

PART II

The following is a summary of the main issues and concerns/comments raised to relevant specific questions by residents of the three Parishes.

Question No. 5

What are your concerns, if any, about further housing in your parish (Croxtton, Brettenham & Kilverstone)?

Residents expressed concern at the scale of proposed development and densities/closeness/lack of space/size of plot issues of houses leading to 'commuter dormitory' situation.

Residents questioned the issue of employment moving in tandem with house building and not increasing population growth without new employment opportunities. Development should be 'planned' and not left to developers; it is about building communities.

Residents stressed the need for increased Health facilities, including GP surgeries for all age groups including older residents

Residents strongly expressed the view that no further development should be considered north of A11 bypass as this would be destructive in terms of loss of rural communities. This included the view that within the Parish boundaries should be retained as rural communities as this rurality is why residents move to these areas in the first place. 'Away from urban sprawl' was term used.

Residents felt close proximity of industrial areas to residential areas is poor. Croxtton Road is currently totally inadequate to support development proposed. Introduction of more people will swamp local services.

As the SUE is on private land not sure what we would be losing or gaining

There should be no further development!

This is a negative question.

If carried out appropriately development can make a positive contribution to the community

Question No. 7

What is your main mode of transport?

Private car

PART II

(Question 7 cont)

Tractor

There is no rail link in the villages.

Only a very limited bus service is available.

Question No. 9

What would encourage you to use a local bus service more?

Availability of a local bus timetable which show times and routes.
If this is available where are they available from?

Reasonable cost of service, more affordable.
Having any service at all.

A bus route servicing Arlington Way.
Bus route passing through/servicing villages.
Provision of regular, reliable services to Thetford/Diss/Bury St Edmunds.
Regular, reliable service at convenient times
Desire a morning bus service and afternoon service of 4 per day.

Would love a better bus service that could be used more frequently to visit friends and not have to rely on my daughter all the time.

Current service is inadequate to meet modern needs, takes an age to get anywhere.
Services to Norwich, Bury etc. have all been recently reduced.
There needs to be more bus services to places such as Norwich or Bury more than once a day in some instances.

There is no choice other than having a private car at the present time. A reasonably priced bus service would be well used, even if it was just into Thetford.

Occupants of Croxton predominantly elderly or commuters –consideration should be given to this diversity.

Would not use bus service at my (present) time of life, but as time goes on and unable to drive I would depend on bus service (say in next 10 years). Cycle path into Thetford from Croxton would be useful and I would probably use it.

Additional housing would help increase provision of these services.

PART II

(Question No. 9 cont.)

Not at the age to need to use the bus.
When I'm older and have no car.
However, unlikely to use bus service very often.
Nothing – I have a car.
Availability of service but only when I am too old to drive!
In event of inability to drive a car.

Question No. 10

What concerns do you have about the local road network in your Parish (excluding the A11)?

A1008 is regularly used as a motorbike racetrack. Lorries approaching roundabout have no prior warning to slow down and several have overturned over the years.
Pelican crossings should ALL be removed and replaced with Zebra crossings. Drivers should be fined for failing to stop if pedestrian has foot on the zebra.
Pedestrian push button for the Pelican, see road is clear and cross before the green light appears then drivers have to stop with no one crossing.

Would like the speed limits reduced and introduction of cycle paths.
Speeding and volume of traffic causing congestion are of major concern.

Already too much traffic on Kilverstone to Brettenham road due to Tesco Superstore with people driving too fast on a small country road.

Extremely concerned about the speed of traffic through Croxton Village, even before any further development takes place. Something needs to be done urgently BEFORE an accident happens.

Accident waiting to happen!! Driving past the Church in Croxton from a 60mph to 30mph limit and coming down hill with a bend to the left. A high percentage still maintains their speed. When trying to get out of All Saints Court, the blind bend 70-80metr up the hill, stopping distance is 73 metres at 60mph and 96 metres at 70mph and with HGV's much further without taking into account that it is downhill and a dry road.

The verges do not belong to house owners although Croxton has so many "bollards" to keep trucks off.
Military vehicles through village and high speed cars using road from New Buildings, as a 'rat run' through Croxton to Thetford.
Croxton Road is extremely congested at school times (Thetford Academy) and can only get worse with increased volume.
Accidents are waiting to happen with the number of students using inadequate pavements

PART II

(Question 10 cont)

Roads and systems do not meet needs – too narrow compared to EU standards, too many junctions – Mundford Road / Croxton Road. Junction requires s solution.

We need to preserve rural roads, but speeding through the village is an issue of concern.

Concern with speed of vehicles. Most do not drop speed from 60mph to 30mph when entering villages. There have already been near misses.

Inconsiderate car drivers!!

Inconsiderate driving of **ALL** vehicles.

Object to the assumption that only HGV and Agricultural driving may be inconsiderate.

Action required to stop practice of rubbish being thrown from cars.

More footpaths are needed.

At present have no real concerns, however when further development comes most of the question's will become of concern.

Question No. 12

Which facilities do you consider need to be introduced or expanded as new residential development proceeds?

Better shopping facilities needed

More local walking facilities – extend riverside walks up to Brettenham and improve walk to Brandon in the other direction.

Make Shadwell stud/nunnery on edge of Thetford a forested walk/rec. area as proposed in Local Plan originally.

A village shop

A pub.

Youth clubs

Theatre/Cinema/Café.

Give the children something to do.

A community needs all of these facilities, I can't choose 5

Rest are sufficient

This section is dependent on the type, if any, of the development considered. Elderly require different facilities to young.

PART II

(Question 12 cont)

Youth groups, Pub?

This is ridiculous – most are No. 1 priority – sorry your system will not work.

No development

None. Secondary school provision for future is covered by capacity of Thetford Academy 2000+ spaces!

Having chosen to live in a village and coming from a city I would much prefer to keep the status quo.

I hope our village will remain more or less the same – I feel we have quite enough for the present.

Why can't I phone up to make appointment to see my GP **today NOT** in a months time!

Village website similar to Wretham – more approachable than a Gov. model which is unfriendly and not conducive to village unity or communication.

Question No. 20

In making provision for any new employment land, which issues would concern you most?

There is a need to consider the skills base available for business to grow

Need jobs to support people in new houses.

If they go ahead and build this development the people will need work. The main concern is that it does not affect this village by noise pollution or light pollution.

People will need work if the development proceeds. However it should not impact on the environment by causing noise or light pollution and should be in keeping with the existing architecture in rural areas.

Use areas available in the area now,
Use existing capacity first.

Only if close to residential areas.

No concerns apart from traffic.

Not worried – already sufficient laws to take all of this into consideration i.e. Noise! (as at airports)

Live and let live. No solar/wind farms, biogas plants – have given up enough prime farming land (without complaint)

Something long term to be proud of.

PART II

(Question No. 20 cont.)

I hope there won't be any in Croxton.

Question No. 23

In what other form would you like to see any new open green spaces provided?

Country Park on Shadwell stud land at edge of town alongside Arlington Way.

Park and picnic areas

Access for pathways and cycleway.

Easier and safer access to footpaths/cycle routes.

Cycle routes.

Walk and cycle routes.

Public paths to connect to market town of Thetford. Allotments! SUE already doing this!

River walk from Rushford to Thetford. Cycle path from SUE to Harling Road. Station and Peddars Way via Bridgeham Heath – see the map.

Woodland areas not pine, native species.

Parks

Parkland also needs provided.

Wooded areas, walkways and cycle ways that link up.

Open park land.

Grass.

A return to more natural heathland instead of just grass.

Wildflower meadows/areas for wildlife.

Areas managed for wildlife.

Network of footpaths and wildflower meadows.

Wild flower meadows, fitness trails, quiet areas (seated) with information about birds, trees, etc.

Bird watching areas and picnic areas.

Wildlife

Wildlife pond.

Duck pond and trees

Natural open meadowland.

Natural meadows.

Running/Cycle tracks

Cycle track / Walking tracks.

PART II

(Question 23 cont)

Running track
Sports facilities
A bowling green
Playing Field.
Grass roots, football, rugby, cricket.
More sports for children.
Football/cricket

Place to walk dog, woods, green fields, and more allotments maybe?
Public open spaces for walking and relaxing.

Open space for walking groups to meet and park cars without inconveniencing villagers.
Allotments, Tennis court, Green gym, Green burial site.
Leisure should not be limited to play or sport, recreation includes walking.

Landscaped, planted gardens with quiet areas, managed by the community
A recreational area within the new development would be beneficial.
Plenty of green spaces within the SUE to ensure we don't end up with a concrete jungle.
Green infrastructure should be commensurate with need and future development.

There should be a limit on people building extensions onto their houses, therefore reducing their gardens.

Again this relates to what kind of development is forthcoming. Are we talking about young children or adults?

It depends on cost of maintenance.

A green belt should be kept around Croxton.
A green belt should be preserved around Croxton.

Would like to see the Stanford training Area become open parkland with general public access.

Currently adequate.

PART II

Question No. 28

Are there other items or issues which you feel should be included within our Joint Neighbourhood Plan?

Housing

Keep all future large scale housing (over 20 units) to an area of the SUE and nor allow anything outside it until SUE area is fully developed and then reassess future building areas again.

While I understand you must seek out views, I would like professional planners with a proper overview to 'plan' future development with current and future needs addressed.

