

MINUTES OF METHWOLD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD IN THE 21 ROOM ST GEORGE'S HALL COMPLEX
THURSDAY 8TH NOVEMBER 2018 at 7.30pm

Present: D Thomas –Chairman, J Marriage –Vice Chairman, R Gibson, R Hood, P Crawley,
D Charlesworth-Smith, S Burbridge, T Thomas, S Stones, B Horton, K Plumridge.

2 members of the public

Cllr M Storey

The Chair and welcomed all to the meeting.

OPEN FORUM

Resident stated that it was a great shame that no flagpole or Union flag will be flying from St George's Hall Complex on Remembrance Sunday, there is already a flagpole in the Church Yard but this was not considered acceptable by the resident.

Cllr. Storey stated that he had spoken with Highways to find out what they intend to do to the noisy road surface along Main Road in Brookville and when the Trod from Methwold Hythe to Methwold will start, Cllr. Storey is expecting Highways to contact the Clerk with an update and start dates.

This week there was an incident in Brookville where a low flying helicopter frightened a horse who subsequently died, the parish council expressed their sympathies to the Owners of the horse for their loss. If anyone wants to find out about low flying in this area or experiences low flying aircraft www.gov.uk/low-flying-in-your-area

Low Flying information for England, Wales and Scotland SWK-lowflying@mod.gov.uk

Telephone: 01780 417558 Monday to Friday, 8:00am to 4:00pm

Low Flying Complaints and Enquiries Unit - RAF Wittering Peterborough PE8 6HB

To make a complaint, send the following information: your name, full address and postcode telephone number, date and time of the problem, location of the problem, type of aircraft, if known and a brief description of your complaint

1. To receive and consider accepting apologies for absence – C West
2. Declaration of Interest - Councillors invited to declare any interest in any item on the agenda – None
3. To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 20th September 2018 as a true record of the meeting – D Charlesworth-Smith proposed to approve minutes of October's meeting, B Horton seconded – APPROVED S Burbridge abstained-not present at last meeting.
4. Matters arising from past minutes – None
5. Reports:
 - 5.1 Chairman's Report – the Chair apologised for not circulating the report before the Meeting, Chairman has attended several meetings this month – following one of these meetings with the Developer of one of the development sites the Section 106 is being revisited to see if this can be used for alternative projects, we will update as we get any information.

The meter for the PV Panels has malfunctioned, the Clerk has been unable to contact the supplier to come and change this, and the meter will be changed by another Electrician as soon as the replacement meter is delivered. This was considered an emergency repair.

The floor in St George's Hall was found to be soft and moving along the dividing door, the wall plate and the ends of the joists have rotted away, we have several events booked and have had to cancel 3 regular bookings this week to enable the builders to carry out this as an emergency repair. This means the remainder of the floor needs to

be inspected to see what other repairs are required.

5.2 Clerk's Report – Community Speed Watch has asked for a volunteer to co-ordinate the scheme within the parish, if no one can be found to co-ordinate this group D Charlesworth-Smith will take this role on.

The Post Office Hire Agreement has been signed and returned and a copy of the Post Office Insurance has been received.

5.3 Report from the Hall & General Purposes Working Group update of meeting held the meeting held on 1.11.2018 – Light over kitchen door in the car park is flashing on and off, this needs replacing as soon as possible. The padlock on the chain on the club drive is difficult to open and close due to it's location especially in the dark, a new lock with a key is required to make opening easier, the padlock will remain at the other end of the chain for contractors etc.

The light at the back of the club by Mini Methwold needs to be replaced as soon as possible, this is considered maintenance and will be done as soon as the electrician is available.

Bookings for Mini Methwold have been really good, there are some funds available to replace some toys and purchase new equipment, a list will be given to the Clerk.

5.4 Finance Committee meeting on 16.10.2018 and to consider recommendations made regarding: The Draft Budget for 2019/20, a copy of this was given to all councillors, R Gibson proposed acceptance of the draft budget J Marriage seconded – APPROVED Precept for 2019/20 – The Complex is performing well against this year's budget, the majority of the renovation to the old Social Club has been completed. The Council Tax Support Grant will be decreased again this year and it will cease by 2020/21, therefore to offset this reduction it was proposed that there is a 5% increase to the Precept. This would mean a Band D property would have an increase of approx. £5.40. The Parish would receive a Precept of approx. £53347. K Plumridge proposed to accept a 5% increase to the Precept for 2019/20, seconded by S Stones - APPROVED

It is expected the number of Band D properties will increase from 478 but the actual figures are not available from BCKLWN until Mid-December.

Due to the development of Petch Corner a CIL payment of £5028 will be paid from BCKLWN, this money has to be used for specific projects and cannot be used for day to day expenses. This amount will be transferred to the PARISH Council's Grant Fund. Permission to transfer into the Grant Account proposed by T Thomas seconded by S Burbridge – APPROVED

The textile bin is being emptied regularly and payments are being received.

