

MINUTES OF METHWOLD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

HELD AT ST. GEORGE'S HALL
THURSDAY 11th MARCH 2010

Present: – Mr. R Hood – Chairman, Mr. D Owen – Vice-Chairman, Mrs. B Horton, Mrs. M Wortley, Mr. C Neville, Mr. D Wortley, Mrs. J Oliver, Mrs. D Charlesworth-Smith, Mr. C Marsland

Mr. M Peake – Borough Councillor

Mr. M Storey – Borough Councillor

10 members of the public

OPEN FORUM

- A meeting has been held in the village regarding the possibility of establishing a team of 'First Responders' in the parish. Members of the public are trained in basic First Aid and how to use a defibrillator. First Responders can arrive where needed in possibly half the time it may take an ambulance to reach a casualty. The cost of setting up a First Responders team would be £1700. A request will be made to the Parish Council for funding.
- The seat in Brookville has been repaired.
- The railings at Cross Hill have been straightened.
- Home Watch signs have been erected at the entrance to the village.
- A grant of £1000 has been awarded to enhance sport in the parish.
- A complaint was voiced regarding flooding of the garden at Meadow View Farm, Globe Street. Water was said to be overflowing from Humble Pit. Councillors were informed that water now accumulates in the garden because a hedge is growing in what was a drainage ditch.
- The Council were asked to support planning applications relating to 38 Old Severalls Road, Methwold

1. **No Apologies for Absence made.**

2. **No Declarations of Interest made.**

3. **The Minutes of the meeting held on 11/02/10 were agreed as a true record.**

4. Matters Arising:

- The problem with a noisy bird scarer in Brookville as reported last month appears to have been resolved.
- Mrs. M Wortley, Mr. D Wortley and the Clerk met with a BT engineer to discuss the possible erection of another telegraph pole at Lower Green. The Parish Council has requested that no further pole should be put up and that the wiring should be placed underground.
- Highways will be asked if they will put in a bollard at Lower Green to protect the grass. The Parish Council will offer to buy the bollard.

4.1 A request had been made to put the matter of locked cupboards at St. George's Hall on the agenda. It was agreed this matter could be considered at the next Hall Committee meeting.

5. **Reports:**

5.1 Chairman's Report

- The Chairman has received letters from Mr. P Barnes regarding hiring of St. George's Hall and the footpath outside Lion House. The contents of the letters were noted and the Chairman will reply.
- It was reported that the PA system in St. George's Hall is not working. A quote to repair the system will be sought. A member of the public also offered to supply a second hand system should something suitable become available to him.

5.2 Clerk's Report:

- A new cradle seat for one of the swings at the Rec. will be purchased at a cost of £95.00

6. **Accounts for February were presented and approved for payment.**

6.1 It was agreed to consider both the 2010 grass cutting contract and the quotes received for an electrical inspection of St. George's Hall at the end of the meeting after a resolution to exclude the public.

7. **Correspondence:**

7.1 Norfolk Link etc.

7.2 Financial Assistance Scheme and Funding Opportunities Newsletter.

7.3 Energy Saving Trust leaflet

8. Planning:

8.1 Alterations and extension to dwelling at 38 Old Severalls Road, Methwold Hythe
10/00318/F

Approval recommended

8.2 Construction of one dwelling between 32 & 38 Old Severalls Road, Methwold
Hythe

10/00299/F

Approval recommended

8.3 Extension and roof replacement to dwelling at 35 White Road, Methwold
10/00265/F

Approval recommended

8.4 Single storey rear extension at 10 The Avenue, Brookville 10/00036/f

Approval recommended

8.5 Modifications and side extension to detached bungalow at 17 Holders Lane,
Brookville 10/00191/F

Approval recommended

9. The date for the Parish Annual Meeting was set for Tuesday May 11th 2010 at 7pm.

10. Further reports/items for the next agenda

- 10.1 Mr. Owen continues to attend meetings of the Community Focus Group at Methwold High School. A Fun Day is to be held in the village on May 3rd when teachers from the High School will play cricket against a team from Methwold village. Rounders will be played on the Rec. and the Parish Council will endeavour to arrange for the Rec. to be rolled in time for the event. Quotes for this will be sought.
- 10.2 The heating at St. George's Hall still appears to be problematic. The system is thought to be losing pressure and advice will be sought as to how this may be fixed.
- 10.3 Concern was raised again regarding dangerous parking outside the High School at the end of the School day. It was noted that Brookville is a location for the Police camera van and it is hoped this may encourage drivers to obey the speed limit when travelling through the parish.
- 10.4 Pot holes were reported at the junction of Ventura Close and Hythe Road and by Whittington roundabout.
- 10.5 Mr. D Owen has offered to fix a padlock to the gate between the Rec. and the Churchyard.
- 10.6 The cost of replacing the gate between the old play area on the Recreation Ground and the main part of the Rec. will be investigated.

Resolution to exclude the public to discuss the following:

1. 2010 Grass cutting contract

It was agreed to continue to use the same firm as last year to undertake grounds maintenance work in the parish.

It was also agreed to seek quotes for rolling the Rec. and to go ahead with this if the cost would be under £150.

2. Electrical inspection of St. George's Hall.

Two quotes have been received and it was decided to employ Parkers to undertake an electrical inspection as specified in the quotation received from them.