



MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE COUNCIL
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER
ON THURSDAY 14 MAY 2015 AT 8.00PM

Cllr Mitchell – In the Chair

David Allison – Clerk to the Council
Amanda Taft – Administrative Office

AGM105/15 Election of Chairman

It was proposed by Cllr Hollands and seconded by Cllr Edmunds that Cllr Mitchell be nominated Chairman for the year 2015/2016. There were no other nominations.

Resolved:

- That Cllr Mitchell be elected Chairman of Croxley Green Parish Council for the year 2015/2016.

AGM106/15 Acceptance of Office

Cllr Mitchell accepted the Chairmanship and then duly signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office which was countersigned by the Clerk.

AGM107/15 To record those present and apologies for absence

Present: Cllrs Bains, Baldwin, Brand, Edmunds, Greenman, Hollands, Kaur, Mitchell and Saxon

Voting Members: 9

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Vassiliou and Wynne-Jones

Not Present: Cllr Ridley

Public: Two members of public were present at the start of the meeting and left after AGM106/15.

AGM108/15 Election of Vice Chairman

The Chairman asked for proposals for the office of Vice Chairman of the Council for the year 2015/2016. It was proposed by Cllr Saxon and seconded by Cllr Bains that Cllr Hollands be elected Vice Chairman. There were no other nominations.

Resolved:

- That Cllr Hollands be elected Vice Chairman of Croxley Green Parish Council for the year 2015/2016.

AGM109/15 Appointment and Composition of Committees

AGM109.1/15 **Resolved:**

- That in accordance with Standing Order 19.2, the following Committees are appointed: Finance and Administration Committee; HR and Compliance Committee; Planning and Development Committee; Environment and Amenity Committee

AGM109.2/15 The Clerk advised that Standing Orders state that there should be a maximum of 7 Members per Committee. He added that the Chair and Vice Chair of Council were automatically Members of both Committees. He informed those present that Cllr Vassiliou had requested to stand on the E&A Committee and Cllr Wynne-Jones had requested to stand on the P&D Committee.

Resolved:

- That the Environment & Amenity Committee shall consist of Cllrs Edmunds, Greenman, Kaur and Vassiliou;
- That the Planning & Development Committee shall consist of Cllrs Bains, Baldwin, Saxon and Wynne-Jones.

Cllr Brand is without portfolio and not on any Committee.

The Clerk advised that the Finance and Administration Committee is comprised of the Chair and Vice Chair of the Council and of both Committees.

The Clerk advised that the HR and Compliance Committee is comprised of the Chair and Vice Chair of the Council plus two Cllrs. Cllrs Bains and Edmunds said they would like to be on this Committee and Cllr Greenman said that she would like to be on this Committee adding that she works in HR.

Resolved:

- That Cllrs Bains and Greenman are members of the HR and Compliance Committee together with the Chair and Vice Chair of the Council.

AGM110/15 Chairman and Vice Chairman of Standing Committees

The Chairman declared an adjournment to allow the Committees to elect their Chairman and Vice Chairman.

When the meeting reconvened, it was reported that the Committees would have the following Chairman and Vice-Chairman for the year 2015/2016:

	P&D Committee	E&A Committee	F&A Committee*
Chairman	Cllr Saxon	Cllr Edmunds	Cllr Mitchell
Vice-Chairman	Cllr Bains	Cllr Greenman	Cllr Hollands

*The F&A Committee comprises of six members – Chair and Vice Chair of the Council, P&D and E&A.

AGM111/15 To receive reports from Council Representatives on Outside Bodies 2014/2015

AGM111.1/15 - Road Safety – The Chairman read out the report which had been submitted by Cllr Janet Martin:

This year we have been doing a lot of monitoring: of planning proposals, of accident data and of previous schemes. We have not implemented anything new this year but have discussed ideas around creating 20mph zones in Croxley Green, especially around schools, which links in with results from the community questionnaire. I think this is an area which will definitely need to be followed up in the next year or so. There have been a few accidents but all were fairly minor and there continues not to be any pattern except that, unsurprisingly, most are on junctions on the main roads in the village.

Another ongoing project which has not moved forward this year was the Community

DriveSafe Project which is where local people can be trained to use speed equipment and can then go out, accompanied by a police officer, to monitor and record speed of traffic. There is a list of names of people who initially showed an interest in taking part in this and I hope that the Parish Council will be able to take this forward in the future as it was felt that it was a positive move in reducing traffic speed and increasing safety in Croxley Green.

We decided at our January meeting that we were struggling with a lack of manpower, especially as both the treasurer/secretary and the Chair both wanted to stand down after 3 years in the respective roles, and discussed options for the future. After discussions with the Chairman of the Residents Association and the Clerk of the Parish Council it was decided that the group would cease to exist in its present form as of the April meeting and that the business of road safety would be taken over by both the CGRA and CGPC. The Parish Council will have Road Safety on their agenda at the first P&D meeting each month where issues could be brought forward. The CGRA will also have an agenda item for road safety.