6. Finances

6.1 Accounts Update – All councillors received a copy of the Bank reconciliation.

6.2 Approval of payments – S Stones proposed approval to make payments, B Horton seconded - APPROVED

7. Planning

7.1 To receive planning applications:

18/01680/F Single storey rear extension to dwelling at 8 The Avenue Brookville Thetford Norfolk IP26 4RF - SUPPORT

7.2 To receive planning decisions:

7.3 To consider any planning applications received after the agenda was produced:

None

Has the Clerk been advised on the outcome of the planning meeting held on 5th November – 18/01732/F Construction of Two Dwellings at The Yews 10 Buntings Lane Methwold, Not yet but when this information is received it will be circulated.

8. Items received for Agenda

Clerk has been asked if a Traffic Restriction Order can be requested for the B1112, it was felt that this would move the problem to another area and that the most pressing

problem is the work required to lessen the noise due to the excess tarmac on the road surface where the work has been done on the drains. Can the Clerk find out from Highways what traffic is acceptable on a B road?

9. Correspondence

Methwold History Group wrote to thank the Parish Council for the gift of the inscribed trowl to mark the 400th anniversary of the Market Charter. Community Speedwatch still needs volunteers and from these volunteers require someone to be the coordinator for the parish. Norfolk County Council have sent an email regarding the Budget Consultation for 2019/20, a copy of this has been given to all councillors. Schoolreaders have written to ask for volunteers to go into primary schools to hear children read, if anyone is interested please visit www.schoolreaders.org or call 01234 924111.

Inspector Cant from Downham Market is holding a Parish Councillors meeting to discuss policing in the area and how the new Local Policing Teams are going to fit into the day to day policing of the area, D Charlesworth-Smith volunteered to attend and will report back at the next meeting. The next SNAP meeting will be held on 22nd November at Downham Market Town Hall.

OPEN FORUM

Resident asked if there was any update from the archaeological dig at the development at the bottom of Globe Street – the parish council have not heard anything but there have been suggestions that Norman remains have been unearthed, the earth has been put back to protect the remains.

The Developer of Storey's Meadow has been asked if the Section 106 can be changed to provide facilities other than additional play equipment, this is being investigated.

Please can a light be provided at the side of the Old Social Club to light the driveway-this is already on the list of things to be done.

Can the sinks in the ladies toilet be updated, the ones which are there are small, ugly and an eyesore? The locks and handles have paint on them and where the new fittings have been installed the paint needs touching up.

Resident stated that it was lovely to have Footpath 9 cut but still waiting for Footpath 10 to be cut, Cllr. Storey said this was imminent and apologised for it not being done.

CIL – is adult gym equipment on the list?

Cllr. Storey thanked the parish council for providing tea and biscuits at the meeting this is very much appreciated and makes all feel welcome.

10. Any Further Reports - for information only

The noticeboards around the Parish, Clerk reported that regularly the drawing pins are being removed, please can this stop?

The yellow wigwags outside the school have been repainted but not all areas which were discussed and agreed with Highways have been done, when will they be coming back to finish the job?

The concrete in the garden outside Mini Methwold has been laid, this is the first part of the garden re-vamp.

The blue token 'Bag for Life' scheme is up and running at Downham Market Tesco, please support Mini Methwold.

Thank you to all who made such a huge effort for Remembrance Sunday, it was really lovely, super community spirit, please can the Chairman write to the Methwold Times on behalf of the Parish Council.

The toilet fittings have all been installed, thank you to P Crawley for doing this.

The incident with the horse and low flying helicopter can the Clerk make enquiries why they are flying so low over the village especially at night time.

Streetlight outside The George is out

Zip Wire on the Rec. is down, this is already being dealt with, the Contractor took this out when cutting the grass and will pay for the repair which will take 6-8 weeks.

11. To pass a resolution to exclude members of the public –

Report and update Establishment of Trust re: Old Social Club [JM] – The trust for the Old

Social Club is being discussed with a Solicitor, there was a problem with some of the wording in the Land Registry document, the Solicitor is working on the Trust.
The trees outside the Post Office are overgrown and in need of attention, quote received for this work £879.00 + VAT D Charlesworth-Smith proposed to accept quote S Stones seconded – APPROVED Clerk to check that no Tree Preservation Order exists before any work commences.

Electrical Work for Fire Signage and Emergency Lighting – 3 contractors have been shown around, 2 have submitted quotes, Quote A £1300 + VAT quote B £2700 + VAT both shown the same diagram. R Gibson proposed to accept quote A K Plumridge seconded – APPROVED

The quote for the installation of the two picnic benches was received labour and materials £1144.80 + VAT, this contractor already has the benches in store because they had to be removed from the original storage, R Hood proposed to accept this quote, B Horton seconded – APPROVED but benches need to be sited in the sunshine.

The Cleaner has submitted a price increase, this will be looked at separately by a small group before bringing back to next month's meeting.

Meeting closed 21.45