

**MINUTES OF METHWOLD PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
HELD IN THE 21 ROOM ST GEORGES COMPLEX
THURSDAY 11th JANUARY 2018 at 7.30pm**

Present: J Marriage – Chairman, D Thomas - Vice Chairman, D Charlesworth-Smith, S Stones, K Plumridge, S Burbridge, P Crawley, B Horton, T Thomas, R Gibson.

Cllr. M Storey

3 members of the public

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

OPEN FORUM

It is St Georges Day in April, please can we fly flags on St Georges building, this will need a flagpole, pass onto the Hall group for discussion. Lancaster Park Farm-vehicles are churning up the grass verge when turning in, can there be bollards along here?

1. To receive and consider accepting apologies for absence – R Hood - The Chairman wished Mr Hood well after his recent operation, C West
2. Declaration of Interest - Councillors invited to declare any interest in any item on the agenda. D Thomas & T Thomas declared an interest in possible discussion regarding a member of their family later in the meeting.
3. To approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 14th December 2017 as a true record of the meeting D Charlesworth-Smith proposed minutes are accepted, K Plumridge seconded All Agreed.
4. Matters arising from past minutes-Sunken drain in Brookville has still not been fixed, Cllr. Storey had said he would investigate, he will follow this up. Has the letter to Lorne Green been sent yet, The Clerk has yet to do this.

5. Reports:

5.1 Chairman's Report –

5.2 Clerk's Report – Apologies that the council received these reports late.

5.3 Open Spaces Working Party – No meeting held in December but rec. mats are in need of power washing, replacement safety surfaces are still being investigated and best option sought. Cranwich Road – several accidents due to it not being gritted, Clerk has reported to NCC & Highways and Cllr. Storey to follow up.

5.4 Hall & General Purposes Working Party – No meeting held in January 2018. Request from people who organise the Pilgrims walk every year on the run up to Easter to use the Fenton Room for a stopover, historically they have never been charged for this but the Parish Council reserve the right to charge for cleaning. BH proposed that the Pilgrims are allowed to continue to use the Fenton Room for their stopover, CW seconded – All Agreed Methwold Community Action Group use St Georges Hall for the community event 'Carols around the Christmas Tree' they have requested a reduction in the hire cost, there was a discussion K Plumridge proposed that the hire fee is waived as this is a community event and free to all who attend, S Burbridge seconded D Thomas and R Gibson abstained as they are on MCAG committee remaining Councillors agreed to waiver charges. Clerk to inform MCAG. The next Methwold Theatre Club production 1st night clashes with the April Parish Council meeting, would the Parish Council consider moving to the Fenton Room for this date? All agreed to this.

The heating in the 21 Room has caused the floor to move, P Crawley will investigate and resolve.

The bricks on the front of St Georges Hall are spalling, this is getting worse and needs attention, this will be taken to the Hall group for discussion and quotes received and approved for when the weather is improved.

A sign is required on the end of the old social club, mock ups were shown and the council discussed, The Chairman opened the discussion up to the public, this will go to the next Hall meeting for discussion at the February Parish Council meeting.

The breaker alarm on the door which separates Mini Methwold and the youth room is required please, D Thomas will do this as soon as possible.

6. Finances

6.1 Accounts Update - the Chairman went through the income & invoice list, the Clerk and D Thomas were advised at recent training that due to Data Protection Laws the Parish Council is required to become a member of the Information Commissioners Office, the cost is £35.00 per year. There has been a VAT refund.

6.2 Approval of payments - B Horton proposed to make payments T Thomas seconded All Agreed

7. 7.1 To receive planning applications: None

7.2 To receive planning decisions:

17/01657/F 27 Feltwell Road Methwold Hythe Thetford Norfolk IP26 4QJ - Residential Development (4 New Houses)
Application Refused 5 January 2018 Delegated Decision

17/02125/O Gwennie Villa 2 Scotts Lane Brookville Thetford Norfolk IP26 4RD - Outline Application for proposed
residential development Application Refused 9 January 2018 Delegated Decision

7.3 To consider any planning applications received after the agenda was produced: None

8. Items received for Agenda

Youth facility – The Church Youth Group have opted to go to the Community Room within the Icen Academy. The Parish Council wishes the Youth Group every success with their venture.

The youth room at the old social club has been hired out several times as a children's party room alongside Mini Methwold and is proving to be popular. The room will be used for the community and all ideas will be looked at.

Fundraising within the community - The Big Community Project group could be reenergised to organise fundraising events. The Childminders have expressed an interest in hiring the room for an afterschool club for primary age children and their families.

9. Correspondence

OPEN FORUM

Has the solar panels had any influence on the running costs of the old social club building so far? We are in the process of changing the lights to low energy and replacing the centre lights in the 21 room, it is anticipated this will be completed ahead of the fire alarm installation, once this has been completed an Energy Performance Certificate can be completed.

Can the flag poles go up when the brickwork is being done on the front of St Georges Hall?

10. Any Further Reports - for information only

Wards & District changes – still have until 15/1/18 to make comment online.

Policy reviews to be carried out and Terms of reference for groups to be confirmed.

Annual Parish Meeting will be held in April date to be confirmed.

2 streetlights are out in Brookville, The Avenue and outside 30 Main Road Clerk to ask Contractor to repair.

Drain in Brookville still cracked and dropped, Cllr. Storey to follow up.

Pavement Brook Lane lots of debris, Chairman to investigate.

Cranwich Road – The condition of the white lines along here is very poor

Hedges – Crown House hedge is overhanging – Chairman to follow up Ventura Close hedge has been trimmed but streetlight is still in the hedge, it needs to be taken back further.

The catch has been repaired on the Fenton Room entrance door.

Hole in the floor of the Fenton Room near the folding doors JM/DT to investigate

The light in the ladies toilet in the old social club is flashing.

Car abandoned on High Street, Mercedes Vito – DVLA has this listed as a Fiat Police have been informed but not done anything, Clerk to report to BCKLWN

11. To pass a resolution to exclude members of the public – Fire Alarm System Quotes

The original old social club fire alarm system is not big enough to cope with the size of the whole building and zones required to be covered and requires updating, quotes have been requested and two have been received. The Chairman went through the quotes and explained the requirements to comply with Fire Regulations.

Quote A £9090 Quote B £6817 these quotes are for exactly the same level of detection and sound bases same conditions. R Gibson proposed Quote B is accepted Seconded by K Plumridge All agreed.

The fire escape lights, signs and fire doors are to be dealt with and quoted for separately.

Meeting finished at 9.10pm