

CROXTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held in the Village Hall at 7.30pm Thursday 12th November 2015

Present:	Robert King	RK	Chairman
	Ivor Andrew	IA	Vice Chair
	Gerald Goucher	GG	Councillor
	Doug Stephen	DS	Councillor
	Ian Monson	IM	Norfolk County Council
	Danielle Harris	DH	Parish Clerk
	Residents		Mr & Mrs White

Apologies: Apologies were received from Cllr William Nunn, Breckland Council, and CP Cllr C. Carr

Declaration of interests:

No declarations of interests were recorded.

Minutes of the previous meeting:

The minutes of the previous meeting held on Thursday 8th October having been circulated, were read and agreed as accurate. These were proposed by IA, seconded by GG and signed by the Chairman.

Matters arising:

1. NCC Update:

Councillor Monson provided update following Item 4 upon his arrival as follows:

NCC in dire situation trying to prepare their Budget/Expenditure figures for coming year which is proving difficult with further cuts demanded by Govt.

Some contentious cost cutting issues being considered include:

Closing of Libraries

Reducing Recycling Centres (tips) and/or hours of operation

Selling off 'surplus' Fire Engines/equipment

NCC have launched "Re-imagining Norfolk" with public consultation on their website, and ask for all constructive comments possible.

The Norwich Redistribution Route which has taken around 15 years to finalise, has been approved but with issues still outstanding.

IM advised that Devolution is being reviewed (Norfolk/Suffolk) with possible Govt. Funding to the partnership related to LEP (Local Enterprise Partnership) and NHS

money for some 16 boroughs also possibly being channelled through a partnership. The idea would be for 'ring-fenced funding' under devolved partnerships. The general feeling at the meeting was that such Devolution was unlikely to take place.

Highways/Roads. Nothing to update. It was clarified that the slip roads and underpass lighting on the A11 Thetford bypass is the responsibility of the National Highways Authority and not NCC.

The CPC request for a village Traffic survey was again raised and IM agreed to continue to press this request although he had been informed this would be carried out (by Highways) as a matter of form in about 18-24 months. CPC were specific that it was a current Village Survey being requested and not a National Survey. CPC feel this survey is necessary to compare with earlier Independent Survey and is likely to be of use in preparation of Neighbourhood Plan.

2. BDC Update:

No Breckland Council update available (see Apologies above)

3. GTDP:

The Draft Minutes from Meeting held on 2nd October and Draft proposed Communities Sub-Group had been circulated to CP Councillors (for information).

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for 2nd December.

RK clarified that Sub-Group proposed representation was not acceptable and further discussions were to be arranged to discuss changes required.

The Board is currently in process of looking to appoint an independent Chairperson; meantime Anna Graves is Acting Chair.

A formal press release will be issued shortly to clarify the procedural process relating to Meetings and public access to information and outcomes from these meetings.

RK also stressed the necessity of equal representation so there is not a monopoly by any one group particularly considering the Parishes are most impacted by the future development.

IM stated that there was considerable disappointment by Trustees of the Charles Burrell Museum at not being granted funding from the MTF Board before its closure.

RK said his understanding was that alternative funding was being actively sourced by BC.

RK also clarified that the residual £400k from MTF was to be used to 'kick start' the attraction of funding for the TEP (Thetford Enterprise Park) which has been stalled for a number of years now, and the GTDP Board felt attraction of investment/employment is imperative for future growth in the whole area.

4. Joint Neighbourhood Plan:

Results of questionnaire and comments analyses are now almost complete and will be distributed to councillors by email for review. The analyses will thereafter be posted on the CPC website for public viewing.

Next stage(s) were outlined as forming group or groups to prepare the draft Plan, including input from 'partners/experts' such as Highways, Medical, Business, others as

felt necessary. Initially RK plans to liaise with BC NP officer (Sarah Robertson) to co-ordinate next steps.

IA and GG expressed concerns relating to collaboration and boundary issues and RK was tasked with obtaining VH availability for setting up meetings to discuss.

5. BDC Planning Issues.

M.Brennan (BC Planning) contacted RK to obtain information on what CPC issues are as he only received request from SC-A to attend CPC Meeting to discuss complaint issues and had been unable to get responses from SC-A to his emails. RK agreed to send documents related to complaint(s) so that M. Brennan and Simon Wood (Capita) could attend CPC January 14th Meeting fully informed of issues.

6. Highways Traffic Survey (Village)

See also comments under IM (NCC) update Item 1 above.

7. Vodafone Services:

The official launch is scheduled for 20th November.

Vodafone are sending invitations to Liz Truss MP Environment Minister, IM (NCC), CP Councillors, and others, plus arranged for press coverage.

8. EPR Power Station:

Minutes of Liaison Meeting held on 6th October were circulated to CP Councillors for information.

9. MOD

Large military convoy accessing MOD Stanta through Croxton Village.

RK visited West Tofts and personally delivered letter of concern to Major Tim McMullen who promised a written response.

10. Play Equipment

It was noted on Bonfire Night that on step on Beauchamp Play Unit needed repair. Agreed equipment should be monitored more frequently.

Finance:

1	Finance (2 nd November 2015 statement):	Current a/c:	£ 3171.35
		Business a/c	£ 5980.51
2	Outgoings since last Meeting:		£ 1453.51
3.	Vat reclaimed:		£ 792.54

Planning:

No new planning applications as of 12th November

Correspondence:

Refer to correspondence from 8th October to current date.
MOD activity lists (latest) circulated, and posted on notice board.
Broxap catalogue – Recycling/Litter Bins

AOB:

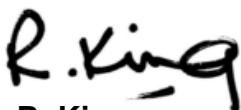
G Goucher – Possible Church damage from increased traffic. Diocese Architect inconclusive.
Discussion regarding type of ‘artillery’ used in MOD exercises.

Speedwatch report they now have 9 members. More than 11 offenders per month. Police are carrying out separate independent speed checks.

Meeting closed at 9pm

Date of next Meeting – Thursday 14 January 2016 at 7.30 in Village Hall

Minutes agreed at Meeting of 14th January 2016



R. King
Chairman

Date: 14th January 2016