

PETTAUGH PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES of meeting

On **THURSDAY 12 MARCH 2026**

at St Catherine's Church, Pettaugh (start time 6.30 pm)

Present:

Councillors Belinda Bulsing, Ruth Crane, Margaret Marlow, and Stephen Rowe (Chairman)

1/03 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Esther Thornton.

2/03 MINUTES OF MEETING – 21 JANUARY 2026

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting of the Parish Council held on 21 January 2026 be approved and confirmed.

3/03 DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS, OTHER REGISTRABLE INTERESTS AND NON-REGISTRABLE INTERESTS

None received.

4/03 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Although no members of the public were present, reference was made to some known concerns in relation to developments at the site to the rear of the Crowfield Rose PH, and when the application for travellers' accommodation might be coming forward for determination.

District Councillor N Hardingham then arrived at the meeting and spoke to his report which had been received and circulated earlier that day. Topics included devolution and local government reorganisation, the River Gipping Trust, A14 litter, Nation Grid's Pylon project, former Council premises in Needham Market, proposed Armed Forces Day event in Stowmarket, new recycling arrangements and bin distribution, and the implications and provisions of the District Council's budget for 2026/27. He said that he had visited the site at the Crowfield Rose but had nothing to add by way of an update on the application or other action.

County Councillor M Hicks was present and gave a report based on that which he had previously circulated. He mentioned in particular the Norwich to Tilbury pylon scheme by National Grid to which the County Council had objected, it being established that an alternative offshore ringmain was

both feasible and affordable provided the Government varied its target timeline. The potential environmental damage from the scheme as it stood was considerable. He also mentioned a proposal by the County Council to start removing parked cars from the highway where they were interfering with planned roadworks, the pending departure of the Council's Chief Executive and arrangements to cover that position ahead of local government reorganisation, and the extending of the Culture Fund assistance to a wider range of creative organisations. He also referred to the local issue previously brought to the Parish Council's attention regarding the directional sign on the A1120 ahead of the Crowfield Road turning, and also a flooding issue on the A1120 which was a highway drainage issue and scheduled to be dealt with as such.

5/03 MATTER ARISING FROM PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

Given the reported concern regarding developments at the site rear of the Crowfield Rose, the Clerk agreed to make pertinent enquiries of the District Council in relation to on-site matters and also the status of the current planning application.

6/03 FINANCE

The Parish Council considered the following matters:

(a) Financial Statement and Bank Reconciliation

A statement showing the position at 5 March 2026 regarding the Parish Council's bank accounts and reconciliation of recent payments was received and noted. The balance of the Community Account with no unpresented cheques was £5,855.09, and the Business Premium Account was now £1,098.30. Expenditure to date totalled £2,919.31.

(b) Accounts for payment

The following accounts were received:

Clerk's salary and expenses - £165.35
Mr S P Jennings (reimbursement for Microsoft 365 renewal and service from TDR Computers for laptop) £84.99 + £25.00
St Catherines Church PCC (Use of Church for Meeting) £18.00
Suffolk County Council (contribution towards speed survey) £249.00

RESOLVED that the above accounts be approved for payment.

(c) Donations and Financial Assistance

The Parish Council considered the making of a donation to the Debenham Project given its availability and benefit to residents of Pettaugh.

Minute 6/03(c) continued

RESOLVED that a donation of £200.00 be made to Debenham Project (s137, LGA 1972).

7/03 PARISH AMENITIES

No further matters were discussed.

8/03 TRAFFIC SPEED THROUGH THE VILLAGE AND OTHER RELATED HIGHWAY MATTERS

The outcome of the recent speed survey on the A1120 was noted with no evidence of a real speed problem that further lining or signing would assist. The Parish Council agreed that it would pursue the possible purchase of a new/additional speed indicator device for the A1120 once the new location post was provided, subject to any particular conditions the County Highway Authority might impose. Alternative designs/specifications could be looked at in the meantime.

It was reported that part of the roof of the 'bus shelter in Debenham Road was missing. The Clerk agreed to pursue this with the County Council.

9/03 NEXT MEETING

It was agreed that the next meeting be fixed for Thursday 14 May 2026 to follow the Annual Parish Meeting starting at 6.30 pm.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.37 pm.

Chairman
14 May 2026