

MINUTES OF METHWOLD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING  
HELD IN THE FENTON ROOM ST GEORGE'S HALL COMPLEX  
THURSDAY 14<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER 2019 at 7.30pm

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

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

OPEN FORUM

Please can the heating be turned on in good time for the sessions at Mini Methwold? The Key Holder will be asked to turn on the heating an hour before the session. A heating engineer will be asked to look at the way heating is controlled.

Streetlight does not go off outside 18 Hythe Road, this will be reported.

Streetlight on post 31 was repaired but is now not working again.

Cllr. Storey reported a street closure from 4-6 December, this will be on Crown Street outside The George and in front of the entrance to the car park at St George's Hall Complex.

1. Co-Option procedure – there were 2 candidates standing for election – Candidate 1 received 3 YES votes and 4 NO votes as it is a majority decision this candidate was not accepted on to the parish council.  
Candidate 2 received 7 YES votes and was accepted onto the parish council.
- 1.1 Candidate 2 Mr R Scott signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office before taking a seat on the parish council
2. To receive apologies for absence – R Gibson and Cllr. Ryves
3. To receive declaration of items on the agenda and to consider requests for dispensations - None
4. To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 11th October 2019, B Horton proposed to accept the minutes, D Charlesworth-Smith seconded – APPROVED J Marriage abstained as he was not present at the last meeting.
5. Matters arising from the last minutes – Bottle bank- when will this be installed? Clerk to follow up for installation date.
6. Reports
- 6.1 Update - Open Spaces – no meeting held in October 2019 – Co-ordinator urged parish councillors to submit items which needs attention to the Clerk in good time for next visit from Highway Rangers.
- 6.2 Update and Report from the Hall and General Purposes Working Party to consider the recommendations made at meeting held on 7th November 2019  
Request for St George's Hall, Fenton Room & Kitchen to be used free of charge by Methwold Community Action Group to hold Carols Around the Christmas Tree. D Charlesworth-Smith proposed, B Horton seconded - APPROVED  
Anglian Water – inspection update and improvements required – a ball valve needs to be replaced and the water softener is to be removed because it is rarely used therefore water sits in the pipes between uses, removal was felt to be the best option, a qualified plumber will be required to undertake these tasks which will be undertaken as emergency repairs to achieve the deadline required by Anglian Water.  
New dividing doors in St George's Hall look very smart and once shut reduce noise when the rooms are being used. A additional broom, mop, bucket and dustpan have been purchased for hirers to use when in the Hall.

7. Finance
- 7.1 Accounts Update – Bank Reconciliation
- 7.2 Approval of payments – Income & Invoice List – S Burbridge proposed approval of payments, B Horton seconded – APPROVED.
- 7.3 Update from Finance Meeting held on 11th November 2019 and Approval of any recommendations from this meeting, there will be another meeting in December before the main meeting, recommendations from this meeting will be put before the council for approval.
8. Planning
- 8.1 To receive planning decisions:  
 19/00140/TREECA Lower Green Globe Street Methwold Norfolk - T1 & T2 Crab Apple, T3 Cherry: 50% thinning to re-establish amenity value within a conservation area, Tree Application - No objection 23 October 2019  
 19/00953/F The Workshops Brandon Road Methwold Norfolk IP26 4RH - Proposed new workshop storage building Application Permitted 7 November 2019 Delegated Decision
- 8.2 To consider the following planning applications:  
 19/01809/F Variation of condition 2 of Planning Permission 16/00611/F: Erection of 5 new dwellings being phase 2 of the redevelopment of a former coal yard and paddock Mulberry House 61 Globe Street Methwold Norfolk IP26 4PQ - the council OBJECT to the application because for continuity the whole development should be the same, phase 2 should match phase 1.  
 19/01566/F Construction of one dwelling at Land Between 5 And 11 White Plot Road Methwold Hythe Norfolk - The parish council voted to OBJECT to this application because they believe the proposed drawings are inaccurate.
- 8.3 To consider any planning applications received after the agenda was produced.
9. Items received for the Agenda  
 Response to article in the Methwold Times – The correct figures for the amount of Community Infrastructure Levy CIL received from the Borough Council for the developments in Methwold are as follows:-

Application Number	CIL received by BCKLWN	CIL received by Methwold Parish Council Currently 15%	CIL that would have been received <b>IF</b> a Neighborhood Plan were in place – increase to 25%
19/00144/F (S73)	£80	£12	£20
18/01202/F	£6,600	£990	£1,650
17/01699/F	£33,520	£5,028	£8,380
Amount	£40,200	£6,030	£10,050

There is a list of infrastructure items which can be provided or maintained by the Parish Council using the funds provided by CIL money.

