

CROXTON PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting held in the Village Hall at 7.30pm Thursday 14th January 2016

Present:	Robert King	RK	Chairman
	Ivor Andrew	IA	Vice Chair
	Christine Carr	CC	Councillor
	Gerald Goucher	GG	Councillor
	Doug Stephen	DS	Councillor
	William Nunn	WN	District Councillor
	Sam Chapman-Allen	SC-A	District Councillor
	Mike Brennan		Breckland Operations and Contract Manager (Planning Services)
	Simon Wood		Regional Planning and Building Control Manager (Capita)
	Danielle Harris	DH	Parish Clerk
Residents		Mr & Mrs White	

Apologies: Post meeting apologies were received from Cllr Ian Monson due to weather conditions (Snow/visibility).

Declaration of interests:

No declarations of interest were recorded.

Minutes of the previous meeting:

The minutes of the previous meeting held on Thursday 12th November 2015 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:

No update due to absence of Councillor Monson .

2. BDC Update:

Breckland councillors confirmed that revised Local Plan has been issued for 6 week consultation (documents received and currently in circulation to CP councillors). They also highlighted a list of public 'drop-in sessions' planned throughout district, plus a specific session for Town and Parish Councils being held at Dereham offices on 18th January.

3. BDC Planning Issues.

M. Brennan introduced himself and Simon Wood to the Meeting, then handed over to Simon Wood for an update on this matter.

The Chairman stopped Mr Wood after a short time as he was suggesting a meeting to bring himself up to date on the previous history. The Chairman highlighted that relevant information had already recently been provided as requested by M. Brennan and this, together with Breckland records was more than sufficient to understand all concerns raised, particularly in view of how long the matter had been dragging on (min of 2 years) with answers promised for last one year.

The Council expressed complete dissatisfaction with what was in effect a complete waste of Council time, as the understanding was that responses to outstanding issues would be brought to this meeting. This position was supported by the District councillors present and it was agreed to arrange a meeting at Dereham offices to provide answers and responses to the issues raised. District Councillors to be copied on all documents and meeting dates.

M. Brennan and S. Wood then left the Meeting.

4. GTDP:

The Draft Minutes from Meeting held on 2nd December will be circulated when these become available

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for 15th February 2016.

Currently approximately £1million has been realised toward the £6 million required for infrastructure plans. This £1 million includes the £450k carried over from the previous MTF group. The Board are eager to 'kick start' the TEP (Thetford Enterprise Park) which is seen as crucial to promoting employment to the area.

Discussion took place regarding the 3 Sub Groups to be setup namely;

- Inward Investment Funding

- Projects/Planning

- Communities

Possible Parish representation on the second and third Sub Group was discussed as it is felt these should not be the same Board representatives. Councillors Andrew and Stephen expressed interest in representing Croxton when formation of these Sub Groups was developed.

5. Joint Neighbourhood Plan:

Results of questionnaire and comments analyses have been completed, circulated to councillors, copied to Breckland officer (Sarah Robinson) and posted on the Parish websites for public viewing.

RK agreed to contact a possible 'external specialist' for assistance and confirm this is set up within the coming week. It was agreed that an initial rough draft would be most useful.

Funding for the JNP, including specialist help cost was discussed and IA agreed to work with a B&K councillor (tba) towards obtaining funding. RK passed a list of possible cost items to IA for consideration when seeking funding. Funding sources include Locality, and Breckland Match Funding. RK provided IA with some information on Locality funding, forms etc. It was also noted that Locality funding seems to be awarded on a 6 monthly basis.

It was agreed that councillors who wish to draft their comments/thinking from the analyses should feel free to do so as all would be reviewed for inclusion into final draft. RK was tasked with obtaining VH availability for setting up meetings for JNP development meetings/discussion.

RK to progress specialist help and try to have a broad plan/timetable by next CPC Meeting in February.

6. Highways Matters (Village Traffic Survey – Surface Water)

No progress on Traffic Survey – IM not at Meeting.

It was suggested we might seek funding to carry out the survey. To be investigated.

GG raised issue of surface water drainage running to bottom of village and flooding at road junction with Wretham Road (Wyres Belt). The concern is that although houses built in the village has increased by 3 or 4 times in the last 30-40 years, the facility for surface water drainage has not changed. In view of recent widespread rainfall/flooding and as there is now a sewage pumping station at this location the situation needs to be investigated. It was agreed to request Highways to look into this.

It was noted that the area of subsidence in The Street adjacent to Earl Warren has been temporarily patched. To be monitored for any further subsidence.

7. Street Lighting

All 3 light have been repaired. Concern related to LED units unfounded as faults were a) fuse, b) a lamp, and, c) UK Network supply fault. Two reports to RK, from village resident on this subject

8. MOD

A letter of apology from Major Tim McMullen has been received and circulated to councillors. This relates to the unacceptable use of Croxton village as access to the MOD Stanta area during recent joint British/French exercises.

9. NORSE Contract

Contractor for Playing Field Maintenance has notified that charge for 2016 will remain unchanged.

10. Police/Council Tax

Norfolk Constabulary proposal to increase Police element of council tax by 2% was circulated prior to Meeting, for individual/CPC response.

WN expressed the view that this would not be of any appreciable benefit to communities. He also highlighted that NCC were reviewing the possibility of increasing County element of council tax by 4% which would have a greater impact than the police proposed increase.

Councillors to comment individually on proposals, to NCC and Norfolk Constabulary.

GG raised concern at change proposed to Firearms Licence Inspection controls. WN clarified that Firearms Inspections would still be carried out for new applications.

11. Other Matters

- **Breckland Local Plan – Consultation Documents**

A set of relevant documents has been received and is currently in circulation around councillors. The consultation period ends on **22 February** and councillors are urged to individually make comments using the Breckland online consultation system, in addition to deciding on CPC comments at the next CPC Meeting on 11 February.

- **Litter Pick**

It was agreed to arrange a Litter Pick session for Saturday 9th April, and request resident L Sayers to organise equipment etc. from Breckland. Also to be advertised in FEB/MARCH Newsletter

- **Defibrillator(s)**

A resident has requested CPC provide defibrillator(s) in Croxton village. WN informed meeting that they have one in North Lopham which cost around £1100 + £150 p.a. four year contract for maintenance. These units have around a 7 year life apparently. It was agreed to raise this via the Newsletter for resident's response and investigate equipment costs, training requirements, and other relevant information for next meeting.

- **Croxton Road Residents Association**

The Minutes of meetings are being copied to CPC councillors for information. The Residents Association is one of a number of community groups operating in Thetford.

RK and IA have attended most of the meetings of this group and offered advice where requested. The meetings are attended by other Thetford Town councillors with various representations in capacities of Town, District, and County.

Finance:

1	Finance (2 nd January 2016 statement):	Current a/c:	£ 3558.99
		Business a/c	£ 5985.01
2	Outgoings since last Meeting:		£ 589.74
3	Budget to be provided at next Meeting		

Planning:

No new planning applications as of 13th January 2016

Correspondence:

Refer to correspondence from 12th November to current date.
MOD activity lists (latest) circulated, and posted on notice board.
Norse Grounds Maintenance letter regarding Annual Charges
Norfolk Age (UK) Agreed to pass this to Cynthia Della Hoy Trust.

AOB:

No other business was raised.

Meeting closed at 9.03 pm

Date of next Meeting – Thursday 11 February 2016 at 7.30 in Village Hall

Minutes agreed at Meeting of 11th February 2016

R. King
Chairman

Date: 11th February 2016