

## MINUTES OF CROXTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Held in Croxton Village Hall on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2023

### 1. Attendance

The following were present:

<b>Paul Dauny</b>	<b>PD</b>	<b>Chairman</b>
<b>Andy Poore</b>	<b>AP</b>	<b>Vice Chairman</b>
<b>Carrie Goucher</b>	<b>CG</b>	<b>Councillor</b>
<b>Dave Vick</b>	<b>DV</b>	<b>Councillor</b>
<b>Romy Dawson</b>	<b>RD</b>	<b>Clerk/RFO</b>

**Also in attendance:** Mr Simon Woods (Breckland Director of Planning)

Apologies had been received from Councillor Grist.

### 2. Any Declarations of Interest There were none.

3. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> September 2023.** These had been circulated previously, were agreed and approved. Councillor Dauny proposed and Councillor Poore seconded the approval of minutes of the meeting which was agreed unanimously. These were then signed by the Chairman.

**RESOLVED:** The minutes be approved.

### 4. Matters Arising

- i. **Norfolk County Council** Councillor Eagle not present.
- ii. **Breckland District Council** Councillor Chapman-Allen was not present
- iii. **GTP** The meeting having been cancelled there was no update.
- iv. **Playground** No further update.
- v. **EV charging point** No further update, however, Chairman to email Councillor Chapman-Allen requested materials.

### 5. Planning

- a. There were no planning issues.

#### **b. Local Plan**

Mr Woods had been invited to inform and update the PC on the Local Plan. The following was reported: Local plan is being updated and has been extended by 5 years to 2026 to give additional accommodation and employment. A call for sites has been made a couple of times and all sites will be considered. It is not a planning application and there is no guarantee that those sites will be successful. The process involves doing a high level assessment, which has been now done. This include doing a housing requirement assessment with evidence based on what the housing needs are and split into housing for veterans, affordable etc. and gives an understanding what the economic and requirements and where those demands are and the levels of those, which will feed into draft local plan. A series of cabinet papers have been published on Monday morning and these can be viewed on the website. The papers have gone to the cabinet to go out on consultation as part of a series of consultations and how to go about allocating residential housing in the district. The needs assessment and the numbers from government indicate about 661 dwellings per year. Rules are applied regarding allocation, small sites and

windfall allocation; they are looking at around 400,000 additional houses. Different sites will be considered and allocated as required. The cabinet paper looks at whether there should be settlement boundaries around the smaller villages etc. and looks at the methodology about what is and isn't a local service centre.

The consultation starts on 10 December for about 8 weeks. A virtual workshop being held on 13<sup>th</sup> December to explain to PCs what is happening, pcs to be invited to discuss topics and invite views. Then first draft plan (red lines around sites) taking into account consultations etc. Full publication of the high level assessment will be in the new year. Breckland website shows all the papers, maps etc. so far. A sample assessment has been done and will be published in full once the exercise starts. Part of the land affecting Croxton would be for employment. Croxton has a very defensible boundary and the need is seen to try and maintain that Opportunities possibly in Snetterton, Watton and other areas, not just Croxton. All this will be set up in the technical assessment which can be viewed as necessary and can be corrected.

To finalise, clarification was given on some subject as per below:

- Call for sites: normally provided by landowners in order to be sure that the site is deliverable. Sites cannot just be allocated or suggested by everybody. Landowners have to fully be informed and engaged.
- Sites have to be considered on their merits, and A11 area is not ideal however, all planning applications do have to considered. More suitable sites are available
- Forest extension work is taking place, cycle paths are being built.
- PCs will receive updates but PCs will be encouraged to write in and comment.; all comments/views from PCs and local population will be collated and considered.

Link to be sent to PC to all the cabinet papers which are now on the website. It will be streamed on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November. Mr Woods then left the meeting.

Councillor Goucher then reported that BFWN (which stands for Breckland Farmers Wildlife Network) had been set up . A website has been created if anyone is interested in looking at it . The aim is to promote a better environment for wildlife by putting in cultivated margins round the edges of our fields which are rich in various plants and invertebrates. They have also been selected for a two year DEFRA project to look into Landscape Recovery which the government is actively promoting . This will look at several aspects of nature conservation and how it aligns with food production.

c. **JNP**

The JNP was discussed at length; the possibility of a sole Neighbourhood Plan was discussed, however, it was agreed that aspects of the plan would have to be changed or removed, though probably nothing added. Councillor Vick then confirmed that he had gone onto Parish Online to check the boundary, which had been amended.

## 6. Finance

### a. Financial Report: Statement up to 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2023

<b>Savings Account</b>	Balance at last meeting		<b>£10,926.27</b>	
<b>Incoming</b>	Quarterly Interest		£74.21	
			new Balance	<b>£11,000.48</b>
<b>Current Account</b>				<b>£9,966.30</b>
<b>Outgoings</b>	30/09/2023	Unity Trust Quarterly Fee	£18.00	
	07/10/2023	CGM Invoice 250563	£75.00	
	18/10/2023	Npower Invoice IN08555945	£131.11	
	07/10/2023	URM Recycling Glass	£10.37	
	07/10/2023	Clerk Remuneration (Jul-Sep 23)	£208.00	
	07/10/2023	HMRC - Clerk Income Tax	£52.00	
	07/10/2023	Clerk office expenses Jul-Sep 23	£13.00	
	07/10/2023	Clerk refund Norton Antivirus 50-50 with B&K	£49.99	
	04/11/2023	TT Jones Electrical Oct-Dec Maintenance	£41.56	
	18/11/2023	Npower (formerly Eon)	£153.62	
	18/11/2023	Refund to Chairman for gift to outgoing internal auditor	£22.00	
	20/11/2023	Geofere (Parish Online) Mapping	£36.00	
		<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>£810.65</b>	
			<b>Subtotal</b>	£9,155.65
<b>Income</b>				
	29/9/2023	Precept	£3,422.00	
				<b>£3,422.00</b>
			<b>Total Current</b>	<b>£12,577.65</b>
	21/09/2023	Total in both Accounts		<b>£23,578.13</b>

- b. Budget** The budget had been circulated and discussed; final to be approved at the next meeting. Clerk to send out invoices for advertisements in the newsletter.
- c. Village Hall Rent** The PC was then informed that the rent of the Village Hall still had not been received.
- d. Precept** Based on the budget the precept was discussed. The Chairman then proposed to raise the precept by 5%, seconded by Councillor Poore. This was then agreed unanimously.

**RESOLVED:** To raise current precept by 5% to £7186.

## 7. Correspondence

There was no further correspondence.

## 8. AOB

- a. Updating the Noticeboards was discussed and it was agreed that Councillor Vick would update regularly with the bi-monthly agenda and the most recent approved minutes as well as draft minutes. Clerk to send him approved minutes as well as draft minutes and include Councillor Kybird as per his request.

- b. 30mph Bin Stickers were discussed to be made available to the home owners who put their bins out on the high street. Two stickers per bin and a maximum of 6 stickers per household. The stickers will be advertised on Facebook and the newsletter.
- c. Carol Service taking place on 17<sup>th</sup> December at 5.30pm and Holy Communion in the Church at 10pm on Christmas Eve.
- d. The Chairman on behalf of the PC also wished Councillor Grist a speedy recovery.

The next meeting to take place on 18<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

There being no other business, the meeting closed at 20.40hrs.

Minutes agreed:

P Dauny  
Chairman

Date: