

CROXTON, BRETtenham and KILVERSTONE **JOINT NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STATEMENT**

Croxton and Brettenham & Kilverstone Parish Councils being duly elected councils are appropriate bodies under The Neighbourhood Planning Regulations (2012) for the purpose of preparing a Neighbourhood Plan (as defined in Section 61.G of 1990 Act).

We hereby notify Breckland Council that the Parish Councils would like to submit a Neighbourhood Plan Area as first step in this process.

The designated Plan Area is as shown on the attached map and is the area enclosed within the boundaries of Croxton, Brettenham and Kilverstone Parishes.

The Plan area will cover the whole of the civil parishes of Croxton, Brettenham and Kilverstone. This is in line with the Government's new approach to planning, which aims to give local people more say about how their area is developed. This is particularly important for these Parish Councils, which are under considerable development pressure, primarily as a result of their location.

Breckland District Council's Core Strategy (2009) allocates in excess of 5,000 dwellings to the parishes together with commercial development and provision of recreational areas. The development area defined is also part of the Thetford Area Action Plan (TAAP) 2012. The Plan covers the same period as the Core Strategy, which will end in 2026.

The Neighbourhood Plan would be the only single document that covers the whole of the combined Parish Council areas and its key purpose is to reinforce local distinctiveness and sense of community identity of two very different parts of the Parishes – e.g. the new development area and the traditional original rural village settlements.

The purpose of the Neighbourhood Plan is to maintain the sense of place and quality of life in the Parish by preserving the balance between future development landscape together with green open space and agricultural balance.

A Parish Plan for Croxton was developed and issued in 2005. This was due to be revised/updated. However both Parish Councils now believe the requirement for a joint Neighbourhood Plan needs to be produced in conjunction with the Breckland Council Core Strategy and Development Plans outlining development proposals which affect both Parish Councils between now and 2026.

The Neighbourhood Plan will include the following issues:

- 1 Residential development in conjunction with local needs and including the vision outlined in paragraph three above
- 2 To review requirement and provision of community facilities
- 3 To provide and maintain sustainable Parishes and resilient villages within the Plan area
- 4 To protect landscape and nature conservation
- 5 To improve transport infrastructure where necessary within aim of item 3 and reduce the need for private car use
- 6 Development of Employment and business use within the Parish in line with stated aims above