

MINUTES OF METHWOLD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD IN THE 21 ROOM ST GEORGE'S HALL COMPLEX
THURSDAY 13th FEBRUARY 2020 at 7.30pm

Present: D Thomas –Chairman, J Marriage –Vice Chairman, R Scott, S Crump, B Horton,
P Crawley, R Gibson.
18 members of the public
Cllr.A Ryves
Cllr M Storey

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

OPEN FORUM

Representatives from Cherry Tree Farm attended the meeting to explain what they are setting up and the reason for the recent planning application for a visitor centre and an animal barn, this is so the facility can be used to shelter the animals and it will enable them to operate in all weather. Many of the volunteers who attended the meeting spoke about the very positive effect this facility is already having on visitors to the site, they offer animal therapy sessions and have Organisations who are willing to support them. They intend to hold specialist days which will provide a therapeutic environment for those with ADHD, Dementia, Autism and their families.

The parish council had previously objected to the latest planning application, this decision was made due to a recent Parish Update session held by BCKLWN, the Chairman of the parish council and the Planning Committee Chair attended, and were told that if a parish council wish to make any comments to a planning application they have to object to get the comments read, hence the objection because of the concern regarding Thornham Road and suitability for any volume of traffic, especially as it is single track with few passing places and very poor quality road surface. Cllr Ryves stated that all comments made to planning applications by parish councils are read. The Chairman asked Cllr. Ryves to investigate what the parish council were told at the meeting, the Chairman has a recording of the meeting which will be passed onto Cllr. Ryves.

Before this evening's meeting an email was sent to the Clerk with photographs of Thornham Road this email has been circulated to the parish council and Severalls Road entrance was suggested to be the preferred route to Cherry Tree Farm.

The parish council were asked if they would change their mind and support the planning application but this is not possible because the parish council cannot vote again until six months has passed from the last vote on this subject, they can withdraw their objection, this was agreed and the Clerk will notify the planning Department tomorrow to explain the reason for the objection and to request withdrawal.

Cllr. Storey stated that he does not comment on planning applications because he sits on the planning committee.

1. To receive apologies for absence – S Burbridge, D Charlesworth-Smith
2. To receive declaration of items on the agenda and to consider requests for dispensations - None
3. To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 9th January 2020, Proposed by B Horton, seconded P Crawley - APPROVED
4. Matters arising from the last minutes – Footpath 10 – it is believed that the developer has cut the footpath, fencing on Footpath 9, the Developer has been asked to meet with the parish council to discuss, this is in the process of being arranged.

Buntings Lane – plastic recycling company have bought the factory site, at present not much information is known to be able to discuss this further, Clerk has asked for questions to send to the company.

5. Reports

5.1 Update and Report from the Open Spaces Group to consider the recommendations made at meeting held on 23rd January 2020:

Bollards on Fair Hill – a quote had been accepted but as this was some time ago these need to be requested.

Fair Hill is getting badly cut up from vehicles parking on the grass, should the parish council consider placing bollards fully around Fair Hill Green to stop parking on the grass? The roadway has evidence of being well used and the roots from the trees are coming through the tarmac in places, Do the parish council want the Clerk to obtain quotes to place bollards around all of Fair Green?

Additional Dog waste bin - Brumble Barn – Licence is required from BCKLWN to site a new Dog waste bin, cost for dog waste bin is approx. £250, to empty weekly approx. £104 a year. Highways may need to install which will add to cost.

Trent VC and Ventura Close residents have reported dog mess being left on the ground, parish council have been asked if a dog waste bin can be installed in this area, Clerk to follow this up to find out who is responsible for providing and paying for installation and emptying a dog bin in this area.

More dog fouling stickers are required, the Clerk will ask BCKLWN for these.

It is an offence not to pick up after your dog, please be responsible bag it and bin it.

5.2 Update and Report from the Hall and General Purposes Working Party to consider the recommendations made at meeting held on 6th February 2020: At the recent meeting the group went through all outstanding items for the Complex. Quotes will be discussed at the end of the meeting.

6. Finance

6.1 Accounts Update – Bank Reconciliation – a £1000 has been paid to the parish council from the Tesco blue token scheme towards the cost of the garden project in Mini Methwold.

6.2 Approval of payments – Income & Invoice List – J Marriage proposed to approve payments, B Horton seconded - APPROVED

7. Planning

Plastic recycling factory in Buntings Lane – there is concern regarding the amount of vehicle movements there could be when this site is operational, no one currently maintains Buntings Lane. Are the plastics being washed on site or will they be stored dirty, what are they going to be storing on site? Is this site going to become a fire risk, is the fire service aware of the nature of the business? Does the factory have an adequate water supply in case of fire? Is the building secure?

