

BRECKLAND COUNCIL
DELEGATED DECISION AUTHORISATION RECORD (Blue Form)

PORTFOLIO:	Strategic & Operational Planning		
REPORT TITLE:	Croxtton – Designation of Neighbourhood Area		
AUTHOR:	Andrew D’Arcy: Principal Planning Officer		
URGENCY - Delete as appropriate:	None – 5-day Scrutiny Delay	URGENT – sign form overleaf	
	CHECKLIST – Please Tick	KEY DECISION – Tick as appropriate	
1.	Financial Report Considered and/or Proforma B included	This IS NOT a Key Decision	X
2.	VAT Implications have been considered	This IS a Key Decision already included in Forward Plan	
3.	Legal Advice included	This IS a Key Decision NOT in Forward Plan, BUT PUBLICISED FIVE DAYS PREVIOUSLY or agreed by Chairman of Overview & Scrutiny Commission – Form over	
4.	Within Policy Framework		
5.	Risk Assessment statement included.		
6.	Crime & Disorder, Equalities, Human Rights, S40 Environment and other assessments are addressed in the report	Delegation under:	
CONFIDENTIALITY: Delete as appropriate	No confidential or exempt information to be excluded from the Press and Public		
Decision: Wording for Decision Record			
ACTION AGREED	To agree on the proposed designation of the parish of Croxtton as a Neighbourhood Area		
REASON(S)	The first stage of preparing a neighbourhood plan is agreeing what area the plan will cover. This is usually the parish boundary.		
Signatures: Authority for Action			
Chief Officer Comments:	Recommendation: Signature and date		
1.	I agree the above decision as a matter falling within my delegated powers. Executive Member: Date:		
2.	Does this have political sensitivity or strategic importance? NO If Yes: Leader (Please delete * as appropriate): *I agree above decision/*Refer to Cabinet Signed: Date:		
Additional Options Considered and/or Reasons for Decision			
1.0 Purpose The purpose of this decision is to agree on the proposed designation of the parish of Croxtton as a Neighbourhood Area. (See the application submitted by Croxtton PC including a map).			

2.0 Background

A Neighbourhood Area must be designated before a Parish Council can prepare a Neighbourhood Plan. There is national legislation and regulations guiding how this designation should be carried out.

- The national legislation and regulations state that a local planning authority must designate a neighbourhood area if it receives a valid application and some or all of the area has not yet been designated (see section 61G (5) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 Act as applied to Neighbourhood Plans by section 38A of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004). Where a Parish Council has applied for the whole of their parish to be designated the local planning authority must designate all of the area applied for.
- a valid neighbourhood area application is one where a 'relevant body' has submitted an application to the local planning authority that must include:
 - a map which identifies the area to which the area application relates,
 - a statement explaining why this area is considered appropriate to be designated as a neighbourhood area, and
 - a statement that the organisation or body making the area application is a relevant body for the purposes of section 61G of the 1990 Act.

The application from Croxton is for the whole of their parish to be designated as a neighbourhood area.

In 2014 an application for the designation of Croxton parish as a Neighbourhood Area was refused by the Cabinet of Breckland Council. The reason for this was '*endorsing a single Croxton Neighbourhood area would result in a disjointed approach to future policy affecting the Urban Extension and inhibit the ability of a joint Neighbourhood Plan covering the three parishes to be identified*'.

A subsequent application for Croxton, Brettenham and Kilverstone Neighbourhood Plan was successful and the Plan was made in 2018.

Under the current Regulations, applications submitted by parish councils for designation of the whole of its area as a neighbourhood area, the local planning authority has to designate the neighbourhood area in such circumstances, so there are no publicity requirements.

Consideration by Breckland Council

Breckland Council is supportive of Croxton preparing a Neighbourhood Plan for its parish.

It should be noted that Policies contained within plans cannot block or seek to amend development that has planning permission. In this case, the Thetford Sustainable Urban Extension cannot be amended or any additional policies applied to it as the site already has the benefit of outline planning permission and some phases are under construction. Relevant developers and land agents must also be consulted as part of any review process.

Breckland Council considers that the application submitted by Croxton is valid and therefore that the parish of Croxton should be designated as a neighbourhood area.

Alternative options considered:

None

Exceptional Urgency

I certify that this matter is so urgent that the normal five-day scrutiny delay on action should not apply.
(NOT APPLICABLE)

..... Dated:
Chief Officer

..... Dated:
Executive Member

..... Dated:
Leader

KEY DECISION not on the Forward Plan or publicised.

TO BE COMPLETED BY COMMITTEE STAFF:

I agree to the Decision proceeding:

Decision Record Ref No.:

Entry on Decision Record:

Confirmed:

Date of Entry:

For action on:

Passed to:

.....
Joint Director for Planning and Economic Development

Dated: