

MINUTES OF MEETING OF PETTAUGH PARISH COUNCIL HELD

21st MARCH 2018 IN ST CATHERINE'S CHURCH AT 6.30 p.m.

Those present: Councillor Andy Corrigan (Chairman), Councillor Gordon Janson., Councillor Malcolm Owers and Councillor Stephen Rowe. 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 Belinda Bulsing who was unable to attend due to a prior engagement.
3. **To receive Declarations of Interest.** There were no declarations of interest.
4. **To approve the Minutes of Parish Council Meeting – 1^{7th} January 2018.** Councillors voted to approve the Minutes. The Minutes were accepted and signed as a true record.
5. **Matters arising from the Minutes.** There were no matters arising from the Minutes.

PUBLIC FORUM. A Parishioner informed the Parish Council of an accident at the junction with the Ipswich Way and the A1120, where a parishioner's car coming around the bend from Framsdan had been hit by a car approaching from Crowfield had failed to stop at the 'Give Way' sign. The cars were badly damaged and the police attended the incident.

6. **To review the Parish Council Financial Risk Assessment Document.** Councillors had been provided with a copy of the Financial Risk Assessment document for updating. The document was reviewed by the Councillors and signed by the Chairman. The Asset Register was also considered, minor changes having been made. The Asset Register was also agreed and signed.

7. **To discuss any proposals and funding for the enhancement of the village. To consider the possibility of social events during the summer.** At the last meeting the Parish Council had agreed to approach Mr Bysouth and seek his advice and help for ways to make the village more attractive for residents, and those who pass through. The Chairman thanked Mr Bysouth for attending the meeting. Mr Bysouth had some interesting suggestions, but his first comments were on the condition of the ditch on Ipswich Way opposite the entrance to Pettaugh Hall, also on the state of the very overgrown hedge on Debenham Way in the vicinity of the bus stop. This had been a source of complaint from the Parish Council over the past few years. Last year the Council complained repeatedly. The school buses stop there, and the area is a real hazard to children because of overhanging brambles and other vegetation. The Parish Council had also complained to Suffolk Highways regarding the state of the ditch but was informed that it was in a category that was unlikely to be prioritised for any remedial work. Councillors agreed to undertake what remedial work they could. The Councillors talked with Mr Bysouth regarding his other suggestions. It was felt that planting trees and hedges at the village boundaries would, if possible, be a positive action. In order to make the centre of the village more attractive the Council should try to have some of the excessive signage removed. This would enable the Green area to be made more attractive. There was also a consideration to remove the Parish Council noticeboard, which is in a poor state of repair. An approach would be made to the PCC with a view to sharing one noticeboard. This area could then be made more attractive, with possibility of placing a memorial stone in an attractive setting. The Parish Council would make funds available where necessary for the work. A proposal was made. It was proposed that the noticeboard would be removed,

subject to arrangement with the PCC. This was proposed by Cllr Owers, seconded by Cllr Corrigan and agreed.

Councillors then discussed the possibility of a social event in the summer. It was agreed to plan an event for mid-June, possibly in the form of a fete.

8. To discuss the condition of the roads within the Parish. It was agreed that the condition of the roads within the parish (A1120, Ipswich Way and Debenham Way) was very poor. What appears to be a blocked drain on the corner by the stop street had caused flooding for many days during the recent spell of bad weather. There were an increasing number of bad potholes, with the potential of damage to cars, and verges were in a poor state. Councillors suggested that all parishioners complain frequently to SCC Highways to draw their attention any road problems. SCC has various e-mail reporting platforms for reporting issues. Note was also made, as reported in the Public Forum, of the serious accident that had occurred at the 'Give Way' of Ipswich Way with the A1120, when a car drove through the 'Give Way' into an onward travelling car. Fortunately, nobody was hurt, but the parishioner's car was a badly damaged.

9. To discuss the outline planning proposal by Taylor-Wimpey for 295 houses in Debenham. There was nothing to report on this item.

10. To update on the current position with Broadband. The latest update indicates that the implementation of Broadband within this area will now be in June.

11. To receive a Financial Statement and report by the Acting Clerk. The Acting Clerk had prepared a statement of accounts to date. After authorisation of the presented cheques, the Parish Council has a balance of £2,388.09 in the Current Account and £1,049.10 in the Business Premium Account. The Parish Council had received a VAT refund from HMRC covering a period of eighteen months for £160.00. Councillors were asked to authorise the payment of cheque number 100386 for £15.00 to St Catherine's PCC for use of the Church for the meeting, and cheque number 100385 to Mrs Marlow for £88.18 for administrative costs.

The Clerk requested Councillors to confirm that they wished SALC to undertake the Annual Internal Audit for the Parish Council. This was confirmed.

The Clerk reported on matters notified to the council since the January meeting. Notification had been received from the Local Government Boundary Commission of new draft recommendations for the Electoral Review of MSDC. The further consultation period runs to the 30th April 2018.

MSDC has informed the Parish Council of the new electronic system for the Register of Interests of Councillors.

Information has been received from SALC on processes regarding the new Annual Governance and Accountability Returns.

Monthly newsletters for February and March have been received from Councillor Hicks.

12. Any other business. Cllr Janson raised the possibility of obtaining a Defibrillator for use in the village. He had made some preliminary inquiries, and it was agreed to look into this further and discuss again. Cllr Janson will attend the next Stonham Barns Liaison Meeting on the 28th March of behalf of the Parish Council.

13. Date and time of next meeting. The next meeting will be the Annual Parish Council meeting on Wednesday 9th May 2018 and will be preceded by the Annual Parish Meeting. The meeting will be held at 6.30 p.m. in the Church.

The meeting closed at 7.50 p.m.

