

MINUTES OF METHWOLD PARISH COUNCIL
VIRTUAL MEETING HELD
THURSDAY 8th APRIL 2021 at 7.00pm

Parish Councillors present: J Marriage – Chairman, R Gibson – Vice Chair, S Burbridge, S Crump, P Crawley, D Scott, L Burge

Also in attendance: R Buckle (Parish Clerk)

6 members of the public

The Chairman welcomed all to the virtual meeting and thanked all for joining onscreen and on the telephone, it's good to see some new faces.

1. The parish council to receive and resolve to agree apologies for absence, Apologies received from R Scott, B Horton and D Charlesworth-Smith who has requested a temporary leave of absence for 5 months due to family matters – ACCEPTED
2. To receive declarations of interest in items on the agenda and consider any requests for dispensations – None
3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on March 11th 2021 – Proposed P Crawley, seconded R Gibson - APPROVED
4. Matters arising from the last minutes - None
5. Reports
 - 5.1 Update and report from the virtual meeting of Open Spaces and to consider recommendations made at the meeting held on 25 March 2021 – The tree survey will be taken to Open Spaces in April once all quotes are available.
 - a. Proposal to accept £86.00 fee for Independent Annual Play Inspection, P Crawley proposed to accept J Marriage seconded - APPROVED
 - 5.2 Update and report from the virtual meeting of Hall Group and to consider recommendations made at the meeting held on 1st April 2021 -
 - a. Charitable Trust – the Chairman updated the meeting on progress to date, as they are made available all documents are being circulated to the parish council. The Charitable Trust will be an agenda item at the Annual Parish Meeting.

Baby & Toddler group have a new team running the group and have changed their name to Little Bunnies, the group have asked to move to the party room next to Mini Methwold, this was agreed as the best area for the group to use for sessions. Storage and shelving for the small office will be discussed at the next Hall meeting.
6. Finance
 - 6.1 Approval of Payments List – Additional payments to be added – NCF £1k repayment of grant
 - 6.2 Approval of Income & Invoice List - R Gibson proposed approval Income & Invoice list and payments list, S Crump seconded - APPROVED
7. Planning
 - 7.1 To receive planning decisions

20/02009/F Blencathra 47 Main Road Brookville Thetford Norfolk IP26 4RB - New build 3 bedroom chalet bungalow with parking for 3 to 4 cars Application Refused 15 March 2021 Delegated Decision

19/00457/NMA_1 St Georges Hall 16 High Street Methwold Norfolk IP26 4NT - NON-MATERIAL AMENDMENT TO PLANNING CONSENT 19/00457/F: Alteration to the existing building including deepening

existing windows, addition of an external doorway by converting a window opening, extension to provide a small room for making refreshments and extension to provide a single unisex/disabled public toilet
Application Permitted 25 March 2021 Delegated Decision

7.2 To receive planning applications – None

7.3 To consider planning applications received after the agenda was published –

Planning Appeal Notification - Appeal reference: APP/V2635/W/21/3266885

20/01277/F 15 Feltwell Road Methwold Hythe Thetford Norfolk Construction of one dwelling

BCKLWN refused planning see [https://online.west-norfolk.gov.uk/online-](https://online.west-norfolk.gov.uk/online-applications/files/25A0223DA3B2F8FB83463BDBE495C2E8/pdf/20_01277_F-DECISION-4795633.pdf)

[applications/files/25A0223DA3B2F8FB83463BDBE495C2E8/pdf/20_01277_F-DECISION-4795633.pdf](https://online.west-norfolk.gov.uk/online-applications/files/25A0223DA3B2F8FB83463BDBE495C2E8/pdf/20_01277_F-DECISION-4795633.pdf)

Originally the parish council made no comment to this application. S Burbridge proposed no comment P
Crawley seconded - APPROVED

8. Items received for agenda

Annual Parish Meeting on Zoom all welcome – Monday 26th April at 7.00pm

Training – reminder to all councillors of training available via NALC & NPT&S.

9. Correspondence

Request to use the old social club car park for a car boot sale – to Hall meeting

Resident has complained about the dumping of rubbish/wood on and in Buntings Lane – Open Spaces will investigate but it is thought this may need to be reported to environmental health.

Open Forum for Public Participation

An opportunity to hear from members of the public, Borough and County Councillors

White Plot Road - streetlight is not working, Clerk will report this to contractor.

Bus shelter Methwold Hythe – it was reported that the roof is damaged and has not been repaired, can the residents of Methwold Hythe tidy up the area and repair the roof, painting the inside of the bus shelter with the NHS Rainbow? The parish council thought this wonderful of the community in Methwold Hythe to offer to do, thank you. R Gibson proposed that the community of Methwold Hythe is allowed to carry out repairs and paint the bus shelter, S Burbridge seconded - APPROVED

There is a 30mph speed limit by the primary school, can this be reduced to 20mph with flashing lights Feltwell have them? There are flashing lights outside the primary school in Methwold which are under the control of the primary school, they can be turned on and off using a key which the school have. The parish council have looked at options to slow traffic here and to stop parking outside the school gates in the past, to be revisited by Open Spaces.

Fair Hill – when will the edge of the green have something installed to stop vehicles running along here?

Can anything be done to stop the parking outside the Old Chapel where the bus stop is sited?

Can we ask Cllr. Ryves and Cllr. Storey to do something about the rubbish around the parish on the verges and forestry tracks it looks like a third world country and is a disgrace.

Methwold Community Action Group are planning to organise a litter pick possibly in June although some people in the parish are already going out to clear up rubbish, the parish council would like to thank those people who are doing this and ask those dropping litter to take it home or put it in one of the many litter bins around the parish.

Parish council asked if someone wanted to hold Bingo in St Georges Hall does there need to be a licence? Clerk to find out.

Events on the Recreation Ground during the school holidays – this needs the permission of the parish council, the person using the rec. will need to have insurance, an up to date risk assessment to include covid and safeguarding policy in place, copies to be given to the parish council.

Toilets on the rec, the Chairman, R Gibson and R Scott met with an Architect to discuss what might be possible considering it is in a Conservation Area, parish council needs to approach other Architects and the Historic Conservation Officer at the Borough Council will be consulted for their advice.

The baby & toddler group has been renamed 'Little Bunnies' a small bubble group will hold a one-off trial session in the new room next week to see how the facility works for them before making a decision when to re-open in the re-named 'Enchanted Forest' party room at the Old Social club.

Please can the flower planter on Millennium Green Methwold Hythe be moved to the grass area on the corner opposite Petch House? This will require a licence from the Borough Council, the Clerk will organise this.

Streetlight in Old Feltwell Road is glowing red, can this be repaired? Clerk to report

Fete on the recreation ground – hoping to have a tractor exhibition area, can they display a spud wheel tractor, concern over damage that may be caused by the wheels, can a photo of this be shown to OS group at the next meeting to get a better understanding.

Noticeboard on the rec is rotten, can this be replaced and re-sited – Open Spaces

There is a gentleman who walks from Brookville to Methwold most evenings picking up rubbish, please can the parish council write to thank him for doing this.

10. Further items and reports

The Annual Parish Meeting will be held via Zoom on Monday 26th April at 7pm, the link can be obtained from the Clerk or is displayed on the agenda on the noticeboards.

The path at the back of the Old Social Club is lifting and uneven, can we remove the concrete and have gravel instead? This is a Health & Safety issue and needs to be attended to urgently – to Open Spaces will need a spec and quotes.

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:

a. Quotes for Tree Survey – to be taken to the Open Spaces meeting for more discussion before bringing back next month.

b. Quote for fire exit in the Fenton Room – The Clerk has made best endeavours to obtain quotes, approaching 6 companies for a quote to install a fire door, only 1 quote has been received, the quote is for £3630, the fire door needs to be installed as soon as possible therefore J Marriage proposed this quote was accepted, R Gibson seconded – APPROVED

c. Updated signs for the recreation ground – these are out of date and need to be updated asap quote received for £90 J Marriage proposed to accept this quote P Crawley seconded - APPROVED

d. HR Group – Recommendation to approve Staff salary increase.

Staff salary increases have been discussed by the HR Group for the Clerk and the Key Holder proposed by J Marriage, S Crump seconded - APPROVED R Gibson abstained

Meeting closed at 8.25pm