

MINUTES OF METHWOLD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD IN THE 21 ROOM ST GEORGE'S HALL COMPLEX
THURSDAY 12th JULY 2018 at 7.30pm

Present: J Marriage-Vice Chairman, R Gibson, C West, D Charlesworth-Smith,
K Plumridge, S Stones, S Burbridge, R Hood.

4 members of the public

Cllr M Storey

PC L Anderton

The Vice Chairman took the Chair and welcomed all to the meeting.

OPEN FORUM

Speeding traffic continues to cause concern in all three villages, PC Anderton explained Community Speedwatch, the Parish Council agreed to try and find volunteers to be trained to enable a Community Speedwatch to be set up to cover all three villages.

We already have speed and volume information from the SAMs2 but this doesn't provide info on who is speeding, Community Speedwatch would give us this information which could be used along with the SAMs2 data to enable the speed cameras know when the best time is to visit the Parish and the Police could target at the required time. If you have a minimum of 1 hour per week to spare and would be interested in volunteering to man the Community Speedwatch please contact the Clerk. Once there is enough interest to cover all three villages a training session will be arranged.

A resident asked if the B1112 could be changed so lorries are not allowed to use this route as a cut through, could the speed limit along this road be lowered? The Parish Council would have to make a formal request to Norfolk County Council for this to be looked at. Cllr. Storey was asked if he had made the contribution towards the Trod to Methwold Hythe, Cllr. Storey said this was all in hand.

A resident gave an observation that the short path across Storeys Meadow needs another cut, the long path has not been cut at all. A finger post is sited at Globe Street end of Storeys Meadow but it is impossible to use the footpath. Cllr. Storey stated that part of the meadow has been topped but stopped due to hitting objects hidden in the undergrowth.

1. To receive and consider accepting apologies for absence – B Horton, P Crawley, T Thomas, D Thomas.
2. Declaration of Interest and to consider dispensations – J Marriage asked for a dispensation with regard to item 8 Footpath extinguishment. S Burbridge proposed acceptance of Dispensation R Gibson seconded – All Agreed.
3. To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 12th June 2018 as a true record of the meeting. D Charlesworth-Smith proposed to accept minutes, C West seconded - All Agreed.
4. Matters arising from past minutes – Village signs to go onto Open Spaces agenda. Drains along Stoke Road and Main Road Brookville are now cracking where the lorries are running over them, Cllr. Storey visited the resident who complained and has spoken to Highways who were going to contact the resident, this will be followed up.
5. Reports:
 - 5.1 Chairman's Report – No questions

5.2 Clerk's Report- No questions.

5.3 Open Spaces Working Group on 28.06.2018 and to consider recommendations made regarding: Globe Street – this does not appear to be on the Parish Footpath Map, It is unknown who owns this piece of land, should the Parish Council register it? Highways would then be responsible for its upkeep, is there any cost to do this? Clerk to find out more information as to what is involved in registering.

Approval to purchase Bluetooth function for SAMs2 sign, At present the sign and battery have to be bought into the office to download, they are heavy, Bluetooth can be added to sign for £250, this enables the sign to be downloaded at the roadside, R Hood proposed Bluetooth is purchased, S Burbridge seconded – ALL AGREED

Fair Hill/Lancaster Park Farm Entrance – Meeting with LPF, JM & RH to discuss proposal for road to be extended onto the grass at the turning into LPF from Fair Hill. Any change to the road would need approval from Highways. Tractors are already reported as driving too fast along Fair Hill and Globe Street, would giving them more room mean they can go faster? There is a French drain under the grass to alleviate flooding into a house on this corner, what impact would widening the road have? Any extension of the road would need to ensure the drain was not affected. There is a public right of way across the proposed area which would be affected. LPF has an alternative entrance off the B1112 Stoke Road but they prefer to use the entrance on Fair Hill.

The public were invited to comment-could a dog leg be taken from Fair Hill Green to allow vehicles to turn into the farm drive?

More information is required, S Burbridge proposed to bring this back to the next meeting, R Gibson seconded – ALL AGREED

Road Safety Posters – Children from a class at the primary school have drawn road safety poster, thanks to local residents these will be put on private land alongside the road to make drivers aware of their speed and safety. These will cost £16 each, R Hood proposed 8 to be chosen and made into posters, S Stones seconded – ALL AGREED

Bus Shelters – Clerk has looked into this, the cost is approx. £4k each for supply and installation, there is not enough money in this year's budget but could be part of a Parish Partnership bid for 2019/20, parish council thought it was a good idea but need to establish if there is any requirement for shelters, how many it would benefit and where to put them before decision is made.

Volunteers to help install Gabions, work day in the Cemetery and in the grounds of the Complex – Open Spaces.

