

## MINUTES OF METHWOLD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

### HELD AT ST. GEORGE'S HALL THURSDAY 10<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2010

Present: – Mr. R Hood – 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 Storey – Borough Councillor

5 members of the public

#### OPEN FORUM

- Complaints are still being raised regarding the collection of rubbish from Scotts Lane, Brookville. A refuse collection lorry collects rubbish from one household in the lane but all others are asked to take their rubbish to the end of the lane for collection. Residents are not happy with this arrangement and a health hazard is created as sacks of rubbish are left at the side of the road. *Mrs. D Charlesworth-Smith and Mr. Storey offered to look into this matter.*
- A new system is being implemented relating to Home Watch. Mr Chris Stone and Mr Phil Barnes are involved with this.
- Mr C. Stone has submitted a grant application to DEFRA relating to improvements for St. George's Hall. The application has successfully passed through the regional stage but now has to succeed nationally.
- Enquiries are ongoing regarding the possibility of obtaining a portable defibrillation machine to be located at St. George's Hall .
- A Sports weekend is to be held in Methwold on July 10/11th.

#### 1. Apologies for Absence

Mr. D Owen, Mrs. K McBride

Mr. T White – County Councillor

Mr. M Peake – Borough Councillor

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

### **3. The Minutes of the meeting held on 13/05/10 were agreed as a true record.**

#### 4. Matters Arising:

- It was reported that there is still glass on the cycle path near the rear entrance to Methwold High School. This entrance crosses the cycle path but there are no give way markings. This has been reported to Highways.
- The Chairman is to contact Style Windows regarding replacement of the window in St. George's Hall nearest to the Post Office. It is uncertain why this window was not replaced at the same time as the other windows.
- The Batchcroft Charity is to be approached regarding the possibility of obtaining grant funding through the Charity to provide seats for the village.
- A heating engineer has been approached regarding looking at the heating in St. George's Hall. The Clerk is awaiting a response.
- The Highway Engineer has been informed of the concern regarding the work undertaken recently on the footpath by Lion House, Globe Street. It has been reported that the tarmac was laid when almost set. If problems occur the footpath surfacing will be looked at again as necessary.
- The overgrown footpath across Storey's Meadow has been reported to the Rights of Way Officer.
- The faulty one way indication arrow at Fair Hill has been reported to the Highway engineer.
- Royal mail will be approached to request a post box outside Methwold Post Office.

4.1 Amalgamation of the Parish Council Committees will be an agenda item again for the July Parish Council meeting.

## **5. Reports:**

### 5.1 Chairman's Report

- The Chairman reported that moles do not seem to be too much of a problem in the cemetery at the present time.
- An additional forty new chairs have been purchased for St. George's Hall.
- The chairman received an invitation to the Mayor's Civic Ceremony but was unable to attend.

### 5.2 Clerk's Report:

- Copies of Financial Regulations and new Model Standing Orders were distributed to Councillors for agreement at the July Parish Council meeting.
- Enquiries have been made regarding the provision of recycling banks in the village. The Borough Council will provide banks and recycling credits are paid on paper and clothing but not on glass.
- There is no grant funding available through the Borough Council Conservation Department to assist with repair of the chalk wall at St. George's Hall car park.

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

6.1 Copies of the 2010/11 budget were presented to Councillors. It was suggested the Finance Committee and St. George's Hall Committee should meet to consider expenditure and reserve money allocation. The Committees recommendations can then be put to the full Parish Council.

6.2 The editor of The Methwold Times will be asked to publish an article reminding dog owners to be responsible and stating that dog waste can be placed in general household waste if it is appropriately wrapped. It was suggested the location of dog waste bins in the parish could be added to the footpath map in Methwold Directory. The need for another dog waste bin along the cycle track will be discussed by the Finance Committee.

6.3 It was decided that a pedestrian gate is not needed between the old play area and the main area of the Recreation Ground. A quote will be sought to fence the hole which was previously gated.

**7. Correspondence:**

7.1 Norfolk Link etc.

7.2 Norfolk Fire and Rescue Service Safety Plan

7.3 Donation request from Norfolk Accident Rescue Service

7.4 West Norfolk Sports Council Annual Meeting

7.5 Norfolk Association of Village Halls Newsletter

7.6 Norfolk Minerals and Waste Local Development Framework: Core Strategy and Minerals and Waste Development Management Development Plan Document: Publication of Pre-submission Document

**8. Planning:**

8.1 Extension to dwelling at 4 Ventura Close, Methwold 10/00734/F

*Approval recommended (noted that building is close to boundary)*

8.3 Replacement garage and two storey extension to house at 34 Globe Street, Methwold 10/00817/F

Approval recommended

Notification received that planning application for construction of two dwellings following demolition of existing bungalow at 37 Whiteplot Road, Methwold Hythe has been withdrawn.

**9. Consideration of the revised Deed of Easement relating to land at Lower Green, Methwold will be an agenda item again at the July Parish Council meeting.**

**10. Further reports/items for the next agenda**

10.1 Pot holes need repairing along Thornham Road.

10.2 Grass does not seem to be cut between the trees surrounding the Recreation Ground. The grass cutting contractor will be approached.

10.3 Some discussion took place regarding repairing the chalk wall at St. George's Hall car park. The Finance Committee will consider this further. It was noted chalk walls around the village are in poor order.

10.4 It was suggested a bin is needed outside the gates of the High School as cigarette butts are strewn over the footpath.

10.5 The Police Safety Camera Van is looking for a new parking site in Brookville.

10.6 Mrs. D Charlesworth-Smith suggested the Parish Council should consider joining an advocacy/legal service for Parish Councils. More information will be sought.

10.7 The Street light opposite the New Hall is on all day. Branches need trimming from trees near the light.

10.8 Problems were reported with rubbish not being collected from Ventura Close. It was felt this may be due to residents not knowing collection days.

*Resolution to exclude the public to discuss the following:*

1. *Electrical inspection of St. George's Hall.*

*It was decided to employ Parkers to undertake electrical work as specified in the quotation received from them.*