

PARISH OF CROXTON
(South Cambridgeshire District)
Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday 11th June 2014 at 7.30pm

**Members of the PC In attendance – Cllr Spencer (Chair), Cllr Green, Cllr Tomlinson, Cllr Farrugia
, Cllr Swannell, 3 members of the public**

MINUTES

1. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest

Apologies received from Mandy Smith

2. To approve the minutes of the last meetings on 19th March 2014

Approved Cllr Green, seconded Cllr Tomlinson

**3. Comments and observations from members of the public and District & County
Councillors' reports.**

Cllr Lyones, mentioned the numerous thefts from out-buildings within the locale and one distraction theft. Also made the PC aware that the green bins would in future only be collected between March & October. We were advised to check.... from the web site below:

Through the winter months of December, January and February, only, when there is far less compostable waste put out for collection, your green bins will be moving to a monthly collection.

For the remainder of the year (March to November) your green bins will continue to be collected fortnightly and crews will be working longer days throughout the summer when there is more garden waste to collect.

All bin collection routes (green, blue and black) are also being adjusted in order to achieve further efficiencies and therefore reduce costs. This might mean your bins (green, black and blue) are collected either earlier or later in the day – particularly your green bin during the summer months, when there is more garden waste to collect.

We are working to ensure that there are no changes to your collection days. However, if some collection day changes are unavoidable for a small number of households, we will contact all of these households directly

Trees

The Tree officer for SCDC was called out to the High Street because of some 'illegal' work. This issue raised concerns about what we could and could not do in a conservation zone, Chairman wrote to Ian.lorman@scambs.gov.uk for a response.

Response thus:

Dear Mr Spencer,

I fully appreciate how inconvenient it can be to make applications for tree work in a Conservation Area, especially for minor works to fruit trees. I process around 600 applications per year.

The law for trees in Conservation Areas requires applications for work to any individual tree that has a trunk diameter of 75mm or larger when measured at breast height (1.3 metres). This increases to 100mm if the work is to benefit other trees within a group. Exceptions include dead or dangerous trees (they require a 5 day notification) and the removal of dead branches that requires no consent at all. Fruit trees are not exempt from this unless they are cultivated for fruit in a commercial orchard.

There is however, some discretion that can be exercised. For instance, I would have no issue with fruit tree pruning using secateurs and other small hand tools in order to improve fruiting yield, which could be carried out without an application.

The PC requested works to be carried out on the trees within the verge to the north west of the High Street. (The works have now been undertaken.)

A428

Documentation was received regarding propose route for Caxton Gibbet to Black Cat link. http://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/info/20006/travel_roads_and_parking/66/transport_plans_and_policies/5

The proposed route, at its closest, runs 150m north of the end of Abbotsley Road and appears to follow the lowest contour of the slope up to Toesland. Cllr Lyones commented that he had made it clear that any further house building would not be considered until the A428 had been widened.

It was made clear in discussion with former Charirman Steve Ingram, who was principal in strategising the proposed route, that it is only a proposed position and that a decision has not yet been made on the exact route or the necessity for it.

Although there is active re-development at Caxton Gibbet and new gravel extraction works at the Black Cat.

HA published a report/strategy document for improved transport across our region – Felixstowe to Midlands.

http://www.gcgp.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/10/GCGP-Strategic-Economic-Plan_WEB.pdf

General Guidance form the Doc below;

A428 Caxton Gibbet to Black Cat improvement

A comprehensive capacity improvement to the A428 / A1 between the Caxton Gibbet roundabout and Black Cat roundabouts.

A1 / A421 Black Cat junction improvement

- Scheme to be determined by Felixstowe to Midlands Route Based Strategy.
- Options include on line dualling or a new route.

A428 / A1198 Caxton Gibbet junction improvement

Early implementation of grade separated junctions in advance of A428 Caxton Gibbet to Black Cat improvement.

- Improved traffic flows and reduced congestion on A428, A1 and A421 trunk roads and on the A1198.
- More reliable bus services on A428 corridor between St Neots and Cambridge.

The PC is to monitor the situation, and lobby for the route to be pushed further north, it has been noted that Croxton Park would not entertain the route running through the estate.

4. Matters arising from the last meeting or carried forward from a previous meeting

a. Finance and Audit

Discussions on the war chest and uses to be had next meeting.

Audit near complete. An emergency meeting will be called to ratify.

b. Notice boards & CCTV

Notice boards ordered.

CCTV consultant/installer has been contacted

c. Local Highway Improvements Budget bid 2014/15

Cllr Spencer to put pen to paper

d. Abbotsley Road speed limit.

Police have agreed in principal to reduction to 30mph & High Street to 20mph

- e. Clerk
The search goes on 1
- f. Post Box
Cllr Tomlinson to research if it has been removed or stolen
- g. Road Signs – Reduction of High Street speed limit to 20mph

5. Finance and procedure

- a. To receive financial report and approve of the payment of bills - payments made
CPALC £67.77
Green Barnes – notice boards £ 1353.41 (Vat to be reclaimed)
SCDC election fees £ 75.00
Dianne Malley (PAYE consultant) £ 45.00 (yearly fee)
- b. Village Hall donation – Agreed to be around £ 900.00
- c. CPALC – Continuation of membership
- d. Insurances – All paid and valid.

6. Community Right to Bid

- a. Nominations for community assets – Village Green / West Field
Joy Bowkett attended and said that they would never sell the field.

7. To consider planning and tree works applications received since the last meeting

- a. Planning applications - None
- b. SCDC decisions notices - None

8. To consider correspondence received - None

9. Any Other Business

10. Date of the next meeting and closure of meeting

Wednesday 10th September 2014 7.30pm

Meeting closed @ 8.45pm