More thought should be given to the surroundings of existing property owners. The new housing development in Croxton is a disgrace and those who approved it should be ashamed of themselves. I feel extremely sorry for the residents of Harefield Road.

Development not wanted.

Would prefer to see the SUE taken into Thetford and **not** be a part of Croxton, Kilverstone and Brettenham as I think our current parishes will cease to be rural and will become swallowed up with new town issues. Also your letter had so many abbreviations it was extremely difficult to understand without referring back to definitions.

Traffic/Highways

Ban heavy Lorries through villages.

No blanket 20mph zones. Action needed against pavement parking.

No pavement parking very difficult to pass with buggy/wheelchair. Retain stone curlews buffer zone.

No blanket 20mph can be more dangerous as not adhered to in other countries.

Wide roads for emergency services and adequate parking areas.

"Q6. Development should be in keeping with character and Heritage..."

The tranquillity of Croxton is already (and increasingly) being damaged by traffic – Speed and Quantity. The JNP should include traffic calming measures in villages and adoption of 20 mph speed limits (as is being applied to villages in many areas now)

Need for lights or roundabout at Croxton Road – Mundford Road junction, a safety issue.
Need for roundabout at Kilverstone / London Road.

PART II

(Question 28 cont)

Plans need to allow proper space for vehicles so that multi – use houses do not block pavements roads etc.

Policing

The local policing cover should be sufficient to keep increased development safe.
Extension of alcohol free public areas to minimise public disorder incidents.

Street Lighting

Do NOT want to see urbanisation of rural villages i.e. Leave natural (NO street furniture or street lighting) DO NOT SPOIL!

Solar panels to benefit the whole village: reducing electricity bills and providing income.

Turn off every other light.

Do we need street lights? If yes all needs to stop light pollution.
ONLY on until 1 am

Communications

Why do we have to pay more for better phone signal and broadband, shouldn't companies or government scheme for faster broadband – most want underground better?

General

The feeling that this is simply a "PR exercise and the local views really don't matter/count"
The basis on why I moved to the area has been overruled

Breckland Council should take on board local views more than they have in the past.

Land currently used for Agriculture should be maintained for food production.

Retain stone curlews buffer zone.

Consult landowners and businesses
What are the things we like?
A detailed evidence base

Not for rural village locations.

Leave rural villages alone, it's what people like and why they move to the country. More emphasis required on historical and heritage preservation. The view from Rushford paddocks along The Little Ouse valley must not be spoiled. With regards to the SUE – its all

PART II

(Question No. 28 cont.)

gone through consultation and planning and most of your question are already answering and Thetford Town Council are better placed to govern. It is an extension to Thetford anyway. Let the experts deal with it!

It would be good to enquire as to the views of the under 18's most of us 'old ones' won't see any of this.

These questionnaires should have been handed out and collected personally and explained.

Is this it? Rather incomplete from your front page cover sheet, the Open Meeting was a let down and there is no 'public' participation.

Need to improve the standard of persons being encouraged to come here, becoming 'basket case' town.

All issues relate to a balance between young and old. A lot of people have been driven out of Thetford itself because of lack of thought for elderly and infirm. This may also happen in villages if they are not provided for.

Consider new settlement boundaries for villages where no such settlement boundaries exist, in order to allow development of villages with little or no basic facilities e.g. pub, post office, shops etc., and ageing population. In other words, reinvigorate our villages!!

Needs all of parishes inside bypass and Euston Road to be moved into Thetford town.

We feel Croxton should be preserved as a village and not joined to Thetford.

A barrier of trees should be planted now before construction starts, along the edge of the A11 from the roundabout junction of the A134 to where the railway line meets the A11 to prevent noise and light pollution and to keep the village rural (refers to Map 1).

Croxton should be preserved as a rural village and not become an extension of Thetford. Trees should be planted this side (north) of the A11 noise and light pollution, and to set a rural boundary. We would strongly oppose any development on Croxton side of the A11.

The village (see Q3) needs redrawing as some houses are split in two or excluded.

The stone curlew area (exclusion?) seems to cover all Thetford.

Feel that Croxton Vicarage must be in Croxton Village Boundaries, very strange?
Also bottom of village.

Croxton is a lovely village. Let's do our utmost to retain that image by resisting future building applications very strongly.

PART II

(Question No. 28 cont.)

Is Croxton a parish equipped to deal with the SUE project – or should the Croxton / Thetford border be renegotiated? Would revenues from an expansion area meet or exceed costs to the parish?

UNSOLICITED COMMENTS (no comments box)

Question No. 1

What type of housing should be prioritised for building in the Parishes?

I don't have the knowledge to complete this question. I think plans should reflect need not opinion.