7.1 To receive planning decisions:

19/01966/F Holme Brink Farm 22 Thornham Road Methwold Norfolk IP26 4PH - Construction of building as hostel accommodation for seasonal works, following removal of existing mobile home accommodation Application Permitted 5 February 2020

Delegated Decision

7.2 To consider the following planning applications:

20/00011/F Steel agricultural building for storage 49A Main Road Brookville Norfolk IP26 4RB
SUPPORT

19/02051/F Construction of front and rear extensions at Woodbine 3 Lancaster Close Methwold Thetford Norfolk - Amendments – NO OBSERVATIONS

19/00211/NMA_1 NON-MATERIAL AMENDMENT TO PLANNING CONSENT 19/00211/F: Two storey side extension 73 Hythe Road Methwold Thetford Norfolk IP26 4PX – NO OBSERVATIONS

19/01139/F Construction of a gas compound at Land Approx 2.4 Kilometres S And W From Wellington Lodge Farm Northwold Norfolk – Amendments – NO OBSERVATIONS

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

8. Items received for the Agenda - None

9. Correspondence which has not already been circulated –

- Donation request letter received from East Anglian Children's Hospice, Clerk to reply.
- Fields in Trust Newsletter is available in the parish office.

OPEN FORUM

Received by email from resident –

- The replacement wall in Buntings Lane, when will it be capped off to match the rest of the wall?
- Have had several calls from Planning re, the Meadow, the flint wall at the front will be replaced as we see it now apart from access for residents in one of the front houses it seems to have come down from two openings to one.
- Someone is going out to check the measurements with regards the distance between the houses and the trees and, re-siting the wall that will be nearer to them than it is now.
- The fence at the back of the site is not in the right place for Footpath 10 to go in a straight line from the kissing gate in Hall Farm Lane to the Globe Street end, has this fact been confirmed or, explained?
- Is there any update to the Old Chapel? Cllr. Ryves reported this was being pursued legally by Highways.
Other queries were:
- The wall in Buntings Lane which has been replaced is not as the original, there has been an enforcement order but nothing seems to have happened to date, photos of the original wall will be forwarded to the Chairman.
- Mud on the road at the Meadow development, Clerk has already spoken to the developer.
- When will the streets in the parish be swept properly, the last time this was done was on the 28th January at 6.30am and no one knew they were coming and had the chance to move cars to enable the sweeper to do a proper job, it is understood that the road sweeper is on a 12-16 week cycle.
- Chairman to clarify whether Footpath 9 & 10 has been cut?
- What can be done about the cars parking on both sides of the High Street, the parish council recently held a meeting with Highways, the Police, Iceni Academy, the primary school and the Police Force Road Traffic Officer to discuss parking in the village, especially outside the primary school and speeding past the Academy – waiting for updates from actions.
- The Millennium tree on Fair Hill has no plaque - to Open Spaces.

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held on Monday 30th March 2020 at 7.30pm in the 21 Room at St George's Hall Complex, it is hoped that there will be presentations on Neighbourhood Plans, CCTV and feasibility of a shop.

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

Cllr. Ryves reported that Norfolk County Council - Local Transport Consultation closes soon. Mr Marriage advised members that parish council has fulfilled its obligation to the trustees of the old Social Club, who required in deed of Transfer that the council establish a Trust to receive monies in the event that the council sells the old social club and grounds. The Trust is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation under the umbrella of the Charities Commission. The Chairman confirmed that as soon as a bank account is established the parish council will hand over the £1000 that was the residue received from the Social Club trustees to be put into the new trust.

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:

Approval of quotes:

Fire work repairs required in Old Social Club to include recesses in Peggy's Room and corridor, boiler room, ceilings, bathroom etc. Proposed R Gibson seconded S Crump -

APPROVED

Reconfigure storeroom/cellar in Old Social Club to make Cleaners room Proposed B Horton Seconded S Crump - APPROVED

Replacement floodlight on the end of the old social club – Proposed B Horton seconded R Gibson – APPROVED

When the dividing wall is closed in St George's Hall there is no access to drinking water for hirers, this needs to be investigated further, a solution would be to extend the boiler room to allow the addition of a sink in the boiler room and a small kitchen area in this end of the building.

Due to the recent lack of heating the Theatre Club had to cancel their regular session, would the parish council waive the hire of the cooker for use on the evening of the Murder Mystery on the 29 February 2020? S Crump proposed to waive the fee for the use of the cooker, P Crawley seconded – APPROVED R Gibson, D Thomas and J Marriage abstained.

Meeting closed at 9.45pm