## MINUTES OF MEETING OF PETTAUGH PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON

## 21 DECEMBER 2020 AT 6.30 p.m.BY VIDEO CONFERENCE

Those present: Councillor Belinda Bulsing, Councillor Stephen Rowe and Councillor Esther Thornton. Also present Mr Andy Corrigan.

- Apologies and note of Absences. Apologies were received from Councillor Malcolm Owers and his absence was approved. Councillor Stephen Rowe was elected as chairman for the meeting.
- To receive any Declarations of Interest, Pecuniary and Non-Pecuniary.
   None received.
- To consider and agree the Minutes of Parish Council Meeting 21st August 2020. Councillors voted to accept the resolution to approve the Minutes. The Minutes were approved as a true and correct record.
- 4. Public participation session There were no issues raised by members of the public.
- To co-opt Mr Andy Corrigan as Parish Councillor Councillor Stephen Rowe proposed to co-opt Mr Andy Corrigan onto the Parish Council. Councillor Belinda Bulsing seconded the motion. It was carried unanimously. The Councillors welcomed Councillor Andy Corrigan.
- 6. To review Financial Statements The Councillors reviewed the latest financial information available and considered the most up to date balances. The Councillors confirmed the remaining budget balance as £2,483.39 The Councillors noted that this balance remained because Councillors Belinda Bulsing and Esther Thornton carried out the clerking duties at no cost to the Council for the financial year. The Councillors also noted £6042.30 as the balance in the Barclays Business Community Account and £1,054.10 as the balance in the Barclays Business Premium Account as at 17 December 2020. Councillor Stephen Rowe (Chair) agreed to sign the Financial Statement as approved.
- 7. To consider current requests for payment The Councillors considered the renewal costs of the Royal and Sun Alliance policy cover for the Council. Councillor Esther Thornton proposed that the insurance is renewed at the proposed cost of £186.73 (insurance premium of £166.72 and insurance tax of £20.01) and Councillor Stephen Rowe (Chair) seconded it. [cheque number: 100420]

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- 8. To consider request for a donation from Headway The Councillors considered the request received from a local charity, Headway for a donation. After detailed discussion the Councillors considered that because of the charity's local connections, including two hubs and several satellite hubs in Suffolk, a small donation should be made. Councillor Esther Thornton proposed a donation in the sum of £25 and Councillor Belinda Bulsing seconded it.
  It was carried unanimously. [cheque number: 100421]
- 8a. [8 on agenda] To review bank mandates Because of the social distancing/ lockdown measures in place, the Councillors have been unable to visit in person the Bank's branch. The Councillors agreed to have this item deferred to the Council's next meeting.
- 9. To consider the precept 2021/2022 The Councillors considered correspondence received from MSDC regarding the District Council's tax base for 2021/2022. Because of the uncertainties caused by the impact of the Covid 19 pandemic MSDC requested that the Council holds its precept setting meeting between 8th and 29th of January 2021. The Councillors agreed to place this item on the agenda in January 2021 as requested by MSDC.
- 10. To consider the draft budget for 2021/2022 The Councillors considered the draft budget and the proposed itemised figures were discussed in detail. In particular, the cost of clerking and potential additional expenses such as a further dog waste bin, a marquee and/or portaloo for community events were discussed. The Councillors also reviewed the relevant sections of The Good Councillors' Guide to Finance and Transparency to aid their discussion. The Councillors agreed to defer this item to the next meeting of the Council in January 2021 to enable further consideration.
- 11. Parish Clerk(s) The Councillors agreed to continue with the recruitment search for a clerk to the Council.
- 12. To consider the legal compliance and soundness of the Pre-Submission Joint Local Plan (Regulation 19) Document After detailed discussion, the Councillors agreed to provide a substantive response to the current consultation, objecting to the draft joint local plan building on the Council's earlier consultation response (submitted in September 2019). The Councillors agreed to object to the arbitrary allocation of greenfield land to the west of Debenham Way for residential development on land owned by MSDC in the parish. The Councillors considered that such an allocation would be contrary to planning policy and appeared to have been based on flawed evidence. In addition, the Councillors considered that policies relating to development on land in public ownership must be amended to ensure that public assets deliver community benefits.

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- 13. Casual Vacancy The Councillors noted the position.
- 14. Date and time of next meeting. 20th January 2021 at 6.30 p.m by video link.
- 15. Any other business The Councillors discussed on-going highway safety issues on the A1120. Councillor Esther Thornton will contact SCC once more.

The meeting closed at 8.15 p.m.

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