We feel that we are approaching a very critical few years for road safety in Croxley Green with proposed projects but that it needs a larger organisation to really make a difference with these. We look forward to Road Safety in Croxley Green continuing to be an important issue and we thank both the CGPC and the CGRA for taking it on so that this is possible.

AGM111.2/15 – Three Rivers Environmental Forum – Cllr Wynne-Jones. Cllr Edmunds read the following report:

Cllr David Wynne-Jones is the CGPC representative on the Forum with Cllr Dudley Edmunds standing in as deputy. Cllr Edmunds is also the principal representative for the CPRE, of which the CGPC is a member, and attends the Forum in that capacity.

The meetings are generally interesting with the usual format of a presentation, Q&A with the presenters and then short reports from the various organisations represented. This year we received a very interesting presentation from our local water company. The key points were the need for us all to conserve water, the need for the water company to replace old pipes to stop mains leakage and the fact that the current and planned building within its operational area was putting an increasing demand on supplies.

The Forum is useful for the exchange of local information on environmental matters and to promote an exchange of views and ideas.

AGM111.3/15 – NHS Local Representation (Community Voice) - the Clerk read out the report which had been submitted by Cllr Julie Isard-Brown:

The Community Voice meets at Mount Vernon Hospital on the first Thursday of every month. Their topics are various, some more interesting than others. There have been talks on Dementia, Shaping the NHS Future, Plans for Mount Vernon Cancer Care, London Primary Care Issues, Plans for the Lynda Jackson Macmillan Centre, Diabetes, Cancer Survival in the UK, News from West Herts Hospitals, Heart Disease; prevention and treatments.

There are always speakers in attendance, with the exception of the January meeting, where this year they had a debate. A car park ticket is attached to the monthly agenda so you don't need to pay to park. The meeting starts at 7.45pm and the talk lasts for approximately an hour, before turning to society issues.

AGM112/15 Council Representation on Outside Bodies and organisations 2015/16

AGM112.1/15 – Joint Committee of Parish Councils – The Clerk advised that the representatives from Croxley Green Parish Council are normally the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and the Clerk.

Resolved:

- That the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and the Clerk represent the Parish Council on the Joint Committee of Parish Councils.

AGM112.2/15 – Three Rivers Environmental Forum – Cllr Wynne-Jones had requested to represent the Parish Council at these meetings for a further year (Cllr Edmunds also attends these meetings as a representative of the CPRE).

Resolved:

- That Cllr Wynne-Jones represents the Parish Council on the TRDC Environmental Forum.

AGM112.3/15 – NHS Local Representation (Community Voice) – Cllr Wynne-Jones had requested to represent the Parish Council on the Community Voice.

Resolved:

- That Cllr Wynne-Jones represents the Parish Council on the Community Voice.

AGM112.4/15 – Any Other External Representation – None.

AGM113/15 Direct Debits

The Clerk advised Members that under the Council's Finance Regulations the Council must agree to variable Direct Debits at least every two years but in practice, and included in Standing Orders, this Council reviews the Direct Debits annually at this meeting. The Clerk pointed out that although covered in Finance Regulations, the Council has a debit card which only the Clerk is authorised to use with a maximum single transaction of £500.

Resolved:

- That the Council continues with the payments by direct debit.

AGM114/15 Annual Subscriptions

The Chairman introduced this item and both he and Cllr Greenman declared a non-pecuniary interest in the Croxley Green Society.

There was a discussion regarding the subscription made to the Croxley Green Society and whether the Society actually needs this amount of money given the balance in their bank account. The Cllr felt it was disappointing that a representative had not come along to this meeting to explain why they need the money and what it is used for. The Clerk pointed out that somebody had emailed to ask about coming to the meeting but had been advised by the Clerk that there was no opportunity at this meeting for public representations besides which, the sum of £5,500 had already been agreed by Council during numerous budget discussions. A Cllr said he was disappointed that this matter was raised and queried given the fact it had been agreed by Council during the budget and that he was sure there was a good reason for them to have sensible reserves.

Resolved:

- That the matter of the annual subscription to the Croxley Green Society be deferred to the June Council meeting

Resolved:

- That the following annual subscriptions apart from the Croxley Green Society subscription for £5,500 were agreed.

AGM114.1/15	Campaign to Protect Rural England	36.00
AGM114.2/15	Community Development Agency for Hertfordshire	30.00
AGM114.3/15	Hertfordshire Association of Parish & Town Councils	1532.21
AGM114.4/15	Society of Local Council Clerks	203.00
AGM114.5/15	Direct Information Service (NALC)	90.00
AGM114.6/15	The Open Space Society	45.00
AGM114.7/15	The Croxley Green Society	5,500.00

AGM115/15 Closure

There being no further business the Chairman closed the meeting at 8.46pm.