

Croughton Parish Council



Minutes of Croughton Parish Council Meeting Held on Monday 12th March 2012 at 7.30 p.m. in Croughton Village Hall

Present:

Councillor Pamela Gelder - Chairman
Councillor Margaret Bennett
Councillor Fran Bodley-Scott
Councillor Rodney Cash
Councillor Jean Coles
Councillor Trevor Davies
Councillor Lesley Ramsay
Councillor Rob Robbins
Councillor Brian Tomlin

Absent: No-one

In Attendance: Mrs Ann Le Druillenec (Clerk)

1 To Receive Apologies and Approve the Reasons for Absence:

None.

2 To invite Declarations of Interest:

Cllr Robbins declared a personal interest in Item 7.1.5 Application No: S/2012/0229/FUL.
Reason: Applicant is a relation.

3 Public Participation: Members of the Public may speak to Agenda items:

The Chairman welcomed 6 members of the public.

Mr Justin Lattin, Estate Manager, The Rowler Estate: Item 7.1.2 Application No. S/2012/0163/FUL: Mr Lattin distributed a press cutting illustrating the dominant presence of a wind turbine development on properties in Devon. The wind turbine stood 1.5km behind the houses and was 110m in height. Mr Lattin informed the Meeting that the Rowler Estate would object to the application on the basis that the meteorological mast was intrinsically linked to a prospective installation of wind turbines.

4 To approve the Minutes of the Meeting held 13th February 2012: (previously distributed)

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Ramsay and seconded by Cllr Bodley-Scott to approve the Minutes of the Meeting held 13th February 2012.

5 Matters Arising from item 4 not on the Agenda: For Information:

5.1 Clerk's Report: (previously circulated)

Minute 5.2: Percentage difference anticipated on Council Tax bill: 1.476%
SNC has advised that:

The Council Tax amount for a Band D property for 2011-2012 was £1,445.88.
The equivalent figure for 2012-2013 is anticipated to be £1,446.68.
This is an increase of 80p.

Chairman's Initials _____

Minute 16.2: The County Connect Bus Service does not service Croughton.

Other:

1. Banking Arrangements: Standard Life Cash Savings business accounts will move to Barclays Business on or after 12th May 2012.

2. The Clerk has advised the Chairman of the Brackley Hospital Trust that Cllr Coles has been the main impetus behind fundraising for the previous 10 years.

3. Request for kissing gate along AF7: The landowner is not in favour of replacing the stile with a kissing gate.

4. Proposed development at Astwick Quarry, Croughton: Creation of 3 no. course fishing lakes for recreational purposes including access track, car and coach parking, facilities building and ancillary importation and infill of inert material.

The Application (CD) was received after publication of the Agenda. The Development Control Officer, NCC has agreed to an extension to 18th April 2012. The DCC will consider the proposal at its meeting on 21st May 2012.

<http://www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/en/councilservices/Environ/planning/planaps/Pages/CurrentSN.aspx>

Note: Evenley Parish Council will consider the application at its Meeting on 19th March 2012.

Agreed: To refer to Transport data to compare numbers of vehicles travelling through Croughton

Cllr Davies entered the Meeting.

6 Finance Matters:

6.1 Receipts & payments and balance of bank accounts:

Barclays Bank: £406.79 (06.03.12) Standard Life: £13,969.24 (06.03.12)

6.2 To Ratify and Approve the Payments:

Cheque No.	Payee	Description	Total	vat
102297	A H Contracts	Inv. 5004 dog waste bin emptying	£24.00	£4.00
102298	Texprep	Inv. 19320 Newsletter	£66.80	
102299	Information Commissioner	Data Notification Renewal	£35.00	
102300	Anglian Water	Period: 19 th Aug. 2011- 10 th Feb.2012 Cemetery: £33.29 Allotments: £90.04	£123.33	
102301	CPF&VH	Inv. 0936 Room Rent	£500.00	
102302	A Le Druillenec	Salary Month 12	£310.15	
102303	HMRC	Tax Month 12	£77.60	
102304	A Le Druillenec	Reimbursement office supplies	£130.18	£21.35

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Bennett and seconded by Cllr Cash to Approve the Payments.

