

**Minutes of the Meeting of Methwold Parish Council  
held on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> December 2010  
at St. George's Hall.**

**Those present: -- Mr. R Hood – Chairman, Mrs. B Horton, Mrs. D Charlesworth-Smith, Mrs. M Wortley, Mr. J Marriage, Mr. C Marsland, Mr. C Neville, Mr. D Wortley.**

**Mr. M Peake – Borough Councillor  
Mr. M Storey – Borough Councillor**

**4 members of the public**

**NO MATTERS RAISED IN OPEN FORUM**

**1. Apologies for absence:**

Mrs. J Oliver, Mr. D Masters  
PCSO Tracy Milburn

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

It was noted that Mr. J Marriage is a member of Methwold Community Action Group.

**3. Minutes of the meeting held on 11/11/10 approved.**

**4. Matters arising from the Minutes:**

- The guttering at St. George's Hall has not been cleared due to the bad weather.
- Brambles and other vegetation which are growing over footpaths present a nuisance to pedestrians and a notice to this effect will be published in the Methwold Times.
- Mrs. M Wortley has heard nothing more from the Busy Bees regarding the cupboards in the Fenton Room but this will be followed up.

**5. Reports:**

**5.1 Chairman's Report:**

- It has been suggested door closures should be fitted to the entrance door to the Fenton Room and the back door to St. George's Hall. A quote will be obtained for closures to be fitted and this will be an agenda item for the January Parish Council meeting.
- A specification for installing water at the New Cemetery is to be drawn up and then quotes for the work will be sought.

- A further letter has been received regarding the position of a memorial in the New Cemetery which is considered to be out of line with other memorials. Permission was not granted for the stone to be positioned between two graves and it was agreed that the stone should be moved. The family who own the stone will be contacted to request that the memorial be moved to an agreed position within 60 days or the Parish Council will make arrangements for the stone to be re-located.

## **5.2 Clerk's Report:**

- It has been reported that there may be a wasps nest in the roof of St. George's Hall. A pest controller has been approached and his advice was that the wasps that have been appearing in the hall are probably odd insects that have been woken from hibernation when the heating has been turned on (the heating in the hall has recently been repaired). He felt there would be no live wasp nests at this time of the year.
- Mr. Peake has received an update regarding the ongoing problems with sewage at the Chalk Pit. Work is planned to begin on December 10<sup>th</sup>.
- Consideration will be given to redecorating the Village Hall as this was last undertaken six years ago. It has been suggested a dado rail should be installed in the Main Hall to lessen the height of future painting.
- A request has been made to repair the P.A system at St. George's Hall and this will be an agenda item for the January Parish Council meeting.
- UK Power Networks has been approached regarding ownership of or any Wayleave payment relating to land which the electrical sub station located next to St. George's Church is located on. Copies of Wayleave agreements have been obtained but further information will be requested to clarify what compensation the Parish Council has received for the siting of the sub-station.

## **6. The Parish Council confirmed permission has been given for Methwold Community Action Group to erect a Christmas tree outside the Fenton Room.**

## **7. Accounts for November were presented and approved for payment in accordance with the budget.**

- 7.1 The quote received for clearing and laying gravel around The Pound was considered at the end of the meeting after a resolution to exclude the public.

It was previously queried as to when the contracted pest controller is in the village. Dates are now supplied by the contractor. It was requested that pest control be an agenda item for the January Parish Council meeting.

## **8. Planning applications received for consultation:**

- 8.1 Construction of a single storey dwelling and double garage at land adjacent to 30 The Avenue, Brookville IP26 4RF 10/01914/F

Recommended permission

- 8.2 Appeal Decision – Ref: APP/V2635/A/10/2130638 Land between 32 and 38 Old Severalls Road, Methwold Hythe IP26 4QR. Planning permission for the construction of one dwelling has been permitted.
- 8.3 Report received regarding the erection of an anaerobic digestion plant with associated structures, plant and machinery including a combined heat and power plant, which will generate heat and electricity, and a concrete feed stock pad at Methwold Farm, Methwold C/2/2010/2017. Application to be considered by Norfolk County Council Planning Committee 10/12/10.

## **9. Correspondence**

- 9.1 Norfolk County Council is predicting a budget gap of at least £155 million over the next three years. The Council is thus conducting a consultation exercise with the public - The Big Conversation – which sets out proposals for change and the broad financial strategy to be adopted by the County Council. Local Councils are being asked if they wish to take on some highway and Public Right of Way services. Information received will be distributed to Councillors before the January Parish Council meeting and this matter will be an agenda item for the meeting. Norfolk Association of Local Councils is hosting two events to give Councillors the opportunity to contribute in person to Norfolk's 'Big Conversation'. December 21<sup>st</sup> 2010 at Ecotech, Swaffham 4pm – 6pm and January 6<sup>th</sup> 2011 at County Hall, Norwich 3.30pm – 5.30pm.
- 9.2 Parish Council planning training – 25/01/11 or 26/01/11 @ 9am King's Lynn Town Hall.
- 9.3 Grants for Community Groups.  
*The Following to be placed in folder to be passed around Councillors:*
- 9.4 Norfolk's 'Big Conversation'.
- 9.5 Norfolk Association of Village Halls newsletter.
- 9.6 WNVCA In Touch newsletter.
- 9.7 Mini Service Review – the cost of Parish Council elections are to be charged to Parish Councils in future.
- 9.8 Standards Committee agenda.
- 9.9 Wissey Wetlands Creation Newsletter.

## **10. Further Reports – for information only:**

- 10.1 The hedge at Brook Lane, Brookville has been trimmed by the occupant of the land as there have been concerns that the refuse collection vehicle may refuse to drive down the lane due to overgrown hedges. The occupant is willing to remove the hedge but permission to do so may be needed from the Borough Council.
- 10.2 A pot hole along the C41, 300 yards before the Methwold side of ride no. 59, will be reported to Highways.
- 10.3 The Community Action Group is to site a horse plough on Lower Green.
- 10.4 Outside lights at the Fenton Rooms are in need of repair and quotes will be sought.

- 10.5 A request was made by Methwold Action Group for free use of St. George's Hall and car park to celebrate the Royal wedding on April 29<sup>th</sup> 2011.
- 10.6 A suggestion was made that an oil consortium could be arranged in the village.
- 10.7 It was noted that some six months ago PC Pete Riches had promised to visit the village to monitor parking.
- 10.8 A large pot hole was reported at the bottom of Scotts Lane.
- 10.9 Moles are evident on the Rec.

*Resolution to exclude the public to discuss quotes for clearing area around the Pound:  
It was agreed to compose a job specification for levelling and re-gravelling the area around the Pound and then seek further quotes for the work.*