

CROXTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of meeting held in the village hall on 9th October 2014 at 7.30pm

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|-----------------|-------------|---------------|----|
| Present: | R King | Chairman | RK |
| | I Andrew | Vice Chairman | IA |
| | G Goucher | Councillor | GG |
| | D Harris | PC Clerk | DH |
| | Henry Raker | Resident | HR |

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|-------------------|----------------|------------|----|
| Apologies: | D Stephen | Councillor | DS |
| | B Beal | Councillor | BB |
| | R Childerhouse | BDC | RC |
| | I Monson | NCC | IM |

Declarations of Interest

No Declarations of Interest were recorded

Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting having been read were agreed as accurate. Proposed by GG, seconded by IA. The Minutes were signed by the Chairman.

Matters arising

1. NCC Update

IM not present, therefore no update.

2. Breckland Council update

Complaint raised regarding the overgrowth of bracken and rodent infestation from the adjacent field which is owned by the Hammonds family.

IA feels this issue needs to be addressed possibly by an enforcement order from Breckland Council under Section 215 regulation.

RC is pursuing this with BC.

3. Greater Thetford Development Partnership

RK attended meeting at The Bell Hotel on 25 September to discuss way forward. The meeting Agenda is attached to these Minutes.

Items 4 & 5 resulted in a feedback with recommended changes to the initially

proposed model. However the Partnership Board format remains with an equal representation concept i.e.1 Elected Representative per Membership Group. The final composition of the Working groups was not addressed in full detail at this meeting due to time constraints.

It was agreed the next step is to re-issue the development Partnership model incorporating the recommendations from this feedback.

The parish Council agreed that the concept of the new Development Partnership is to a great extent a new MTF Board with restated Terms of reference.

The revised details will be circulated to Councillors when received.

4. Neighbourhood Plan

Initial analysis of feedback from Public Meeting has been carried out and circulated to Councillors and Tony Poulter (B&K Chairman).

These were circulated asking all concerned to put ideas for relevant questions on paper and pass to the Chairman. A meeting can then be arranged at which these potential questions can be reviewed and an initial draft questionnaire developed. DS has produced some initial questions, which RK will circulate.

IA and RK expressed disappointed with the level of attendance at the public meeting on Saturday 13th September.

The proposed schedule is for the Joint neighbourhood Plan to be approved and implemented over the next 18month.

5. BDC Planning Issue

RK will pursue arranging meeting with Martin Pendlebury as suggested. RC will investigate further all options to see which will be most productive.

6. Street Lighting

Council approval given for bracket to be fitted to street light unit at Shop.

7. Playing Field maintenance

RK says matting has been delivered. Date(s) to carry out maintenance to be agreed between volunteers.

8. EPR Review (Raised by H Raker in attendance)

Councillors confirmed statements made previously, to reassure the resident present at the meeting.

RK summarised with information gathered after contacting EA, EPR and Elizabeth Truss.

An extract from minutes of the 11th September 2014:

“The power station had a planned shutdown and this showed major errors in the baffles, this was an unforeseen issue. The baffles will be replaced but unfortunately until this had been completed there will be residual noise and minor pollution. There will be a meeting on the 26th September with the station management. Regrettably the power station will have to rebuild the faulty baffles from the inside out which will happen during 6 weeks from 5th September. The environment agency is involved and will be able to look more in depth into the issue.”

RK stated that he would also be responding shortly to the letter he received from M Raker.

It was agreed to try to establish what noise levels are acceptable from EA and what was specified in original planning permission issued by Breckland Planning. Mr Raker asked that the power station website should provide explanations to confirm the current situation.

Mr Raker also queried whether several individual notifications would carry more weight than a single complaint/query from the parish council?

RK/IA both expressed the view that in general this is frequently the case.

Planning

1. **3PL/2014/0458/F** – Proposed Skate Park at Joe Blunts Lane – Approved. Discussion took place with councillors and visiting resident expressing disappointment. Comments made on suitability and the change of initial recommendation to refuse made initially by two independent Case Officers.
2. **3PL/2014/0935/F** – Bennett Homes – The Street. Change to Conditions discussed. Brief discussion about the vicarage boundary and what legal impact it may have on the eventual owner/resident of property is directly affected
- 3 **3PL/2014/0818/F** – No5 Earl warren- Dining/garden room extension - Approved

New Business

1. **Academy Status**, the principle has spoken to RK about attending a Council Meeting to provide update on the current status of the Academy and possibly a site visit. Further information to follow.
2. **Complaint by a resident**, 30th September 2014 – on the condition, in their opinion, of the grass cutting on the playing field. Short discussion followed with RK to action and provide resident with factual dates of grass cutting this year by the contractor.
3. **Use of social media** – Mr Raker commented on the possibility of using social media to reach residents who may not be currently involved with decisions impacting the village.
Also discussed the benefits of reaching residents who may not always be aware/ interested in the usual and conventional methods currently used; for example the Newsletter and the content, plus the notice board; to keep the villagers informed.
From this Councillors briefly examined the demographic of the village and the ease of the options suggested.
Mr Raker offered to summarise his views on the possible use of facebook, twitter etc.
All councillors agreed that more resident involvement is desirable and would be fully appreciated.

Correspondence

1. EPR Liaison meeting minutes circulated and emailed to councillors, residents and further discussion linked with 8. Matters arising.
2. Greater Thetford Development Partnership documents were issued to the councillors, GG to pass on to IA due to IA being away when first sent around. Communication also linked to 3. Matters arising.
3. Skate park documentation circulated.
4. NCC "Stoptober" (Stop Smoking) scheme flyers explained and passed around to councillors.

Current correspondence was distributed at Meeting. Nothing requiring immediate action.

Finance

Currently awaiting fund transfer to current A/c.

1. **Current A/c 158.60**
2. **Reserve A/c 10,489.23**
3. **Quarterly Report to September 2014** – presented to Councillors

AOB

1. Rat Infestation on Hockham road lay-by. This has apparently been caused by litter; GG queries the likelihood of providing a rubbish bin. RK to ask highways namely Paul Groom as a visit is due.
5. DH again mentioned the underpass lights on the Croxton Road, still one light out while the others remain on permanently. The appropriate authorities have been made aware of this several time with no action. To be followed up again.
6. MOD Liaison Meeting - 23rd October at 7.30pm RK/IA/DS will be attending.

Meeting closed at 9.15pm

Date of next Meeting: - Thursday 13th November at 7.30 in Village Hall