

# MINUTES OF MEETING OF PETTAUGH PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON

10<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2019 IN ST CATHERINE'S CHURCH AT 6.30 p.m.

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

1. **Welcome by the Chairman.** Councillor Owers welcomed all to the meeting.
2. **Apologies for Absence.** There were no apologies, all Councillors being present.
3. **To receive any declarations of interest.** Councillors Rowe declared an interest in item 7(i).
4. **To approve the Minutes of Parish Council Meeting – 29<sup>th</sup> November 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 had sent an e-mail to the Clerk giving apologies for being unable to attend but asking the Parish Council to consider the implications for Pettaugh with the proposed development of Sizewell C. The Councillors decided to take note of the e-mail under Any Other Business.

6. **To discuss the appointment of a new Parish Clerk.** The Parish Council is seeking to appoint a Parish Clerk within the next few months. A notice referring to the position has been placed on the notice board and the Pettaugh website. At the present time the Parish Council has note of one person who has shown an interest in the position. The Councillors discussed what are the necessary steps to making an appointment. The legal position needs to be clarified and Cllr Bulsing will contact SALC to obtain more information. It was also suggested that the position could be advertised on the SALC website. Councillors agreed to move this matter forward as quickly as possible.

7. **To discuss further and agree the proposed budget for 2019/20 taking into account the necessary increased spending expected for the next year.** The Acting Clerk had prepared revised figures for a budget review for 2019/20. The budget included a projected estimated figure for the costs of clerking, and also election costs for the May elections. Councillors discussed the figures but decided to wait for the next meeting when it is hoped that the council will be in a position to know actual costs before setting the budget.

(i) To consider a request from the Parochial Church Council for financial support towards the maintenance to the Churchyard for the past year made under LGA 1972 Section 214(6). Cllr Rowe had declared an interest and took no part in the discussion. The Treasurer of the Parochial Church Council had presented the Parish Council with three invoices amounting to £74.37 for the Councillors consideration. These cover mowing, weedkilling and essential equipment repairs. The Parish Council agreed to this payment and a cheque in payment for this amount was authorised.

(ii) To consider any Charitable donations. This item will be discussed further at the next meeting.

M.O.  
6/3/19

8. **To discuss and set the Parish Precept for 2019/20.** The Councillors had a lengthy discussion on the item. The Parish Council know they will need to raise the parish precept this year to take account of the increased expenditure on Clerking Services. After discussion a figure was suggested and the Chairman put forward a motion. The Parish Council will increase the precept to £2,625.00 for 2019/20. This motion was passed with three votes. The Councillors then signed the precept form in line with the Local Government Finance Act 1992 regulations.

9. **To discuss Planning Application DC/18/05515 - 7 The Green, Pettaugh.** The Councillors viewed the plans for a minor extension at the rear of No 7, The Green. There was agreement that this would improve the property and was sympathetic with the overall appearance. All agreed to approve these plans. The Acting Clerk will inform MSDC Planning Department.

10. **To discuss the MSDC 2018 Review of Polling Districts, Polling Stations and Polling Places with particular reference to proposed changes to the polling place for Pettaugh.** The Parish Council had received notification of the statutory four-yearly review of polling stations being undertaken by MSDC. The Council is dismayed to learn from the review that it is proposed that Pettaugh residents will no longer be able to vote in Pettaugh, but will be expected to travel to Crowfield Village Hall. This is a distance of 2.9 Kilometres from the centre of the village, and 4 Kilometres from Town House Corner. The Parish Council have written a strongly worded letter to MSDC protesting this proposal. The MSDC Council meeting at the end of January will make the final decision.

11. **To receive a report by the Acting Clerk and to authorise cheque payment.** The Acting Clerk presented a statement of accounts to the present time. Following authorisation of the cheque presented to the meeting, the Parish Council Barclays Community Account stands at £3,246.33 and the Business Premium Account at £1,051.18. Councillors were asked to authorise payment of cheque no: 100398 for £15.00 to St Catherine PCC for the use of the Church for this meeting.

12. **To update on the proposed development by Taylor-Wimpey for 295 new houses in Debenham.**

The Planning Committee of MSDC had, at its meeting in December, turned down the planning application submitted by Taylor-Wimpey for 295 new houses in Debenham. The Parish Council understands that Taylor-Wimpey have appealed the decision.

13. **Any Other Business. Sizewell C Power Station Consultation.** The Parish Council returned to this matter raised by a Parishioner, and highlighted by Cllr Hicks in his January report regarding the anticipated increase in traffic through Pettaugh along the A1120. The public consultation period runs until the 29<sup>th</sup> March, and Cllr Hicks encourages all councils and residents to take part. SCC are part of the Joint Local Authority Group (JLAG). The e-mail from the Parishioner highlighted problems that are of particular concern to the residents of Pettaugh. The Councillors are in agreement with all the concerns raised, and decided on the need to write and put the concerns of Pettaugh residents to the JLAG.

14. **Date and time of next meeting.** The next meeting is scheduled for the 14<sup>th</sup> March 2019 at 6.30 p.m. in the Church.

The meeting closed at 8.05 p.m.

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6/3/19