

MINUTES OF METHWOLD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD IN THE FENTON ROOM ST GEORGE'S HALL COMPLEX
THURSDAY 8TH AUGUST 2019 at 7.30pm

Present: D Thomas –Chairman, J Marriage –Vice Chairman, D Charlesworth-Smith, S Crump,
S Burbridge, R Gibson, P Crawley, B Horton.
6 members of the public

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

A presentation of an engraved glass bowl was made to former parish councillor Robin Hood as a token of thanks for his years of service to the parish.

OPEN FORUM

The broken bough on Petch Corner has been cleared. There are houses in Ventura Close which have laurel bushes which are overgrowing the pavement, it was reported that these will be cut back next week. If not the Clerk will write to St George's Management Committee to ask for them to be cleared off the pavements.

1. To receive and consider accepting apologies for absence. Cllr. Ryves sent his apologies. Due to a change in personal circumstances K Plumridge has resigned from the parish council but has offered to continue her involvement with Mini Methwold. DCS proposed to formally approve for K Plumridge to continue with Mini Methwold R Gibson seconded – APPROVED. The Chairman requested that the parish council is informed if K Plumridge is unable to continue her involvement. Councillors thanked K Plumridge for her contributions and involvement with Mini Methwold.
2. Declaration of Interest - Councillors invited to declare any interest in any item on the agenda
 - 2.1 To consider any dispensations - None
3. To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting of 11th July 2019 as a true record of the meeting. Cllr. Ryves requested an amendment be made to the minutes regarding the Neighbourhood plan. J Marriage proposed approval, R Gibson seconded – APPROVED. The Chairman signed the minutes.
4. Matters arising from the last minutes – None
5. Reports
 - 5.1 Update and Report from the Open Spaces Working Party to consider the recommendations made at the Open Spaces Working Party meeting held on 25th July 2019 to include: Request to remove pole/streetlight on Fair Hill Opposite 20 Globe Street – the landowner has asked UK Power Networks to remove the pole from his land, discussion and decision to ask UK Power to move this streetlight on to pole 37. Clerk to contact UK Power Network.
Parking at 20 High Street – waiting for the Solicitors to exchange paperwork, new tenants are parking 4 cars here, and close to the edge of the drive making access tight. Owner to speak to them.
Timber roll edging on flower beds in front of post office re rotten and need replacing, J Marriage to cost. The parish council thanked those who are responsible for the beautiful flowerbeds.
 - 5.2 Update and Report from the Hall and General Purposes Working Party meeting held on 1st August 2019. Electrical work continues at the old social club, all is going well.
The builder who as going to install the new parish door has decided not to proceed, further quotes to be sought.
Replacement chairs & tables for the whole complex, it is possible there may be a grant later in the year which could pay up to half of the amount new tables and chairs would cost, we will wait to see if an application is successful.

6. Finance

- 6.1 Accounts Update – Bank reconciliation given to all councillors, the former committee for Methwold Social Club have given a cheque to the parish council for £1k this will be used to start the Trust Fund – Thank you to the former social club for this payment.
- 6.2 Approval of payments – Income & Invoice List – S Burbridge proposed to approve all payments seconded by B Horton – APPROVED.

7. Planning

7.1 To receive planning decisions:

- 18/00994/F Fair View 8 Globe Street Methwold Thetford Norfolk IP26 4PQ - Construction of 4 dwellings following demolition of single dwelling Application Permitted 9 July 2019 Delegated Decision
- 19/01061/PAGPD 83 Hythe Road Methwold Thetford Norfolk IP26 4PX - Single storey rear extension which extends beyond the rear wall by 4 metres with a maximum height of 2.65 metres and a height of 2.65 metres to the eaves GPD HH extn - Not Required 11 July 2019 Delegated Decision
- 19/00144/F Land W of Crown Street N of Hall Farm Bungalow Hall Farm Drive Methwold Norfolk IP26 4PN - Variation of condition 2 of planning permission 15/01683/FM to amend the approved plans
- 18/00829/NMAM_1 Land W of 91 Hythe Road Methwold Norfolk - Non-material amendment to planning permission 18/00829/RMM: Reserved Matters Application for the construction of 24 dwellings Application Permitted 24 July 2019 Delegated Decision
- 19/01027/CU Methwold Beef Unit Brandon Road Methwold Thetford Norfolk IP26 4RJ - Change of use of former aircraft hanger building to B8 storage and distribution (retrospective) Application Permitted 5 August 2019 Delegated Decision
- 19/00064/TPO Red House 1 Hythe Road Methwold Thetford Norfolk IP26 4PP - 2/TPO/00517: T1 Fagus Sylvatica f. purpurea- to crown reduce by approximately 5m (to suitable growth points), leaving the final height of the Copper Beech at 50ft. TPO Work Approved 8 August 2019 Delegated Decision
- 19/00617/F Hithe 2 Holders Lane Brookville Thetford Norfolk IP26 4RE - Change of use from garden room static caravan to holiday accommodation Application Permitted 1 August 2019 Committee Decision
- 7.2 To consider the following planning applications: NONE
- 7.3 To consider any planning decisions and applications received after the agenda was produced: NONE

8. Items received for Agenda

Monday 9th September – Co-option – There are currently 5 vacancies for parish councillors, this is an opportunity to find out more about becoming a parish councillor, come along on the 9th September at 7.30pm to the 21 Room and talk to some of the serving parish councillors who will be here to answer any questions. If you are unable to make this date and time, please contact the Clerk who will be able to help.