None

None (see Q6 below)

Question No. 2 (b)

Noting there are currently no specific areas allocated for development other than those in the SUE (please refer to map attached), should there be provision for further new homes to be built? If so would you support local residents using suitable plots in rural areas/villages?

Is there a need ?

Depends on where they are: if building in back yard NO
If building in open ground YES

Question No. 3

Do you feel that the existing Croxton village settlement boundary remains appropriate? Please tick any of the following you feel applicable. (This question applies to Croxton only; please refer to Croxton village Map attached)

Don't know.

PART II

Question No. 4

Do you feel your community would benefit from development in the rural countryside around it?

What do you mean by development? I think Thetford's infrastructure should be developed.

Depends on density

Question No. 6

How important to you is it that any development that does take place is in keeping with the character and heritage of your community, and ensures this is maintained and supported including established hedgerows, listed buildings and open spaces, to protect the integrity of the parishes for the future'?

All Three parishes are rural. Future housing should take place along all as local plan decided upon.

See answer to Q1 (Unsolicited) above.

Question No. 9

What would encourage you to use a local bus service more?

Bad for environment, uses fuel and wastes time.

Not applicable.

Question No. 11

What improvements do you feel most important to meet the needs of further development?

6 – Arlington Way

What about existing businesses in village (farmers) who have a need for HGV vehicles having access? Not possible.

No further development.

None (Unsolicited) above

What about Lorries going to and from farms.

PART II

Question No. 13

As population grows the present primary care facilities (School Lane and Grove Lane Surgeries) will become increasingly stretched.

Good idea for future housing to north.

It is wrong that the Cottage Hospital, which was originally paid for by local public subscription, should not be used for public benefit.
Yes use The Cottage Hospital – surely logical!!

Question No. 14

What surgery are you registered with?

I feel this is an irrelevant question and intrusive.

Question No. 15

**The nearest Accident and Emergency and Hospital department is in Bury St Edmunds. Current 'out of hours' services are provided throughout Norfolk by East Anglian Ambulance services using contracted GP's and paramedics, with a base in Thetford at the Healthy Living centre.
Are you satisfied with the available Primary Care/GP out-of-hours services in Thetford?**

Never used it so have no opinion on that.

Question No. 16

If it is possible to expand out-of-hours provision in the area how do you think this would be best achieved.

Satisfied with existing arrangement

Healthy since February, already trialing Saturday emergency/urgent appointments

Question No. 17

If it were possible which of the following do you feel is most important to you as a patient?

All of the above are important but again **not** relevant to new development.

Most of these appear to be impossible at the present.

PART II

Question No. 18 (a)

Would you consider financially helping and/or giving practical help towards the upkeep of the church building?

Within reasonable cost "C of E" still wealthiest property owner in UK!

Question No. 19

Please tick one answer for each of the following statements:

Future development should make provision for micro businesses (less than 10 employees)

Not sure exactly what you mean. Large firms should be attracted to industrial/commercial areas of town.

Already SUE

These answers are flawed.

A micro business working in engineering could generate noise and nuisance.

A fruit farm employing 40 people would not be at all intrusive.

Question No. 21

Do you think there should be additional recreational facilities provided in the parishes, in addition to those outlined in the proposed SUE?

In Croxton NO.

Not in Croxton village.

Question No. 22

Do you feel there should be additional Play areas?

Not in Croxton village.

Question No. 24

Future development should not adversely impact on existing green spaces

Future development should protect existing landscape features (trees, hedgerows, rural footpaths)

Future development should include provision for new formal/informal green spaces

Future development should include space for allotments and/or community projects (e.g. orchard)

Future development should protect and enhance existing wildlife habitats

But what about stone curlews?

See comment Q5

PART II

Question No. 25 (Kilverstone)

There are 2 Alms Houses at Kilverstone, managed by a trust. The trustee is Brettenham and Kilverstone Parish Council. Do you feel that this number of Alms Houses is adequate?

Do not have the knowledge but I would support mote alms houses if needed.

Outdated in 21st Century! Liability!

For local use

Should be provided for local needs.

More to encourage community spirit.

Question No. 26

Would you support the provision of better telecommunications, if this increased Parish Council Tax

Would you support the installation of a telephone mast, or other means to improve signal strengths?

Would you be prepared to pay a subscription for higher broadband speeds even if this could not be provided by fibre-optic cable (e.g. by use of a signal mast or similar)?

No mast on our church

Broadband speed is good.

Mobile reception is very poor indeed.

Already have fibre optic broadband.

Blot on landscape!

Question No. 27

How important do you feel it is for street lighting in any new development to be carbon efficient and to minimise "light pollution" (e.g. use of LED fittings) ?

If LED's are used additional cost would be very small – less than ION bulbs would work ok.

Light pollution! NOT for rural areas. Beautiful night skies! Wildlife!