10. Correspondence which has not already been circulated  
 Letter to the parish council regarding article in Methwold Times by Cllr. Ryves.  
 Traffic Order – road will be temporarily closed on Crown Street for 2 days from 4<sup>th</sup> December to 6<sup>th</sup> December for repairs.  
 The Countryside Access Officer has been out to assess the track at the top of The Avenue where there have been complaints about the condition of the track. The response received *It is quite clear that the damage to the surface is caused by the exercise of private rights of vehicular access and those that the properties “invite” such as the Post Office. Although it carries a public right of way this does not mean that NCC is going to use public money to repair the damage caused by private rights. The fact remains that the public right can still be exercised long after the private rights are deemed to be “uncomfortable” to drive over.*

*As is common elsewhere, it is up to the residents to repair the damage. I would encourage local people to undertake small scale but regular activity to keep the route in a fit condition for their use and as a consequence, the public use as well.*

*If the residents form a group to carry out the work, I may be able to, as a gesture of goodwill provide some road plainings to help them get the maintenance off to a good start.*

Reply from Norfolk County Council - Electric car using cables running across the pavement from a house to a car – This is considered to be an obstruction and therefore a danger to the highway user (pedestrian), A technician will contact the homeowner before issuing a notice.

SSAFA – request for VE Day 75 Celebrations – this will be passed onto MCAG

The Church are looking to make changes to the main entrance gates at St George's Church, costs to be met by the PCC, request that the Conservation Officer is made aware of any proposed changes.

#### OPEN FORUM

Open Spaces Co-ordinator gave a report on the recent footpaths seminar he attended.

Resident asked how long the static home would remain in place now planning appeal had been refused. There is also a static home in Brookville which has been on site for several years and another one in Methwold which is fenced in and looks permanent.

Is there any update on The Old Chapel, it's been re-clad in plastic, what is happening? It was suggested that anyone who is unhappy with this makes their own complaint to the Planning & Enforcement Officer at BCKLWN, Cllr. Ryves was not in attendance so unable to update.

The church noticeboard is going to be replaced, the old one is falling apart.

Someone has posted recruitment posters on village noticeboards, the noticeboards are not for this purpose and will be removed if seen.

11. Any Further Reports and items for the next agenda - for information only  
SAMs2 sign will be reinstated next week.  
Do we know when the streetsweeper will be in the village? The parish council are never told when the street sweeper will be in the village.  
In Ventura Close & Trent VC Close lights go off during the night but the old streetlights in the village remain on all night, Trent VC and Ventura Close are managed by a different maintenance company.  
The phone box which houses the defibrillator in Methwold Hythe has been vandalized, it is not thought that the defibrillator has been damaged. This has been reported to the Police as anti-social behavior.  
The Handyman will be asked to tidy up and repair as required.  
Bags of dog mess are being found in the tub outside the Post Office, there is no need for this, there are plenty of dog waste bins around the village.  
The bin outside the old post office in Brookville is overflowing.  
There was an accident outside the Academy this week.  
The Community Speedwatch team have requested another location for the Speedwatch camera.  
Be careful if using the road towards the roundabout at Whittington, there is a very large pothole.
12. 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:  
When the Complex opened across the two sites it was envisaged that the cleaner would require 35 hours per month, two years on and the Complex is busier therefore an increase in hours is required for the Cleaner, 45 hours per month was proposed by J Marriage, seconded by S Burbridge – APPROVED.  
Quotes - Replacement Chairs & Tables for Complex, there are no grants available to help towards the cost. The Complex is getting busier with 3 weddings already booked for 2020, because we have inherited the furniture we have not been able to provide matching chairs and tables for the hirers.  
B Horton proposed purchasing 250 chairs and 20 tables, with the trolleys required to move them around. D Charlesworth-Smith seconded – APPROVED. The Clerk will contact companies to see if they wish to purchase the old furniture.

Meeting closed 10.00pm