

CROXTON PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting
Held in the Village Hall on Thursday 12th May 2016 at 7.30pm.**

Present:	R King	RK	Chairman
	I Andrew	IA	Vice Chairman
	D Stephen	DS	Councillor
	G Goucher	GG	Councillor
	C Carr	CC	Councillor
	S Chapman-Allen	SCA	BDC
	I Monson	IM	NCC
	D Harris	DH	Parish Clerk
	Mr. A Cruse	Brettenham & Kilverstone resident	

Apologies:	Tony Yates	Internal Auditor
	Tony Poulter	B&K Chairman
	Andrea Long	BDC/JNP
	William Nunn	BDC

Declarations of interest:

There were none declared at this time.

Minutes of the Previous Meeting:

Minutes of the previous Annual Meeting held on Thursday 14th April 2015 were read and approved as accurate. These were proposed by IA seconded by DS and signed by RK.

County Council & District Council Reports:

• Norfolk County Council Report –

From Councillor Ian Monson (Full Report to follow)

Year so far has been difficult overall at Norfolk County Council due to reduced staff and revenue, cuts to services such including Fire, Library and Recycling Centres.

There has however been improvement in Child Care Services with additional funding.

Further debate continues as to benefits or otherwise of Academy vs. current Schools arrangement due to uncertainty in the long term.

There has been political change at County Hall which will have impact yet to be clarified.

Recycling and Waste Management has been under discussion as Norfolk exports over 70% of waste to Ipswich which is not an ideal long term solution. Councillor Monson briefly touched upon the North Norwich road hub project construction which is causing disruption to traffic and the travelling public

Norfolk County council is also looking to bring more broadband to rural areas of the county.

In response to a question, it was clarified that be verge cutting throughout the county will be carried out twice per year.

A copy of Councillor Monson's Report is to be attached to these Minutes when received.

GG asked about the enquiry into alleged mismanagement of county funds related to county farms, Councillor Monson confirmed this is now a police investigation.

- **Breckland District Council Report –**

- **From Councillor Sam Chapman-Allen (full report available)**

Councillor Chapman- Allen began by updating the Parish Council that Breckland still has the lowest rate of council tax.

He reported that the Riverside Project in Thetford (old Anchor Hotel site) is progressing on schedule and will be completed later this year, possibly by Christmas 2016 (tbc).

Breckland Council is working to improve connectivity and broadband services throughout the region mainly rural locations, with a target of 98%.

The "Transforming Breckland" magazine has been redesigned and provides some new services.

The Council switchboard/answering interface with the public has also been 'upgraded' for faster and more effective interface with the public.

A copy of Councillor Chapman-Allen's Report is attached to these Minutes.

Report from Outgoing Parish Council Chairman

- The Chairman's Report, having been already circulated to Councillors, was accepted and attached to these Minutes

Presentation of the annual accounts

A Summary of Accounts to 31st March 2015 (**unaudited**) was presented at the Meeting by the Responsible Financial Officer.

The Accounts were accepted (subject to audit by the Internal Auditor (Mr.T.Yates) and to be approved at the next PC Meeting.

Election of Officers

- **Chairman:**
R. King was proposed as Chairman by D. Stephen, seconded by Mrs. C. Carr and by unanimous vote.
- **Vice Chairman**
I. Andrew was proposed as Chairman by R. King, seconded by D. Stephen and by unanimous vote
- Council officers – Gerald Goucher, Doug Stephen and Christine Carr.
- Internal Auditor: Tony Yates
- Clerk and RFO: Danielle Harris

Matters Arising:

1. Council Representatives to Village Hall Management Committee:

Doug Stephen and Ivor Andrew agreed to continue as the PC representatives.

2. Planning Issues:

- Long standing issue with Breckland Council (drainage between High Meadows and Bennett Homes) now passed to Norfolk County Council to investigate and advise. Ian Monson agreed to follow up.
- Conservation Area queries concerning alterations at 40 The Street to be pursued with NCC Highways.
- 3PL/2016/0044/F Hill Farm – Planning Consent
3PL/2016/0045/LB Hill Farm – Planning Consent) Croxton Parish Council to approach resident to discuss possibility of replacing corrugated carport roof with pantiles.

3. GTDP:

- Meeting held and up to date report reviewed.
Independent Chair to be appointed on 18th/19th May 2016

4. Highway Issues:

- Traffic survey ongoing David Jacklin (Highways) awaiting results to forward to CPC.
- Area in The Street adjacent to Earl Warren is possibly still subsiding CPC to monitor and report to Highways

5. JNP/Funding:

- Awaiting scoping document from Breckland Council when they have all responses from Environmental Agency, Historic England, and Natural England.
- RK highlighted that Breckland Match Funding is only available for one project per annum and we should conserve the option for the JNP requirement.

6. Defibrillator/First aid courses:

- Two separate groups of councilors had been able to review two different defibrillator projects in operation.
- After discussion it was decided to a) proceed with providing a defibrillator unit for Croxton village and seek necessary funding for this. As noted in item 5 above we would not seek funding under Breckland Match Funding scheme.
- It was also decided to arrange First Aid training course(s) in parallel but separate from providing a defibrillator, as basic first aid training would be equally as important to Croxton as the provision of a defibrillator.
- Although not decided at this stage it was agreed that the general recommendation to locate a defibrillator where greatest concentration of people gather seemed most sensible (e.g. possibly village hall).

7. Other Matters:

- Councillors expressed concern on the poor condition of slip roads to A11 bypass from Croxton Road. NCC Highways are aware of the situation: NCC Councillor Monson to chase on Croxton Parish Council's behalf.

8. Finance:

- . 1st May statement: Current a/c £ 6259.19
(Including JNP/Locality Funding £ 3254.00)
- Business a/c £ 8444.14
- Outgoings since last statement £ 181.14

9. Planning Applications:

- 3PL/2016/0044/F Hill Farm – Planning Consent
- 3PL/2016/0045/LB Hill Farm – Planning Consent

10. Correspondence:

- Refer to correspondence from 14 April to current date, plus:
- AON Insurance renewal - Councillor's re-examined insurance discussing the itemized cover and whether the PC should opt for the yearly plan or the three year plan with 5% premium discount. All agreed upon the 3year plan.
- UK Power Network – Inventory of Unmetered Supplies confirmed.
- Annual Inspection of Play Area Facilities – Council reviewed requirement and all agreed to instruct David Bracey to carry out 2016/17 inspection.

11. AOB:

- BT Telephone Kiosk in Croxton village. Council discussed and agreed to proceed with Adoption of the phone box located adjacent to No. 33 The Street.
- Travellers problem at Filling Station on A11 bypass – S-CA confirmed it has become a major issue and Breckland are working with a “multi-agency taskforce” to resolve the problem.
- Vodafone - Council agreed that overall this has become a disappointing situation with lack of communication and progress. DS has written to Vodafone and Elizabeth Truss with no response to date, leaving the village with a poor signal zone in the centre. DS will advise further developments. .

R King
Chairman



12. Dates proposed for future meetings:

2016

Thursday 9th June 2016.
Thursday 14th July 2016.
Thursday 11th August 2016
Thursday 8th September 2016.
Thursday 13th October 2016.
Thursday 10th November 2016

2017

Thursday 12th January 2017.
Thursday 9th February 2017.
Thursday 9th March 2017.
Thursday 13th April 2017.
Thursday 11th May 2017 **Annual Parish Council Meeting**

The Annual Parish Council Meeting closed at: **8.50pm**

Date of next meeting - Thursday 9th June 2016 at 7.30pm in Village Hall.