

MINUTES OF METHWOLD PARISH COUNCIL
VIRTUAL MEETING HELD
THURSDAY 10th SEPTEMBER at 11.00am

Parish Councillors present: J Marriage – Chairman, R Gibson – Vice Chair, S Crump, P Crawley, S Burbridge, D Charlesworth-Smith, C West, D Scott, R Scott, B Horton
Also in attendance: R Buckle (Parish Clerk) Cllr A Ryves
4 members of the public

The Chairman welcomed all to the virtual meeting and thanked all for joining onscreen and on the telephone.

The parish council email is working again, if you wish to contact the Clerk please email methwoldpc@outlook.com or call 07340162732 website www.methwoldpc.info

OPEN FORUM

The Chairman thanked the Assistant Clerk who has left us to take on a full time role, thank you for all you have done for the parish especially during lockdown, opening the office, collecting food and passing this onto those who could distribute it and especially for the parish competition which helped keep spirits up. Sadly one of our new councillor has resigned, this is for personal reasons, thank you for volunteering, for your enthusiasm and input in the short time you were on the parish council you will be a great loss to the parish council.

Does anyone know where the bench that used to be outside The Old Chapel has gone, does it still exist? The screens at the Old Chapel have been replaced and there is a large post box sited on the footpath outside, it looks like the fencing has been moved.

There are many areas around the village where the weeds are growing up through any gaps and over the pavements, who's responsibility is it to clear these weeds?

If the seat that used to be outside the Old Chapel is found can it be sited somewhere else in the village?

Footpath 10 – a meeting was to be arranged to discuss but it could be some time before the decision on moving the Footpath is made by the Borough Council.

Are the parish council aware that it is a member of the public who has been strimming Footpaths 9 & 10? Bins at the Drill Hall – Chairman has investigated and the only place suitable to site the bins is on the roadside wall, it looks like no consideration was given to the bins when planning permission was sought. Owner of the site has been found so a letter could be sent, Chairman to discuss with Clerk.

Resident advised parish council that it may be possible to apply for a Compulsory Purchase Order for the Methodist Chapel in Methwold, the building has a lot of history, there are graves on site and it could be an excellent place for the community, a link with the CPO information has been sent to the Clerk.

Cllr Ryves advised that there has to be a good reason for a CPO.

1. To receive and accept apologies for absence – apologies received from L Burge and D Thomas
2. To receive declarations of interest in items on the agenda and consider any requests for dispensations- J Marriage has declared an Interest in item 9.2 footpaths, R Gibson will take over the meeting for this part of the meeting.
3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on August 13th 2020, C West Proposed to approve as a correct record of the meeting, seconded by D Charlesworth-Smith – APPROVED. B Horton abstained as not present at this meeting.
4. Matters arising from the last minutes - None

5. Reports

- 5.1 Update on any Open Spaces, there was no meeting in August, the Cemetery now has a dumpster bin instead of the skip, Any items which the skip company do not accept will mean the whole dumpster is charges at 22p per kilo. Please do not put anything compostable in this bin, green waste can be put into the wire compound in the car park.
- 5.2 Update on any Hall and General Purposes Working Party matters - there was no meeting in September, the parish council are still working towards a slow phased opening of the Main Hall and Fenton Room for regular groups from the end of September.

6. Finance

- 6.1 Accounts update – all councillors have received the bank reconciliation and income and invoice list for August. There were no questions.
- 6.2 Approval of payments list S Burbridge proposed to approve payments, C West seconded - APPROVED

7. Planning

7.1 To receive planning decisions

20/00959/F 14 Thornham Road Methwold Thetford Norfolk IP26 4PH - Two storey extension to side & rear of dwelling Application Permitted 26 August 2020 Delegated Decision

7.2 To receive planning applications

20/01279/F Freestanding solar panels at Land At Former RAF Methwold Brandon Road Methwold Norfolk IP26 4RL - **SUPPORT**

7.3 To consider planning applications received after the agenda was published

20/01304/F Removal of section of concrete block boundary wall and infilling opening partly with facing brick wall with a pair of 1.8m high timber gates - Petch House 27 Hythe Road Methwold and voted to **OBJECT** to the application because there has never been an access into this site from Buntings Lane, this is a new access.

20/01277/F 15 Feltwell Road Methwold Hythe IP26 4QJ - Construction of one dwelling and have **NO OBSERVATIONS** either in favour or against the proposal.

8. Items received for agenda

- 8.1 Members of working groups and committees were discussed and agreed.
- 8.2 Terms of Reference updates – S Burbridge proposed to approve as presented, seconded P Crawley APPROVED

9. Correspondence

- 9.1 Consultation on proposed development –removed from agenda as more information is required to be able to discuss.
- 9.2 Proposed diversion of Footpath 4 Methwold – Notice has been received of proposed diversion of Footpath 4, this was discussed, it was thought that the diversion would be an improvement. S Burbridge proposed to SUPPORT, S Crump seconded - APPROVED

Open Forum

When will the food caddy collections restart?

How can a parish councillor be part of a group if they are not willing to take part in any virtual meetings?

The diversion for Footpath 4 is a very sensible idea, very pleased the parish council voted to support this.

Thank you to the parish council for voting to object to the planning application for Petch House gates, brick piers were built when the wall was taken down, potato boxes full of chalk from the wall could easily be seen before these were removed from site.

10. Further items and reports

Remembrance Day Wreath – please can those members who wish to contribute to the poppy wreath this year please drop their donation into an envelope and pop it in at the office, the Clerk will make sure it gets to the organizer.

A van was reported as being parked causing an obstruction on Cock Corner.

Weeds are reported as growing along the pathway between Methwold and Brookville.

The Leylandii tree on the corner of Brook Lane is overgrown and dropping debris on to the path.

There is still an increase in traffic along The Avenue onto Mill Drove

Can the Clerk contact Northwold Clerk and ask for those at the glamping site to be reminded to pick up after their dogs?

There are weeds on the island at Cock Corner, who does this need to be reported to, the Clerk will report.

Remembrance Day, it is thought that due to the restrictions there will not be a procession this year, just a service at the War Memorial in the Cemetery.

It was decided by council that the monthly parish council zoom meetings will move to evenings starting on Thursday 8th October at 7.00pm, for those who wish to join the meeting the link will be on the agenda or contact the Clerk closer to the date for the details.

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:

11.1 Local Government Services' Pay Agreement 2020-21 a 2.75% increase has been approved backdated to April 2020.

Meeting closed at 13.17pm