Cemetery-clarification required regarding cultivation around graves to Open Spaces.

5.4 Hall & General Purposes Working Group – Approval required to spend £30 to improve the internet connection in the club, currently if the WiFi connection cuts out it has to be reset, this cable would prevent this. D Charlesworth-Smith proposed purchase of cable, R Gibson seconded – ALL AGREED

Donation from Fincham Chorus for crockery in the 21 Room, after a recent hire where dinner plates were not available to use, the Fincham Chorus have donated £100 towards the purchase of plates for hirers to use, request that the parish council also purchase forks and dessert spoons at the same time. K Plumridge proposed £150 to purchase plates, forks and spoons, R Gibson seconded – ALL AGREED

Flagpole – the one in the churchyard belongs to the parish council, 2 flags are to be handed over to the parish council, the Clerk was asked to approach the resident who has asked for a flag to ask if they would be prepared to fly the appropriate flags on the required days.

6. Finances

6.1 Accounts Update – Chair went through Income & Invoice list.

6.2 Approval of payments R Hood proposed approval for payments to be made, D Charlesworth-Smith seconded – ALL AGREED

Request for Clerk to formally thank the Contractor who has installed the new safety mats for watering the new grass regularly.

Fuel prices are being monitored.

7. Planning

7.1 To receive planning applications:

18/01174/F Construction of two dwellings The Yews 10 Buntings Lane Methwold Thetford Norfolk IP26 4PR. SUPPORT

7.2 To receive planning decisions:

17/01657/F Land opposite 27 Feltwell Road Methwold Hythe – Appeal Ref:

APP/V2635/W/18/3194198 – Appeal dismissed

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

18/00829/RMM Reserved Matters Application for the construction of 24 dwellings at land on the south side of Hythe Road Methwold Norfolk. Concerns regarding the drainage has been addressed. Original OBJECTION for this development was due to concerns about infrastructure, lack of places at the primary school and Doctors which has not changed.

18/01097/F Proposed replacement dwelling at Fen Cabin Severalls Road Methwold Hythe Norfolk IP26 4QU and have voted to support this application. Request a condition is added that once the new house is built the old one is demolished.

Methwold Parish Council still has concerns about the lack of infrastructure in the Parish to support additional housing.

18/01202/F Proposed Agricultural Dwelling to Supervise Poultry Unit at Formerly RAF Methwold Brandon Road Methwold Norfolk IP26 4RL - SUPPORT

Chair asked for permission to extend the meeting – ALL AGREED

8. Items received for Agenda

Footpath extinguishment – R Gibson took the Chair for this item and read out a statement from the proposer, the parish council discussed, it is understood that this part of the footpath has not been used for a number of years, and there is an alternative route.

R Hood proposed to accept the extinguishment of this part of Footpath 7, K Plumridge seconded 1 Abstention J Marriage – ALL OTHERS AGREED

9. Correspondence – Clerk asked to attend meeting for WWI celebrations, the Chairman is to attend.

A resident has emailed concerned about the speed at which tractors and farm vehicles are driving along the High Street and turning into Globe Street and onto the two farms located down here, vehicles need to slow down and be careful.

Borough Council has informed all Clerks of a charge for elections and non-contested elections, as from 2018 parish councils will be charged for elections to be held and costs can range from £200 to £3000 for a larger parish like Methwold. Methwold Parish Council include £500 p/a in the Budget for election costs but previously have never been asked to pay for them.

OPEN FORUM

The application for the 24 houses, where does the main water supply run? Thought to run under the development, will they shield the pipes when developing? The drains along Stoke Road are full of silt, these have been reported and the first one has been done and marked but not the others. Flagpole, a resident thought this a cop out and not good enough, St George's Hall should have its own flagpole, this will be taken to the next Hall meeting but do we need two flagpoles?

10. Any Further Reports - for information only

There are large dogs roaming behind the fence at The Old Chapel, they growl when anyone passes, do they need signs up to say guard dogs?

The speed camera in Brookville is pointing in the wrong direction.

Dog bin in Brookville post is broken, J Marriage intends to repair this.

Grass at the Old Post Office Brookville is overgrown, is this Highways responsibility?

Mini Methwold-new more durable parcels will be purchased for the post office in Mini Methwold, the ones the children play with have to be repaired regularly.

11. To pass a resolution to exclude members of the public – Post Office Hire Agreement, a copy was given to all parish councilors for discussion and approval R Hood proposed to accept the Hire Agreement for the Post office R Gibson seconded – ALL AGREED
Cemetery Hedge Cutting Quotes – Clerk asked 4 contactors to quote for this job, only 1 has sent in a quote. R Hood proposed the quote is accepted K Plumridge seconded – ALL AGREED R Hood requested to be in attendance when the hedge is cut.

Meeting ended 10.25pm