Streetlights for land west of Crown Street Methwold – do the parish council want to take on the responsibility for street lighting on this new estate? The council discussed B Horton proposed not to take on responsibility for the streetlights on this new development, D Charlesworth-Smith seconded – AGREED NO

9. Correspondence which has not already been circulated

Tractor Drivers – it would be really helpful to everyone if the tractor drivers were to look where they are going – one reported to have flown out of Globe Street recently without looking.

Road Closures – Hythe road with Buntings Lane for a distance of 40 meters westwards towards the parish of Methwold for UKPN supply 19th – 23rd August 2019.

Road closure on Methwold Road and Feltwell Road Methwold Hythe for road resurfacing. Work will begin on Wednesday 14 August to resurface the junction of Methwold Road and Feltwell Road in Methwold Hythe. The work will take one day to complete subject to suitable weather conditions. During the repair works it will be necessary to close the road to all through traffic. A fully signed diversion route will be in place between 7.30am and 5.00pm.

Farming & the highway email received how we can work with the farming community to help improve road safety and the roadside environment – please see www.norfolk.gov.uk/farmingandthehighway
Clinical Commissioning Group – proposal to merge five CCG's in Norfolk & Waveney by April 2020
Public engagement document, please share your feedback by going to www.smartsurvey.co.uk/s/NorfolkandWaveneyCCGProposal

OPEN FORUM

Petch House – access road the plans show a drainage channel across the entrance, but this has not been done yet, it is believed these were being installed today. Are the kerb stones coming to the original wall or to the road?

Lack of grass cutting around the parish looks awful, Cock Corner and other areas which are the responsibility of the Borough and County Council.

When is the road sweeper likely to be in the parish? Previously we have been told that this is supposed to be every 12 weeks but this can change depending on staffing and other factors, Clerk to try and find out next date of visit.

Can the switch in the storage cupboard in the youth room be moved from behind the door? Chairman to ask the electrician to do this whilst he is working on the electrics.

Corridor outside Mini Methwold – the roof has been repaired again but because of the water damage the wall has flaking paint, this can be added to the Handyman's list.

Footpath 9/10 – are we getting anywhere with the Borough Council with regard to the extinguishment of part of this footpath? We have a meeting with the Borough Council next week and can bring this up again. Footpath 10 was mown but needs doing again and Footpath 9 is very tall.

10. Any Further Reports and items for the next agenda-for information only

Thanks to whoever cut the path at the top of The Avenue and along Mill Drove but stinging nettles remain along both sides, no where to go if vehicle or horses are using the track.

Can the 21 Room have air conditioning? There is an extraction system but this may not have been turned on at a recent event.

The bumps in the road along Main Road Brookville may be reappearing.

Speedwatch needs volunteers, if you can commit to an hour a week please contact the Clerk who will pass your details onto the Coordinator.

It was noticed that the sink in the Fenton Room is stained and needs cleaning.

Ladies toilet in the Fenton Room needs to be cleaned (Cleaner on holiday)

Will we be getting the SAMs2 sign back again, the councillor who used to look after the sign has left and there is no one to take on the task of keeping the batteries charged and moving the sign around the parish, if anyone wishes to take this on please contact the Clerk. The downloads are handled by the Clerk.

Brookville the grass by the seat and tub near Scotts Lane is overgrown and needs cutting.

A additional water tub required for outside St Georges Hall.

Potholes are reappearing at the entrance to The Avenue, this can be reported on www.fixmystreet.com

Traffic parking on pavements around the parish-this needs to stop, it is not good practice and means pedestrians have to walk into the road to pass the vehicles on the pavement this is inconsiderate and selfish, any incidents reported to the Clerk will be forwarded to the Police and Highways.

Power cord across the pavement charging electric car – Clerk instructed to ask Highways what the rules are for this.

11. To pass a resolution (under the Public Admission to Meetings Act 1960 to exclude members of the public and press for the following confidential items:

Developer EAM presented proposal for Development opposite Herbert Drive to parish council – 7 bungalows and 5 houses.

Quotes:-

Dividing door in St George's Hall. Enquiries have been made to repair the current door, but it was installed in 1984 and due to the weight of the door and they type of fixing required this is not possible.

A replacement is the only option. The Clerk has asked 3 companies to quote for replacement dividing doors in St George's Hall, this is now a health & safety issue because the current door is only being stabilized by 1 fixing.

Only 2 Companies have submitted quotes.

Quote A = £5990 + VAT – this company visited the site to take measurements.

Quote B = £5970 + VAT – no site visit

R Gibson proposed Quote A is accepted because this is the company who have visited the site, D Charlesworth-Smith seconded – APPROVED

Mole Contract – the current contractor has given a very good service and value for money, the clerk has spoken to the contractor and there will be no increase in costs for the next year, J Marriage proposed that the contract is extended for another 3 years with no increase in cost for at least the first year, S Crump seconded - APPROVED

Churchyard – a basic tidy up has been completed but further work is required, this is mostly because nothing has been done in the Churchyard for many years and it is hoped that once done it will be maintenance that is required. Money has been allocated in the budget for work in the Churchyard J Marriage proposed that the same contractor who is doing the rest of the areas that the parish council is responsible for is used for consistency, Quote for £1280 + VAT have been received R Gibson seconded - APPROVED

The churchyard wall is in need of repair in several places, a spec will be drawn up so that the Clerk can go out for quotes.

An extension to conclude the meeting was requested and approved by council

Cemetery – Work is required to clear the undergrowth on the centre row of trees and spray all paths in the Cemetery, there is money allocated in the budget for this work, cost to complete this work is £648.75 + VAT J Marriage proposed to accept this quote, S Burbridge seconded – APPROVED

Meeting closed 9.40pm