6.3 Receipts:

Payer	Description	Amount
J Wintour	Allotment Rent Plot 26	£11.00

Noted.

7 Planning:

7.1 Applications:

7.1.1 Ref: S/2012/0175/FUL

Proposal: Erection of 9 affordable homes including new adopted roadway, new rear service road to Townend Farm and associated services

Location: Land off Brackley Road, Croughton

<http://snctest.planning-register.co.uk/plandisp.aspx?recNo=66276>

(Notes of Open Forum held 5th March 2012 previously circulated)

Chairman's Initials _____

Agreed: That the Parish Council had been fortunate to have had the attendance of the two Housing Officers at the Open Forum and also that of Cllr Townsend. They had answered many questions put to them.

Mr David Farquhar, Assistant Director, Highways, Transport and Infrastructure, NCC had responded to the Parish Council's request for the creation of a footpath along Brackley Road. The reply was **Noted** and considered at item 14 on the Agenda.

Members the considered concerns in respect of the potential to extend the site, on site car parking provision and local connections.

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Gelder and seconded by Cllr Coles to SUPPORT the application and

a) To request:

- i) The installation of a street light on the Brackley Road to the front of the development
- ii) That the Parish Council is consulted on the construction materials to be used for the 9 affordable dwellings.

b) To state the following points:

- i) Croughton Parish Council would also like to express serious concern that the County Council has not yet provided a footpath from the existing houses into the village and would like to stress the intensifying importance of this in light of the proposed development of 9 additional homes.
- ii) The need for a footpath is ongoing and is a longstanding request that the County Council had said would be addressed some years ago.

7.1.2 Ref: S/2012/0163/FUL

Proposal: Erection of a meteorological mast with a maximum height of 61 metres for a temporary period of up to three years

Location: Gateridge Farm, Croughton

<http://snctest.planning-register.co.uk/plandisp.aspx?recNo=66354>

(Notes of Joint Open Forum with Evenley Parish Council held 6th March 2012 previously circulated)

Objections had been raised in:

Croughton: one resident and The Rowler Estate

Evenley: 6 residents

Hinton in the Hedges: almost half the population

The Parish Council considered:

- i) The difficulty of objecting to the application.
- ii) The objections received
- iii) Presupposition that approval of the application would lead to the installation of wind turbines.
- iv) SNC Policy on Wind Turbines in the Open Countryside. The Chairman had identified several policy grounds for objection. The list was read out.

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Tomlin and seconded by Cllr Coles to OBJECT on Policy grounds of:

i) Human Safety

ii) Incongruous, Unacceptable, Non-beneficial and Unnecessary Intrusion into the Open Countryside.

7.1.3 Ref: S/2012/0224/FUL

Proposal: Front porch, replacement window and french doors, new opening to north section of garden wall and extension to west side garden wall (re-submission of S/2011/1280/FUL and S/2011/1281/LBC)

Location: Croughton House West, Church Lane, Croughton

<http://snctest.planning-register.co.uk/plandisp.aspx?recNo=66504>

Chairman's Initials _____

- 7.1.4 Ref: S/2012/0225/LBC
 Proposal: New Front Porch, replacement window and french doors, new opening to North section of Garden wall and associated works - Re-submission of S/2011/1280/FUL and S/2011/1281/LBC.
 Location: Croughton House West, Church Lane, Croughton
<http://snctest.planning-register.co.uk/plandisp.aspx?recNo=66479>

Items 7.1.3 and 7.1.4 were taken together.

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Gelder and seconded by Cllr Coles to make NO OBJECTIONS to either proposal.

- 7.1.5 Ref: S/2012/0229/FUL
 Proposal: Pitched over garage with provision for study/studio, link from garage to dwelling and summer house
 Location: Sax View, 1 Blenheim, Croughton
<http://snctest.planning-register.co.uk/plandisp.aspx?recNo=66500>

Cllr Robbins had declared a personal interest. Cllr Robbins neither took part in the discussion nor voted.

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Cash and seconded by Cllr Bodley-Scott to make NO OBJECTIONS.

7.2 Decisions:

- 7.2.1 Ref: S/2011/1579/FUL WITHDRAWN
 Proposal: Wrought iron style railings across the frontage with pedestrian access and automatic bi-fold drive gates
 Location: The Old Chapel, 23 High Street, Croughton
<http://snctest.planning-register.co.uk/plandisp.aspx?recNo=66034>

- 7.2.2 Ref: S/2012/0078/DEM PRIOR APPROVAL IS NOT REQUIRED
 Proposal: Demolition of a single storey building (Building 41)
 Location: RAF Croughton, Brackley
<http://snctest.planning-register.co.uk/plandisp.aspx?recNo=660239>

Noted.

8 Village Networks Project:

- 8.1 To consider hosting a combined visit of the mobile unit and SNC Job Club:
Agreed: Members were in favour.
Action: the Clerk (contact Mr King and Mr Ward)

9 Allotments:

- 9.1 To assess action to be taken in respect of maintenance of the Allotment Wall:
 Cllr Tomlin had been assured that the wall had been rebuilt using sand and cement and that the builder had been instructed to take it to the top course. The post had not been straightened.
Agreed: To continue to chase up.
Action: Cllr Tomlin
- 9.2 To accept tenant's offer to repaint the pig sties at an approximate minimum cost of £17.00 for materials:

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Coles and seconded by Cllr Cash to accept the offer.
Action: the Clerk (organise with tenant, advising of need for receipts)

- 9.3 To approve policy in respect of Tenancy of Plot No 27: (information previously circulated)
The Council considered the background to the tenancy, its current status and how to bring it into alignment with the Council's policy.

Agreed:

- i) That the current tenancy arrangement in respect of Plot 27 was peculiar to Plot 27 and should not continue in perpetuity.
- ii) Efforts should be made to achieve a transparently consistent and reasonable approach to all Tenants.
- iii) To draft a modified allotment tenancy agreement for Plot 27 that:
 - a) Recognised the historical legacy
 - b) Was sensitive to the situation of the people directly associated with the tenancy of Plot 27
 - c) Would eventually lead to the acknowledged separation of the two adjacent parking spaces and Plot 27.

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Bodley-Scott and seconded by Cllr Cash to prepare a proposal for the current tenant of Plot 27 to replace the existing Tenancy Agreement for Plot 27.

Action: the Chairman (speak to the Tenant)

10 Data Collection from VAS devices:

- 10.1 To agree procedure:

It was **Noted** that:

- i) The authorised person required Training in how to download the data
- ii) Each download would take 2 hours
- iii) Large quantities of data would be retrieved prior to analysis and storage
- iv) Data was required to identify the pattern of traffic movements and speed on a daily basis and would be useful evidence for a Neighbourhood Plan.

Agreed:

- i) To collect data for a trial period of 6 months (once every 3 months)
- ii) To analyse data along agreed parameters
- iii) To destroy unwanted data.

RESOLVED: It was proposed by Cllr Tomlin and seconded by Cllr Ramsay:

- i) To Authorise the Clerk to download the information
- ii) To Approve retrospective payment to the Clerk for hours worked in downloading the data
- iii) To use designated funds

Action: Cllr Davies (train the Clerk); the Clerk (downloading); Cllr Bennett (analysis of data)

11 Action Plan 2011/2012: To Note review:

The Clerk listed the annotations:

- i) Data Protection Notification: Renewal 12th March 2012
- ii) Affordable Housing: Application S/2012/0175/FUL: Open Forum 5th March 2012; Parish Council resolved to Approve 12th March 2012.
- iii) Allotment Gardens: Plot 27 Tenancy Agreement discussed 12th March 2012
- iv) Grasscutting: Contractor appointed 13th February 2012
- v) Highways: Brackley Road footpath considered 13th February and 12th March 2012, consultation with residents to be instigated by the Parish Council
- vi) Lighting: Energy efficiency lamps and measures considered 13th February 2012
- vii) Website: Speed problems persist
- viii) Community Engagement: Draft Strategy out for consultation 13th February 2012; feedback to Annual Parish Assembly
- ix) Emergency Plan: next steps review 12th March 2012

Chairman's Initials _____

- x) Allotment Wall: follow up re. repair damage
 - xi) The Localism Act 2011: consider April 2012
- Agreed:** To update the Action Plan 2011/2012 to 31st March 2012.
Action: the Clerk

12 Emergency Plan: To consider next steps:

Agreed: To form a sub team to review the Plan, to test for robustness and to suggest a scenario to test it out.
Action: Cllrs Gelder, Bodley-Scott and Ramsay (sub team); All Councillors (suggestions)

13 Diamond Jubilee Celebrations: Update:

Cllr Bodley-Scott reported on the Meeting held 6th March 2012.

