

Croxton Parish Council

Minutes of meeting held in the village hall on Thursday 9th April 2015

Present:	R King	RK	Chairman
	I Andrew	IA	Vice Chair
	G Goucher	GG	Councillor
	D Stephen	DS	Councillor
	B Beal	BB	Councillor
	D Harris	DH	Parish Clerk
	I Monson	IM	NCC
	R Childerhouse	RC	BDC

Residents: Mr & Mrs White

Apologies: No apologies were reported.

Declarations of interest:

There were no Declarations of Interest recorded.

Minutes of the previous meeting:

The Minutes of the previous Meeting on 12th March were read and agreed as accurate. Proposed by DS and seconded by BB.

Matters arising

1. NCC Update

Councillor Monson provided an update of the following items:

- 1) Budget complete awaiting final approval
- 2) Children's Services. There has been some improvement since appointment of new head Sheila Locke – very proactive action, concentrating on working with families prior to need for Social Services intervention.
- 3) Many schools have changed to Academy status with many placed in special measures category. NCC has no powers where this is concerned.
- 4) Elderly Care budget is showing a decline due to high cost of carers, together with travel costs etc. The plan is to increase care at home facility rather than use of care/rest homes.
- 5) Roads improvements/repairs. NCC/Highways are making efforts to improve with increased funding - £28 million from Government for "top dressing" (tar and stone slurry).
- 6) Litter/Fly tipping is a major issue, stressed that incidences should be reported with as much details as possible to allow action to be enforced.
- 7) DH/RK to report underpass lights once again to National Highway Authority.
- 8) Police budget to be increased by 2%. Although there is no reduction streamlining is to be implemented. GG query Thetford police station status RK/IA comment on poor service/availability.

- 9) JNP – RK discussed involvement of NCC with development of Plan, IM in favour and to investigate further.
- 10) IM queried current status of Thetford Bus Interchange and completion, Councillors provided information/experience available.

2 BDC Update

- 1) RC provided current update on Breckland Council matters, the main item currently being the run up to forthcoming elections
He noted that CPC had not yet received satisfactory feedback from M. Pendlebury regarding Planning complaints.

3 GTDP – RK circulated latest information to the councillors including:

- 1) Action to date
- 2) Answers sheet to questions raised at last Meeting
- 3) Proposed 'Board Model'
- 4) Future Meeting date(s) TBA

4 Joint Neighbourhood Plan

Closing date for questionnaires 17th April 2015. Croxton are hoping for at least a 20% return. Discussion took place regarding the possibilities of the 'power' of a neighbourhood plan in view of recent problems experienced by Cringleford and Mattishall Plans.

5 Aircraft noise

BB explained the new flight path trials which had been carried out as discussed between CPC and Sqd. Ldr Nield. All Councillors generally agreed that there was a considerable reduction in noise levels and it was a successful outcome. It was noted that there was one reported complaint from a Croxton resident
Councillors accepted that aircraft noise **cannot be 100%** eliminated.

6. BDC Planning Issue

New problem has been reported by resident, who is in correspondence with Bennett Homes as there is flooding of the resident's soakaway/ septic tank. CPC agreed to obtain copy documents for raising with BC.

7. Travellers

A resident reported to RK that Travellers were seen entering route 62. GG advised this was unlikely and he had no sightings.

The Forestry Commission had advised CPC the Travellers are currently no longer in Croxton, and are now in the dedicated compound on the A11 Thetford bypass

DS/IM to write a letter to Forestry commission requesting timetable for clearing up of mess left in the woods and the pingo.

Councillors discussed the implications and difficulties of prosecuting, enforcing and responsibilities for action in these matters.

8. CPC Website

Parish Council website actioned and available at:

www.croxtonpc.norfolkparishes.gov.uk

9. Council Elections

It was clarified that the cost to CPC will be £75 due to it being an uncontested election. Due to 7th May Elections, the Annual Parish Council Meeting will be held on 30th April. Parish Council Meeting dates for 2015 - 2016 will be determined at the next full PC meeting in May, after the election results.

10. Academy visit

Two visit dates have been confirmed, being 22 April and 20 May. The May date has 4 places available.

11. Street Lighting

DH researching alternative tariff's from providers.

12. Speedwatch Proposal

Speed watch –The Chairman had contacted Janet Overten (Police) who provided following information:

Requires 6 volunteers (two teams)

Volunteers will be provided with relevant training

Police will carry out risk assessment, provide equipment, and relevant insurance etc.

RK arranged to receive 10 booklets, agreed CPC to 'sponsor'.

Councillors felt that they are fully committed with preparation of JNP the resident who raised speeding concern should be approached to organise same, if agreeable. Resident recruitment is the best way forward. RK agreed to approach the resident concerned.

13. MOD Planned visit

Arranged for 10th June 2015 at 5pm.

Charge is £10 per person to cover costs and donation to the Army Benevolent Fund.

36 places booked to date with a further 13 places still available.

14. Vodafone Service

DS actioned awaiting installation dates.

Planning

TRE/2015/0042/TCA 3 Earl Warren Tree felling

New Business

Play area maintenance required. Arranged to lay new mats on 8th May 2015. Turf to goalpost area to follow at later date to be agreed.

Finance

Unaudited Summary to 31 March tabled and discussed at Meeting.

AOB

The Meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Date of next meeting (Annual Parish Council Meeting) – 30th April 2015 at 7.30pm

Signed: 

Date:14/05/2015.....