

PARISH OF CROXTON

DRAFT

MINUTES OF MEETING

on Wednesday 11th Sept 2013 at 7.30pm

In attendance: Cllr N Spencer, Cllr D Tomlinson, Mrs C Farrugia, Mr J Swannell (arrived Late), Cllr Elcox, Mrs S Cowell

AGENDA

Councillor Nathan Spencer presided:

1. Apologies for absence and declarations of interest:

Cllr Lyons, Cllr Smith

2. To approve the minutes of the last meetings on 11th April 2013

Cllr Tomlinson approved, Cllr Farrugia seconded

3. Comments and observations from members of the public and District & County

Councillors' reports

Non received

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

- a. Update on new signs for A428, no news on the time frame for arrival of the signage, question to be asked to Cllr Smith to see if she can find out.
- b. Local Highway Improvements Budget bid 2013/14, the main concern is still the speed at which drivers travel along the Abbotsley road. The argument is still the same, the road is clearly a 30mph road as defined within the Highway Code. The PC feel that additional signage and repeaters are required, particularly from the south. Cllr Spencer to contact Highways for cost of 30mph repeaters.
- c. A14 Toll, Cllr Spencer & Cllr Swannell attended the Highways presentation in St Neots a few days after the announcement. It was felt that the Highways calculations as to the change in traffic flow along the A428 from those avoiding the toll we dramatically understated. The general consensus from the surrounding PC's who attended was that of disapproval. It was suggested that a lobby group should be formed of affected PC's. Cllr Spencer had already been in touch with Cllr Pinner (Abbotsley) Cllr Farrar (St Neots) Cllr Van De Kerkhove (Eynesbury). It was suggested that awareness should be raised within the village, particularly for villagers to fill in the survey on the Highways Agency Web

Site, links were to be published on (the unofficial Croxton village facebook page) ‘Croxton Wives’

- d. A428 lobbying. – Further rumours were raised about the development of Caxton Gibbet (former site of the Ming Wa) by McDonlads and the possible upgrade of the existing filling station. It was hoped that these paved the way for a possible link from the Black Cat roundabout on the A1 to the Caxton Gibbet, to feed directly into the Cambourne dual carriage way.

Cllr Farrugia raised the issue of Section 106 Money (developer contributions to infrastructure) and Cambridgeshire CC’s city deal, would rather the local community had a say on what the money was used for rather than central government, It was noted that a FOI request should be issued as to the value of s106 monies received within Cambridgeshire and what it has been spent on.

Prior to the PC meeting it was discovered that there was going to be a closed A428 strategy meeting the following week. Cllr Elcox had attempted to find out whether the public would attend and as to what would be discussed, although she could not confirm a date for the pre-meeting at this time, the items to be discussed were consultation on the Local Plan and the Draft Transport Strategy.

- e. Demolition of bus shelter – Cllr Spencer apologised for not doing this.

5. Finance and procedure

- a. To receive financial report and approve of the payment of bills
Non-received, however, we are being chased to submit an invoice for grass cutting services.
- b. Review village survey on improvements. Cllr Farrugia has issued questionnaire and obtained results. All to be collated for next meeting.

6. Community Right to Bid

- a. Nominations for community assets
The following were nominated to be listed as a community asset:
The village hall
Cricket Pitch
The Field between the High St and Abbotsley Road
The ground behind the former Spread Eagle
2 post boxes

It was agreed that an application for the village hall to be listed would be put forward.

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

- a. Planning applications – only one received for retrospective planning permission to the Dower House stables, there were no objections.
- b. SCDC decisions notices – non received.

8. To consider correspondence received

Submission of invoice for grass cutting, as discussed 5.a – An invoice to be despatched.

9. Any Other Business

- a. Mrs S Cowell raised the issue of footpath widening and improving along the A428
- b. LPG supplier support, Cllr Elcox looked into bulk buying of LPG by County Council to get a better deal for villages. The CC had looked into this and thought it would be best to approach a ‘broker’ or similar commercial outfit to negotiate. The current LPG franchise is owned by FLO Gas
- c. It was noted that Andy Linott was arranging a meeting with FLO Gas to try and get a better deal for village gas supplies.
- d. 6 Villages News letter, Croxton still does not have a correspondant, volunteers were requested, it was felt that this would be a good voice for the PC to keep villagers informed.
- e. Protected rights of way, concern was raised that public rights of way are being lost and that the PC should raise the issue with CC. Cllr Spencer recalled, several years adgo, receiving an email from CC footpaths officer about a project to mark all footpaths/bridleways within Cambridgeshire on a centralised map. He did not recall a follow up email.
- f. Concerns raised about the letting loose of shot guns in fields adjacent to Abbotsley Road, it was uncertain as to whether it was a game keeper or others. But by rate of fire heard it was assumed that nothing was been hunted. PC felt that this was unreasonable behaviour and would raise with CPO.
- g. Cllr Tomlinson raised facts about the Association of Community Transport, where we can apply to the Community Transport Fund to obtain money to put towards a bus scheme; it will cost users £15 p.a. to use. It was hoped that the PC could put funds towards joining the village to the scheme. A note was made to place this upon the next meetings agenda. Idea to be discussed with Cllr Smith who has more information.
- h. It was again noted that in the community crime statistics for village as reported by Cambs Police still contain errors.

10. Date of the next meeting and closure of meeting

Meeting Closed @ 8.40pm

Next Meeting to be held Wednesday 11th December 7.30pm