

## CROXTON NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STATEMENT

Croxton Parish Council being a duly elected council is an appropriate body 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 we 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 Croxton Parish boundary.

The Plan area will cover the whole of the civil parish of Croxton. 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 Croxton as the parish is under considerable development pressure, primarily as a result of its location.

Breckland District Council's Core Strategy (2009) allocates in excess of 3,000 dwellings to the parish together with commercial development and provision of recreational areas. This is in addition to the 11 dwellings approved by Breckland District Council at Valles/Woodlands, The Street, and presently in the process of being constructed.

The development area 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 Parish and its key purpose is to reinforce local distinctiveness and sense of community identity to two very different parts of the Parish – e.g. the new development area and the traditional original rural village settlement.

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 was developed and issued in 2005. This was due to be revised/updated however this requirement has been accelerated and needs to be produced in conjunction with Breckland Council's Core Strategy and Development Plans outlining development proposals which affect Croxton Parish 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 a sustainable Parish and resilient village within the Parish
- 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