

MINUTES OF METHWOLD PARISH COUNCIL  
VIRTUAL MEETING HELD  
THURSDAY 14<sup>th</sup> MAY 2020 at 2.30pm

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

The Vice Chairman welcomed all to the first virtual meeting and explained if anyone wished to comment to raise their hand, those joining on a landline would be asked in turn if they would like to speak. There would be one Open Forum/public participation section at the beginning of the meeting.

OPEN FORUM

Footpath 9 is only passable if walked in single file, there are stinging nettles and the grass is now about 2 feet high. Footpath 10m is impassible.

Is there any progress on The Old Chapel? Cllr. Ryves stated this is still with enforcement who are in contact with the Owner. Cock Corner grass needs cutting JM to check site and will chase this up. Street cleaning – when will this be done?

- 1 To elect the Chairperson for the coming year – The current Chairman has decided to step down from the role, incoming Chairman will sign the declaration of acceptance of office within a week of the meeting and return it to the Clerk. B Horton proposed J Marriage as Chairman, S Crump seconded – APPROVED - J Marriage was elected as Chairman
- 2 To elect the Vice-Chairperson for the coming year– The incoming Vice Chairperson will sign the declaration of acceptance of office within a week of the meeting and return it to the Clerk. S Crump Proposed R Gibson as Vice Chairperson, D Charlesworth-Smith seconded – APPROVED - R Gibson was elected as Vice Chairperson
- 3 To receive apologies for absence – D Thomas
- 4 To receive declarations of interest in items on the agenda and consider any requests for dispensations- None
- 5 To approve and sign the minutes of the meetings held on 12th March 2020 and 20th March 2020  
R Gibson proposed to accept minutes from 12<sup>th</sup> March, S Crump seconded – APPROVED  
S Burbridge, B Horton abstained because they did not attend this meeting.  
J Marriage proposed to accept minutes from 20<sup>th</sup> March, R Scott seconded – APPROVED  
S Burbridge, P Crawley & D Charlesworth-Smith abstained because they did not attend this meeting.t
- 6 Matters arising from the last minutes-Since the lockdown there has been an increase in Owners not picking up after their dogs, he Borough Council have visited and put up additional signs, these have been reported as being removed? More signs have been put up in Ventura Close through to Trent VC Close. Dog mess has been reported on the recreation ground, a reminder that dogs are not allowed on here by order of the Borough Council. A note will be put in the Methwold Times asking people to clear up after their dogs. Owners can double bag it and take it home where they can put it in their black bin if they are not near one of the dog bins.  
Speedwatch – The Police are out doing speed checks, it was reported that traffic seems to be travelling faster especially through the villages, can we ask the Police to bring the safety camera to the parish to

monitor the traffic? Are there specific times when traffic speed seems to be worse, please let the Clerk know so the Police can be informed?

The SAMs2 sign when able, this will be reinstated.

## 7 Finance

To approve the payments made in April & May 2020 – The bank recs and Income & Invoice lists have been circulated to all parish councillors to cover this period, a years subscription to Zoom has been purchased.

B Horton proposed to accept the payments made in April and May 2020, P Crawley seconded – APPROVED.

The Budget for 2020/21 will be revisited because of the Covid-19 pandemic and the effect this will have had on income and expenditure, the revised Budget will be discussed at a Finance Meeting which will be arranged.

## 8 Planning

### 8.1 To receive planning decisions –

19/02176/F Cherry Tree Farm Thornham Road Methwold Construction of animal barn & visitor centre including forming roadways and parking areas and bases and services for 6 holiday cabins and creation of two fishing ponds – APPROVED 5<sup>th</sup> May 2020

### 8.2 To receive planning applications

20/00597/F Retrospective application for partial demolition of redundant outbuilding at Lancaster Park Farm Globe Street Methwold Thetford Norfolk IP26 4PQ – The applicant was given the opportunity to explain the retrospective planning application. The parish council discussed the application and stated that they found it annoying and very depressing that this application has been made retrospectively, the pc can see the benefit of the work carried out but object because the application should have been made and a decision given before work started, it was also felt that the drawings are inaccurate, implying that a part of a building had already been demolished, and land belonging to the parish council has been included as part of the land owned by the applicant, the plans should be accurate. S Burbridge proposed that the application was supported but with the previous comments included, S Crump seconded, Methwold Parish Council voted to SUPPORT application.

It was suggested that a meeting is arranged for the Chairman and Owner to study the deeds and to discuss and try to resolve historic boundary and access issues when we are able meet in person.

2020-05-15 CONSULT ON NEW NAME Development at Land South of Herbert Drive Methwold – The Clerk had been copied into one comment which was sent to the Borough Council by a resident. The original document was posted on Methwold Parish Council Facebook by the Clerk for information only, the several village Facebook pages are not monitored by the parish council and is used only as a tool to get information and notices out to the residents, especially during the current COVID-19 pandemic.

There is a set of rules set down by the Borough Council which need to be followed when naming property/streets/developments etc.

Methwold Parish Council discussed the name choices of the Developer, these are historical to the village and it was felt that the Developer had done research to come up with this choice of names.

P Crawley proposed to accept the three names chosen by the Developer as listed, S Crump seconded – APPROVED.

### 8.3 To consider planning applications received after the agenda was published - None

## 9 Correspondence – this had been circulated to the parish council before the meeting.

## 10 Further reports and items for the next meeting agenda (Thursday 11th June)

The Chairman asked for the parish council to send any items to the Clerk before the next meeting.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their patience whilst holding this the first virtual parish council meeting, the parish council decided they would like to hold the Open Spaces meeting and future meetings using this format whilst we can.

Anyone wishing to join the next virtual meeting on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> June at 2.30pm can do so by emailing the Clerk who will send them the link.

- 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: Ratable value of St George's Hall Complex, S Burbridge proposed for the Clerk, Chairman and Vice Chair to gather more information, they will report back. S Crump seconded - APPROVED

The Handyman is working through the list of jobs in the Complex, permission is required for him to continue working through the list during the lockdown, purchase of materials – paint etc will be required, R Gibson proposed £500 for labour and £100 for materials to enable the Handyman to continue. P Crawley seconded - APPROVED

Meeting closed at 4.15pm