- i) Communications Plan is being developed by Caroline Murdoch - coverage in local media, flyers, email alerts - residents to opt in.
- ii) Programme of Events - on the website
- iii) Facebook page created
- iv) Barn Dance - ticketing
- v) Donate to Jubilee Fund (legal aspects being explored)
- vi) Dedicated column in Newsletters for April and May 2012, plus insert in May issue
- vii) Tree Planting at Pocket Parks (105 saplings): Mr Richard Golsby had planted saplings at the Allotments Pocket Park; hedging plants were designated for Portway Pocket Park.
- viii) Great support from RAF Croughton.
- ix) Team of People needed on the Day- list of names being drawn up.
- x) Date of Next Meeting: 29th March 2012

14 Highway Matters: Update:

14.1 Street Doctor: Cllr Tomlin gave updates on:

- i) Overhead sign outside the School- not yet moved. Mrs Helen Howard (Community Liaison Officer, Highways) is dealing with it.
 - ii) Dip in road near Warren Farm - marked out on 2 occasions
 - iii) Hedge outside Yew Tree House- overhanging the footpath and need cutting back
 - iv) Potholes in Wheelers Rise- reported in February -action in 6 months -
- Action:** Cllr Tomlin (report to Street Doctor)
- v) Gully on long bridge - reported again

14.2 Request for Footpath along Brackley Road:

Mr David Farquhar, Assistant Director, Highways, Transport and Infrastructure had advised that NCC would in principle support the construction of a new footway.

A new footway would be subject to the following constraints:

- i) Situated within the 30 mph zone.
 - ii) Would not extend as far as the Cemetery.
 - iii) Parish Council consultation with residents along Brackley Road to determine full support for the scheme.
 - iv) Resolution of boundary issues in respect of garden encroachment on publicly maintained highway
 - v) NCC Feasibility Study to determine costs based on iii) and iv).
- Action:** the Clerk

15 Annual Parish Assembly 2012: To agree format and arrangements:

Agreed:

- i) To hold the Annual Parish Assembly 2012 in the Reading Room

Chairman's Initials _____

- ii) Format as per previous year in respect of invited individual speakers and group representatives.
 - iii) Business reports only to be read out to the Assembly by representative in attendance.
 - iv) To invite Village Networks to set out an information stall
 - v) To discuss feedback on Community Engagement Strategy
 - vi) To serve refreshments of tea, coffee and biscuits
- Action:** Cllr Tomlin (hire of Reading Room); the Clerk (invitations);
Cllrs Bennett, Bodley-Scott and Ramsay (Refreshments)

16 Correspondence:

- 16.1 Electoral Review of Northamptonshire: To consider draft Proposals for divisional arrangements in South Northamptonshire: (previously circulated)
It was **Noted** that neither proposal affected the area in which Croughton is located.
Agreed: To make no comments.

17 Any Other Business: For Information and at the discretion of the Chairman:

- 17.1 **HS2:** Cllr Tomlin reported on Meeting held 9th March 2012 organised by North Oxfordshire Villages affected by the HS2 route. Attended by MPs Andrea Leadsom and Tony Baldry. The view of the Meeting was that HS2 was a political vision to secure the Northern vote. Farmers were being encouraged to prevent surveyors entering their land and thereby delaying progress in order to drive up costs. There was no business case. The Compensation deal was poor with only 60 out of 340 claims having been accepted.

18 To receive items for the next Parish Council Meeting - Monday 16th April 2012:

None.

The Meeting ended at 9.35 p.m.

Signed: _____ Date: 16th April 2012
Chairman

Chairman's Initials _____