

**CROXTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 17 MAY 2011 IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.00 PM**

Present: 8 Parishioners including Parish Councillors

In attendance: Miss M Smith (County Councillor), Mr M Loynes (District Councillor), Mrs A Elcox (District Councillor), PCSOs Alex Swinborne and Andy Smith, Mr S Belfield (Drey House) and Mrs A Griffiths (Minutes Secretary, LGS Services).

Cllr Nathan Spencer presided.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Mr R Thrower (Newton Primary School), District Councillor Clayton Hudson, and Mr John Fuller (Speedwatch).

2. Minutes of the previous parish meeting held on 18 May 2010¹

Taken as read and approved by the meeting ^(Prop NS, 2nd DT) as a true record and signed by the Chairman after deleting the words "and is appended in full to these minutes" under Item 4.4.

3. Matters arising from those meetings

None.

4. To receive reports:

4.1 Parish Council for the last year

Cllr Spencer reported that the Parish Council had made a donation to the Village Hall.

4.2 Parish Council audited financial statement for the year ended 31 March 2010²

The Council's audited accounts for FY ended March 2010 were presented in Mrs Stoehr's absence and it was noted that the current accounts were available for inspection by residents.

4.3 School report³

Mr Thrower's report was read by the Minutes Secretary in his absence and is appended in full to these minutes.

4.4 Village Hall Report⁴

Mrs Sue Cowell gave her report which is appended in full to these minutes. Thanks were extended to Mrs Ghislaine Holland, who is leaving the village, for all her efforts over the years. Thanks were also extended to the Parish Council for its generous donation of £1000.

4.5 Speedwatch⁵

The report from Mr John Fuller was summarised by the Chairman and is appended in full to these minutes. Cllr Smith agreed to follow up the query about speed limits on Abbotsley Road, where there are street lights but no signs, with CCC. The PCSOs also agreed to investigate with CCC whether speed checks can be carried out. Concerns were expressed at the speed of traffic on a narrow road where cars parked on the path necessitated pedestrians to walk in the road.

4.6 Drey House⁶

Mr Simon Belfield, manager of Drey House, reported and outlined the background to the operation of Drey House. The report is appended in full to these minutes. Questions were invited. A parishioner raised a query whether there was any risk of violence and

reassurance was given that risk assessments took place and that no violent residents were admitted. It was asked what action should be taken if anyone was found out of the home, and it was explained that the residents were not detained and therefore could not be prevented from leaving the premises. However, a capacity assessment is carried out and keypads are in place, to protect residents from the main road. An article in the newsletter was suggested. It was noted that the name was soon to change to Eltisley Manor, with the involvement of new investors Newvita. Renovations are planned including planting and fencing to screen the premises from the main road, and internal decoration, but there are no plans to expand the number of residents. Information is available on the Care Quality Commission website.

4.5 District Councillors

Cllr Alison Elcox introduced herself as the newly elected District Councillor and indicated her willingness to look into any issues from residents. Cllr Smith suggested looking into wheelie bin stickers.

4.6 County Councillor⁷

Cllr Mandy Smith presented her report which is appended in full to these minutes.

4.7 Police⁸

PCSOs Swinborne and Smith reported. Eleven crimes had taken place during the last year. Residents were encouraged to attend and raise issues at Panel Meetings which helps set priorities for action. Collaboration with Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire police had led to better use of resources and opinions and public engagement were welcomed. A resident agreed to take on the role of neighbourhood watch co-ordinator.

At approximately 7.50 pm Cllr Loynes arrived and was invited to report. It was noted that a monthly report would be produced by SCDC in future, not confined to village matters.

5. **To consider:**

5.1 Resolutions or matters of which written notice has been given

None.

5.2 Other resolutions arising from the meeting

None.

6. **Any other Parish Matters**

None.

There was no further business and the Chairman declared the meeting closed at 7.52 pm.

Signed _____ (Chairman) _____ (Date)

¹ Minutes of Annual Parish Meeting on 18 May 2010

² Parish Council Audited Financial Statement FY2010

³ Report from Newton Primary School

⁴ Report from Village Hall committee

⁵ Report from Mr John Fuller (Speedwatch)

⁶ Report from Drey House

⁷ Report from County Councillor Mandy Smith

⁸ Report from Police