

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF PETTISTREE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 11th NOVEMBER 2014 IN THE PARISH ROOM AT 7.30 PM

Councillors present: Mr Mike Watts (Vice Chair), Mrs M Chilvers, Mr J Hallett, Mr G Hind,
Mr T Rowles

In attendance: Mr C Mann – Parish Clerk
M Bond – County Councillor
S Chatten-Berry – PCSO 3094

In the absence of Councillor Boardley Councillor Mike Watts took the Chair

1.0 Public Forum

- 1.1 PCSO Chatten-Berry stated that no crimes had been reported in Pettistree since the last meeting. In other areas a variety of crimes had been committed with no pattern. 2 boats with 20 illegal immigrants had tried to land at Bawdsey, the Police had captured 12 of those aboard. The SNT priorities are tackling unauthorised use of vehicles in local forests, speed monitoring campaign in the Woodbridge area and to allay fears of residents relating to the human trafficking mentioned above. The next meeting would be on 14th January 2015. It was reported that speeding was an issue in all areas and the Police were using a variety of methods to measure speed. This coupled with checks on previous history and accident statistics enabled a focus on problem areas. Councillor Watts reported that a nearby resident thought that the B1438 from Wickham Market to Pettistree House should be a 30 mph zone. Councillor Watts was not of the same opinion but said he would raise it at the next Council meeting and directed them to the mobile police van to report it which they duly did. As there was no street lighting, repeater 30 mph signs would be required and this would be up to the highways department. PCSO Chatten-Berry said she would raise this with the Highways department and that the Council should do the same if they wished to support it. Police Connect is the new name for Police Direct after a merger but it was pointed out that users must re register to continue use. The recent rains had seen some flooding in Pettistree and caution when travelling was urged in such conditions.
- 1.2 Councillor Bond gave a verbal report, concentrating on the disappointing performance of Education in the County. It was a concern to the County Council who had been denied the ability to act. However, changes have been made and the Education Authority has sent letters of warning to underperforming schools and has promised to act if no improvements are forthcoming. Limited funds were available for club equipment should local Councils have a need.

Closure of Public Forum and commencement of Parish Council Meeting

2.0 Apologies - Councillors J. Bidwell, R. Leigh, E. Boardley and PC Howgego.

3.0 Declaration of Interests - All Councillors declared a pecuniary interest in the setting of the precept in item 8.2

4.0 Minutes:

4.1 The 16th September 2014 minutes were approved and signed as a true record.

5.0 Matters Arising from the previous meeting:

- 5.1 Councillor Boardley had confirmed she had stood down as Chair and would resign as a Councillor with effect from 12th November 2014. Councillor Leigh had informed the Clerk that she would resign as a Councillor at the February meeting.
- 5.2 Due to the close proximity to the May 2015 election no election was allowed but the Council could co-opt a suitable candidate. Unusually, there were two residents who had indicated a willingness to fill the vacancy. It was agreed that, subject to his continued willingness, Phillip Westrope would be co-opted as a Councillor with the other person being informed that a further vacancy would be available along with the whole Council coming up for election in May 2015. A new Chair was required and Councillor Hallett was nominated and seconded. There being no other nominations he was declared Chairman and he thanked Councillor Watts for opening the meeting and took over in the Chair.
- 5.3 A report on the visit to the Great Blakenham recycling centre by Councillors Watts, Leigh and Hallett was given by Councillor Watts. It had been a very interesting experience and made them all see recycling in a different light. It was a shame the tours were no longer available. The noise, dirt and smell and the sheer volume of material made the conditions of the workers on the production line very unpleasant.
- 5.4 Two quotes for the cleaning of the war memorial had been obtained and the Clerks request for grant funding had received a positive response from Councillor Bidwell. It was agreed to obtain a third quote from a local supplier and then Councillor Watts would liaise with Councillor Bidwell to apply for funding based on the best value quote of the three.
- 5.5 The 2013 Hedge cutting Invoices, with apologies for the delay, had been sent out by the Clerk and they had nearly all been paid at the time of the meeting. One resident has moved since then and the Council agreed that it would stand the cost if payment could not be collected. Councillor Watts reported that Louis Deliss was willing to take on the task of liaising with residents and Richard Hayward on the hedge cutting. The Clerk confirmed that Richard Hayward was willing to do the work in 2014 and would contact Mr Deliss to progress matters.
- 5.6 It was agreed that each issue of Pettistree People should contain a report from Pettistree Parish Council, preferably, but not exclusively from the Chairman.
- 5.7 In order to deter parking on Pettistree Green it had been agreed by the Council to put posts around the area. A quote for 60 round 3ft posts had been obtained from Nelson Potter in the sum of £126. It was intended that they be painted with white tops for visibility. Councillor Watts strongly preferred plain oak and square and had photographs of other village greens which had just that layout. He also pointed out that his electric supply runs under the green and questioned what distance they would be from the road. It was therefore agreed that the Clerk would contact the Highways department to get their input on the exact legal requirements.
- 5.8 The website working party had not met and the Clerk was asked to confirm with the 3 appointees that they were still available and to arrange a meeting. In case any were not then Councillor Hind was selected to be a replacement.

