

# Topcroft Parish Council

## Minutes from Topcroft Parish Council's Meeting held at Topcroft Pavilion on 13th July 2015 at 7.30pm

**Present:** Peter Rout (Chair), Trevor Potter (Vice Chair, TP), Stephen Dye (SD), Hannah Gifford (HG), Kathy Hipper (KH).

**Clerk/RFO:** Sally Chapman

**Also Present:** County Councillor Margaret Sommerville, Karen O'Kane Programme Director for Better Broadband for Norfolk and two parishioners.

*The meeting was convened at 7.30pm to receive the following presentation and report:*

### **Better Broadband Presentation**

Karen O'Kane Programme Director for Better Broadband gave an interesting presentation on improving broadband infrastructure in Norfolk and Topcroft. She advised a survey had been completed to build a new BT cabinet in Topcroft at the end of 2015/early 2016. Once the cabinet is live, parishioners will need to talk to their providers to deliver fibre optic broadband to their properties.

### **Reports from County Councillor**

County Councillor Margaret Sommerville reported:

- She has 23 Parishes stretching from Haddiscoe to Harleston and regrets she cannot attend all the meetings, but will always reply to emails.
- Her role is a supportive covering more strategic areas and includes Highways, Schools, Social Care, Health, Libraries and the Environment and very involved with young people, helping to promote their independence and their involvement in the local Community.
- There will be more austerity and budget cuts from Government and different ways to provide things will be adopted.
- Adult social care and children's health care will now be working closer together and hope to reduce the admissions to hospitals. It is a national problem to get doctor's appointments and the NHS has a 5 year plan to train different health care professionals to help improve this.
- Residential care is too expensive and there are plans to have more sheltered housing with health care.
- All Hallows Hospital – there is a proposal to change services.

*The meeting reconvened at 8.20pm*

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (Chair)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Topcroft Parish Council

## 1. To consider Apologies for Absence

Nicola Green, Kathy Thomson and Murray Gray – apologies accepted.

## 2. To record Declarations of Interests and to consider Requests for a Dispensation

None.

## 3. To approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> May 2015

The Minutes of the meeting were confirmed as a true and accurate record and were signed by the Chair of the Parish Council. [Proposed HG, 2<sup>nd</sup> SD – unanimous.](#)

## 4. To receive reports from District and County Councillors

As reported before the meeting.

## 5. To receive a presentation from Karen O’Kane Programme Director for Better Broadband for Norfolk

As reported before the meeting.

## 6. Parishioners Forum - Matters of Concern

None.

## 7. Finance - To receive the Financial Report and Approve Cheques (reports circulated prior to the meeting)

The Clerk read out the finance and the budget reports and the following were approved for payment: [Proposed SD, 2<sup>nd</sup> TP – unanimous.](#)

### Payments

Topcroft PCC (donation - building project)	£1,000.00
Topcroft Sports & Social Club (donation - building project)	£1,000.00
Clerk's Salary June/July + OT	£202.63
Clerk's Expenses June/July	£11.84
Councillor Intro training (KT)	£45.00
P & G King – grass cutting	£65.00

### Receipts

Petty Cash deposit	£6.07
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## 8. Planning Applications (circulated prior to meeting)

None.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (Chair)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Topcroft Parish Council

## 9. Village Issues

### a. Highways and Potholes

It was noted some potholes had been repaired and some have been marked.

### b. Footpaths

Councillors discussed the footpaths and signs around the village and asked the Clerk to circulate the footpath map. Action Clerk

HG and CH agreed to walk the footpaths and inform the Clerk of any missing signs and blockages so it can be reported to NCC. Action HG/CH

TP said he would look at the footpath notice board to see if the faded information could be renewed. Action TP

### c. Dog bins

No issues.

### d. Wash Lane

The drainage was discussed on Wash Lane and the gravel washed onto the road. The Chair said he would ask the landowner to clear the ditch to help prevent this. Action Chair

### e. Norfolk RCC Fuel Buying Scheme

The Clerk reported she had received only 7 expressions of interest in joining a community fuel buying scheme after emailing approx. 50% of the residents of Topcroft.

TP said he would speak to the coordinator of Denton's fuel buying scheme to see if Topcroft parishioners could join their scheme. Action TP

It was agreed that the Norfolk RCC fuel buying scheme information and a covering letter would be circulated to all parishioners in early September by Councillors. Clerk to prepare. Action Clerk

## 10. Notice Board name plate – update

TP informed a name plate for each notice board would cost £20.00 ex. Vat and the engraving would cost £75.00 ex. VAT. He advised he would get another quote.

Action TP

The Clerk said she would find out if any grants were available.

Action Clerk

## 11. To notice Correspondence received

- A letter from Barclays Bank informing the Bungay branch would be closing.
- A letter from Topcroft PCC thanking TPC for the donation for their building project.
- Signpost Magazine – Norfolk issues.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (Chair)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Topcroft Parish Council

**12. AOB**

The Chair reminder Councillors it was important to read all information emailed from the Clerk and respond (if required) in a timely manner.

**13. To receive items for the next Agenda**

None.

**14. Confirm meeting dates/times:**

- Monday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2015 - 7:30pm

**The meeting closed at 9.00pm**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ (Chair)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_