGH PARISH COUNCIL HELD

11th JANUARY 2017 IN ST CATHERINE'S CHURCH AT 6.30 p.m.

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

- 1. Welcome by the Chairman.** The Chairman welcomed those attending the meeting.
- 2. Apologies for Absence.** Apologies had been received from Councillor Stephen Rowe owing to his shift working pattern.
- 3. To receive Declarations of Interest.** There were no declarations of interest.
- 4. To approve the Minutes of Parish Council Meeting – 16th November 2016.** Councillors voted to approve the minutes. This was proposed by Cllr Janson, and seconded by Cllr Corrigan. The minutes were accepted and signed as a true record.
- 5. Matters arising from the Minutes.** There were no matters arising from the minutes.

The Chairman suspended the meeting to take the public forum.

PUBLIC FORUM. There were no questions or comments from those Parishioners present.

The Chairman reopened the meeting.

6. To discuss and set the Parish Precept for 2017/18. Councillors discussed the Parish Council's financial needs for the coming year. It was considered that the Parish Council still had funds in hand, sufficient for any necessary contingency. Cllr Bulsing asked whether there would be any Council Tax Support Grant from central Government for this year. The Acting Clerk confirmed that there would be no further grants. Councillors decided that the precept for 2017/18 should remain at one thousand, seven hundred and fifty pounds £1,750.00. The Precept Form was then completed and signed by the Chairman and Councillors in compliance with regulatory requirements.

7. To receive an update on Jan's shop and proposed plans. A meeting was held on the 16th December to discuss progress towards another 'pop-up pub' event. Much progress has been made on the rebuilding work on the shop and cottage, but at the present time the work has slowed. It was felt that it would be several weeks before the remaining essential works could be completed. Another meeting is scheduled for the 17th January to review the situation.

8. To receive an update on the VAS usage. Cllr Janson informed the meeting that at the present time there was a fault with the sign. A phone call to the Westcotec management team has indicated that the fault is most likely due to the failure of the back-up battery. Cllr Janson has arranged to take the sign to Westcotec in Dereham for repair and return the same day. Cllr Janson has downloaded the data from the sign, and is in the process of converting the data to an Excel format. Cllr Janson expressed concern that when he removed the VAS sign from the post, it appeared as though the locks had been tampered with.

9. To receive an update on the new Pettaugh Website. The Acting Clerk informed the meeting that a training session has been arranged for the 13th January at the Suffolk.Cloud Brundish Training Centre. It will be attended by the Acting Clerk, Mr Richard Clark, Dr Hilary Marlow, and Mrs Sheila Janson. It is uncertain whether the payment of the £25.00 cost would be covered by the government funded set-up payment, or whether this was additional. The Clerk asked Councillors if the Parish Council would cover, if necessary, the training cost for two people. The Pettaugh History Society has agreed to cover the cost of two people as it is hoped that the website will be a valuable and widely used asset for the community. The Councillors agreed to this proposal. The Clerk also spoke about the funding available to fully implement the Transparency Code. The Clerk sought the views of the Parish Council as to whether it should take this opportunity to replace the computer with a newer model and take full advantage of this funding. The Councillors agreed this would be a good idea, and authorised the Clerk to apply for funding and purchase a new computer.

10. To receive a report by the Acting Clerk. The Clerk had little more to report. Councillors were asked to authorise the payment of cheque number 100370 for £15.00 to St Catherine's PCC for use of the Church for the meeting.

11. To record any correspondence received. No correspondence of significance has been received since the last meeting.

12. Any other business. Councillors referred to a letter received from Tim Passmore, the Suffolk Police and Crime Commissioner. He is seeking support from all residents to an increase in Police funding from Government. Councils have been asked to circulate this letter where possible, and residents are asked to respond by the 20th January. The meeting was informed that the Stonham Barns Planning application has still to be referred to the MSDC Planning Committee.

13. Date and time of next meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for the 26th April 2017 at 6.30 p.m.

The meeting closed at 7 p.m.