6.0 Other Pettistree Matters:

- 6.1 The fee for grass cutting was agreed at £200 and thanks to Mr J Barker for his efforts in this regard. It is hoped this can continue for 2015. It was noted that his own equipment is used and therefore the Councils own mower, and its condition should be reviewed
- 6.2 Pettistree People was again entered in the Newsletter of the Year competition with high hopes following its success last year and its editor had been invited to the SALC AGM where the decision will be announced. It was agreed that the editor and deputy editor would attend to represent the Parish Council.
- 6.3 It was agreed that an honorarium of £50 be paid to Chris Garner for his efforts on updating the Council website which was now in better shape than before.

- 6.4 With very little litter around the village due to the efforts of responsible villagers it was thought unnecessary to have a litter pick in March 2015. It was agreed however, to run an article in Pettistree People and to put the item on the 2015 Parish Meeting Agenda.
- 6.5 It was agreed to continue to support the Ufford First Responder with a donation of £150 and that as Pettistree Heritage had indicated it has sufficient funds at this time then no donation would be made this year.

7.0 Planning Matters:

- 7.1 No planning applications had been received
- 7.2 There were no approvals to record.

8.0 Finance:

- 8.1 It was agreed to pay the following Invoices:
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| Clive Mann - Clerks Expenses to 31/10/2014 | £149.00 |
| Sharward Services - Pettistree People | £90.09 |
| SALC - Insurance renewal for year to Sept 2015 | £273.57 |
| SALC - Delegate fees for Seminar in Elmswell | £72.00 |
| J Barker - Grass Cutting | £200.00 |
| C Garner - Website maintenance Honorarium | £50.00 |
- 8.2 The 2015/2016 budget was reviewed and agreed at £2,975. It was noted that forecast expenditure for this year would be just under £3,000, again in excess of the precept. The reserves had now reduced to an acceptable level and it was considered sensible to seek to increase the precept to £2,400, more in line with net expenditure.
- 8.3 With Councillor Boardley resigning a new cheque signatory was required and Councillor Watts volunteered and the Clerk would obtain the necessary documents from Barclays.

9.0 Correspondence:

- 9.1 Postal correspondence:-
- Issue 96 of Clerks and Councils Direct publication, November 2014
 - SALC - Annual report and AGM invite
 - EDF Energy - Sizewell C project update newsletter
 - CAS- Disclosure and Barring Service leaflet
 - Age UK - Older people's day leaflet and request for funds
 - Leiston CAB - Donation request
 - NALC - Local Government Pay Consultation, 2.2% Inc from Jan 2015
 - SCDC - Local plan documents
 - SCDC - Parish Council Election 2015, notice of likely cost
 - SALC - Transparency code to replace routine external audit for smaller Councils
 - Therese Coffey MP - Details of local visits
 - Viridor Ltd - Confirmation of visit to Recycling Centre
- 9.2 Email correspondence:-
- 66 e-mails received from Suppliers, Trade bodies and Councils were circulated to Pettistree Councillors by electronic means

The postal communications were reviewed and discussed. It was agreed that the Clerk would respond to SCDC by 17th November 2014 with Pettistree Parish Councils concerns over the Local Plan documents and how it would affect Pettistree.

The e-mails received are filtered for junk mail by the Clerk and relevant ones forwarded to Councillors for review and action; they contain many standard and regular Information e-mails from Community Action Suffolk and SALC.

10.0 Matters to be brought to the attention of the Council:

- 10.1 The Clerk and Councillor Watts had attended a seminar arranged by SALC to discuss the new law pertaining to filming, recording and broadcasting Council meetings. The new law came into being on 6th August 2014 and misunderstanding of what can and cannot be done had caused some disruption at some meetings with the police being called in some cases. The public not only has the right to attend but film and record and indeed post on social media providing they do not cause disruption to the proceedings. A statement was given to the Chair which has been written by SALC and which can be used in the event of someone wishing to film or record.
- 10.2 Whilst clearing the verge in Thong Hall Road Councillor Watts had discovered some concrete works on either side of the road which he is trying to discover what they are. He has contacted the authorities to help as it may be they were used during WW2.

11.0 Dates for future meetings:

Tuesday 3rd February 2015 Pettistree Parish Council Meeting in the Parish Room at 7.30 p.m.
Tuesday 12th May 2015 Pettistree Parish Council AGM in the Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.
Tuesday 12th May 2015 Pettistree Parish Council Meeting in the Village Hall at 7.45 p.m.
Tuesday 19th May 2015 Annual Parish Meeting in the Village Hall at 8.00 p.m.

The meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.

Signed/: Dated: