

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF PETTISTREE PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 4th NOVEMBER 2015 IN THE PARISH ROOM AT 7.30 PM

Councillors present: Mr Jeff Hallett (Chair), Mr Terry Rowles (Vice Chair), Mr Mike Watts,
Mr Steve Hind,

In attendance: Mr C Mann – Parish Clerk
Michael Bond – County Councillor
Richard Jenkinson – Chairman, Wickham Market Parish Council (from 8 p.m.)

1.0 Public Forum

- 1.1 In line with the new police strategy no police were in attendance and no report had been received. Pettistree Parish Councillors had no matters to raise.
- 1.2 Councillor Bond was in attendance and talked of how complex and difficult the planning process was and still is. The Government was looking at the structure of Local Government in the light of the success of London etc. German and French local Councils have remained constant for a century but in the UK it is constantly changing. The plan for larger units will be beneficial, so they say? The plight of older people and rural communities relying on diminishing bus services continues, despite the Council having no control while funding them for bus passes and school transport etc. to the tune of £28m. Education In the region was on the up at last with better exam results. Councillor Bond was still hoping to get Wickham Market railway station renamed Campsea Ashe. Road maintenance continued to be poor with problems relating to contractors not helping. A desperate need for foster parents in this area was highlighted.

Closure of Public Forum and commencement of Parish Council Meeting

- 2.0 **Welcome and Apologies** - The Chair welcomed those present and thanked Councillor Bond for his continued attendance and support. He was also pleased to see Richard Jenkinson join the meeting for item 6.6 and introduced him to those present. Apologies were received and noted from Councillors Chilvers, Westrope, Cook and Amoss. Comments on agenda items from Councillor Cook had been distributed and used in the relevant discussion.

- 3.0 **Declaration of Interests** - None declared.

4.0 Minutes:

- 4.1 The 15th September 2015 meeting minutes were approved and signed as a true record.

5.0 Matters Arising from the previous meeting:

- 5.1 Although taking longer than expected the work on replacing a large part of the footpath and clearing vegetation from the rest of the route from Pettistree to Wickham Market had been well done.
- 5.2 The Pettistree Draft Conservation Appraisal was discussed and queries were raised by Councillors on pages 4,6,21,23,25,28 and 32. These would be listed, agreed by Councillors and returned to the author as the Pettistree Parish Council response.

- 5.3 It was agreed to defer an appointment of a Footpath Officer to a later meeting.
- 5.4 No further progress on the new website was reported.

6.0 Other Pettistree Matters:

- 6.1 The Queens 90th birthday is in June 2016 and it was discussed as to whether Pettistree should celebrate the occasion along with many others. It was agreed that Pettistree Parish Council should take the lead but not be the organiser. A date of Sunday 12th June was selected and an article in Pettistree People asking for volunteers to form a committee was suggested. An open air venue moving to the Village Hall if wet was the preferred option.
- 6.2 Japanese Knotweed was taking hold in land near the Three Tuns Public House and was spreading. The documents to hand were not precise as to ownership but indicated it being the responsibility of the Highways Department. The Clerk had written to the Highways Department on behalf of the Parish Council requesting action and a response was awaited.
- 6.3 The grass had been cut in the usual good manner by J. Barker in 2015 and it was agreed that a fee of £200 be paid with grateful thanks. It was noted that he has now left the area and a new contract was needed for 2016. The Clerk would obtain a quote from Norse and Councillor Hallett would see if a local person was available to perform this valuable task. The Councils mower was returned but as it had not been used for some time it is in need of a service.
- 6.4 It was agreed to give an honorarium to Chris Garner of £50 In recognition of the sterling work done in maintaining the website.
- 6.5 It was agreed that a Litter Pick was not required in 2016 as litter was not a problem and locals did their bit throughout the year.
- 6.6 The matter of Pettistree Parish Councils involvement, or not, to the Wickham Market Neighbourhood Plan was taken out of order to facilitate the Involvement of Richard Jenkinson, Chairman of Wickham Market Parish Council. Wickham Market has more people than Pettistree but does not cover as large an area. Like many, they have issues with planning and the fight over Glebe allotments was one. They have a planning committee and decided that a neighbourhood plan would enable them to exert some control of events in Wickham Market for the foreseeable future. The main development plan for the Suffolk Coastal area highlighted the need for 7,900 houses to be built by 2027 and this could possibly rise to 11,400. The 2,000 planned for Adastral Park would help. 116 houses have so far been completed In Wickham Market. The above plan would be the base but adapted to suit the locality and be valid until 2040. It will take 2 to 2.5 years to complete and will take into consideration land in the area which could be developed with the least amount of damage. They would wish for no more traffic through Market Hill or Bordercot Lane. All neighbouring Parishes have been invited to join In with the plan. Parking for new houses is better as in earlier developments it has failed as public transport has not taken up the slack as thought. Monthly meetings will be taking place as the plan progresses to an eventual referendum with 50% of those voting needed for it to be adopted. The plan must make sense and be approved by an expert before being put to the vote. The cost is likely to be in the region of £12k-15k but a grant of £8k is available. The terms of Reference and a schedule of work has already been completed. Wickham Market would like to protect its retail area and provide more jobs and would look at the old Notcutts site in Pettistree. It was pointed out that the land favoured for housing by Wickham Market, opposite Wickham Place, was also in Pettistree Parish. However Pettistree would need an input of time and money to take part in the Neighbourhood Plan, and it was also noted that Pettistree was listed as having no quota for housing development in the newly published Local Plan from our planning authority, Suffolk Coastal District Council, until at least 2027.

The Chair thanked Richard Jenkinson for the open and honest way he had presented the plan and answered the many questions.

The view of those Pettistree Councillors present was an inclination not to be involved. The Chair promised to contact the other Pettistree Councillors to seek their views and to relay a final decision to Councillor Jenkinson within the week. Councillor Jenkinson gave his grateful thanks and left the meeting.

7.0 Planning Matters:

7.1 The comments on the advance notice for two dwellings on rough land adjacent to the Three Tuns were whether they would be affordable homes and whether this would open the gates for others. One Councillor had still to see the proposal but no real objections.

7.2 No objections to DC/15/4043/FUL construction of 3 brick buttresses and a pier to stabilise a garden wall within the curtilage of the listed building. Mr and Mrs Signy of Pettistree Lodge.

7.3 The withdrawal of DC/15/3494/LBC for replacement sash windows at Pettistree Lodge was noted.

7.4 There were no approvals to report

7.5 Planning application DC/15/4322/LBC for retention of wood store, roof lights, glazing to window/doors and internal alterations had been received the day of the meeting and the Clerk was given permission to add it to the agenda. The documents were passed to the Councillors for comments.

8.0 Finance:

8.1 It was agreed to pay the following Invoices:

Clive Mann - Clerks Expenses to 31/10/2015	£146.00
East Anglian Ambulance Service - Donation	£150.00
Community Action Suffolk - Insurance renewal to 30/09/16	£252.42
J. Barker - Grass Cutting Services for 2015	£200.00
C. Garner - Honorarium for updating website	£50.00

8.2 The Insurance renewal had been received from Community Action Suffolk using Zurich. It had been agreed by Councillors, using phone and e-mail, due to time constraints, that the 3 year plan was the best option, thus securing a further 5% discount and fixed for three years apart from Government tax changes. (One took effect in November 2015 and will increase next year's premium by 3.5%)

8.3 The budget for 2016/2017 had been prepared with comparisons. The estimated expenditure for this year was £2,400 with savings against budget in several areas. The budget expenditure for next year was approved at £2,950 with the precept being held at £2,400.

9.0 Correspondence:

9.1 Postal correspondence:-

Leiston & Saxmundham CAB - Annual Report etc.
Norse - Letter offering Ground Maintenance Services
Wickham Market Parish Council - Letter on Neighbourhood Plan
Community Action Suffolk - Annual Review to March 2015
Community Action Suffolk - Insurance Confirmation documents

92 Email correspondence:-

92 e-mails, including internal communications dealt with by the Clerk and Councillors.

The postal communications were reviewed and discussed.

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 A letter from Headway Suffolk giving information and requesting a donation was discussed but not proceeded further.
- 10.2 Councillor Cook had been surprised at the number of e-mails he had received since becoming a Councillor and wished it to be discussed as to whether these could be filtered further by the Clerk. It was agreed to discuss this at the next meeting.
- 10.3 PROPS, the heating oil buying syndicate for the local area had ceased as many other opportunities now existed to obtain similar discounts.
- 10.4 Louis Deliss was organising the hedge cutting for the coming season.

11.0 Dates for future meetings:

- Tuesday 2nd February 2016 Pettistree Parish Council Meeting in the Parish Room at 7.30 p.m.
- Tuesday 17th May 2016 Pettistree Parish Council AGM in the Village Hall at 7.30 p.m.
- Tuesday 17th May 2016 Pettistree Parish Council Meeting in the Village Hall at 7.45 p.m.
- Tuesday 24th May 2016 Pettistree Annual Parish Meeting in the Village Hall at 8 p.m.

The meeting closed at 10 p.m.

Signed: - Dated: