

CROXTON PARISH COUNCIL

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

Present:	R King	RK	Chairman
	I Andrews	IA	Vice Chairman
	D Stephen	DS	Councillor
	G Goucher	GG	Councillor
	C Carr	CC	Councillor
	S Chapman Allen	SCA	BD Councillor
	Diana Goucher		Taking Minutes

Apologies: Apologies were **received** from Mr and Mrs P White.

Declaration of interest: No declarations of interest were received.

Minutes of the previous meeting:

Minutes of the previous meeting held on 9th June 2016 had been circulated agreed as accurate. Proposed by IA, Seconded by DS, and signed by the Chairman

Matters arising:

- **Norfolk County Council Report-**

Devolution - NCC apparently feel that a 3rd level of 'government' is not necessary but have deferred a decision by requesting consultation feedback from samples of 400 residents by area and if the result is favourable this may influence their final decision.

- **Breckland District Council Report-**

Travellers Site abuse (at Petrol Station on A11 Thetford bypass) – SC-A reported that 3 meetings have been held with the Stake Holders and other bodies and there should be a decision by the end of September.

SC-A reiterated that BDC have voted against Devolution - therefore there will be no consultation.

SC-A reported on the **Local Plan Working Groups**. IA said he had attended the meeting of 11 July which listed Croxton among the 'remove settlement boundary' category proposed. SC-A drew attention to the 5 criteria needed to 'keep a settlement boundary.' IA and RK both highlighted the inaccuracy of information relating to Croxton and IA had already expressed his view to the Working Group, that the PC was being asked to comment and make decisions on inaccurate facts which would affect the village in the future.

RK requested to know what the advantages and disadvantages are of keeping or removing the settlement boundary. SC-A agreed he would investigate more and get back to RK. He also explained that the document was only a working one and had to go to consultation with BDC. The PC recorded 'We are concerned about taking advice from a body we are not comfortable with, and clarification requested arising from the Agenda of meeting on 11th July is being sought. Therefore any recommendation about removing our Settlement Boundary is in abeyance.'

SC-A reported it was now felt that the SUE will only be able to deliver 3629 houses by the year 2036 houses out of the 5000 expected.

Also villages around Thetford will be asked to deliver 150 homes by 2036.
SC-A then left the meeting.

- **Planning/Drainage Issues:**
High Meadows – RK still waiting for a response from NCC. Activity today outside the property might indicate the problem is being addressed.
Hill Farm- RK spoke to occupant regarding corrugated iron roof on carport. Occupant is unwilling to go back to the planners – because of time element, cost of re-submitting revised plan, and from earlier difficulties experienced with the Historic Buildings issues.
- **GTDP:**
Draft minutes of 24th June circulated to Parish Councils. Community Sub-group now established and an introductory meeting set for 28th July.
- **Highway Issues:**
RK reported the numerous white marks on village roads and pavements indicating areas targeted by Highways for repairs.
CC asked about verge cutting. Highways advised there have been budget cuts next verge trimming is scheduled for autumn – probably August.
- **JNP Update:**
Still awaiting Breckland decision on whether an SEA (Strategic Environment Assessment) will be required. A draft of 'Living in Croxton' has been circulated to Councillors – more information regarding conservation, history, and habitat are needed, GG, RK to provide. IA and RK have produced a Character Survey Assessment of village which councillors may add to if they have further contributions/information.
- **Defibrillator Project:**
Funding has been secured for £800 and a decision on application for £1500 to Cynthia Della Hoy Croxton Trust will be advised on August 1st. If successful RK recommended the Council go ahead and any shortfall could be found.
- **Slip Road at A11 Bypass:** Still awaiting action. RK following up.
- **Play Area Repairs:**
Fenland Playgrounds quotation of £665.11 was agreed. RK to obtain date for work to be carried out
- **Other Matters:**
- Vodafone – nothing to report. DS following up.

● Finance:		
Statement to 2 nd July 2016	Current a/c	£ 5704.45
(incl. JNP Funding £ 3254.00)	£ 2369.00)	
	Business a/c	£ 8831.31
Outgoings since last statement		£ 1503.89

Year end accounts have been audited by Internal Auditor and sent to Mazars (External Auditor).

- **Planning:**
Loudoun – The conifer now felled
- **Correspondence:**
Parish Partnership Scheme funding is now available to Parish Councils
Rent to Crown paid and contribution received from Village Hall.
MOD activities programme received.
- **NEW BUSINESS:**
Local Plan - see BDC report above relating to Local Plan Work Group related to removal of Settlement Boundaries.
More land has been brought forward by landowner since initial consultation on Emerging Local Plan i.e. Crown land in village.
Next Public Consultation will take place in September this year.
- **AOB**
DS proposed Council send all good wishes to our Clerk for a speedy recovery.
DS raised subject of pathways and questioned possibility of pathway between the A11 underpass and Croxton Village.
RK felt residents questionnaire responses had indicated they were not in favour of this type of link to Thetford. IA suggested a 40mph speed limit between Croxton and Thetford should be a first priority while CC stated that from results of Speedwatch it was already hard to enforce 30mph in the Village!
This issue needs to be addressed within the JNP and RK felt it would need to be re-addressed more fully with residents.

Meeting closed at 9.00pm

Date of next Meeting – Thursday 11th August 2016 at 7.30pm in Village Hall


R. King
Chairman