

MINUTES OF THE NAYLAND WITH WISSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 9th OCTOBER 2019, AT 7.30 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL, NAYLAND.

Present: M George (Chairman), G Battye, P Fuller, N Cartwright, L Erith, D Hattrell (Clerk), J Finch (County Cllr), M Barrett (District Cllr) and 1 member of the public.

**Before Commencement of the Meeting**

**a. Public Forum**

Details of a forthcoming public exhibition was shared on proposals for the conservation field. Improvements to footpaths were being investigated together with the planting of trees at the back of Bear Street. None of the proposals relate to Caley Green. An original idea of a footbridge was not considered viable.

**b. District Council Report**

District Cllr M Barrett attended and had issued her report covering Finance, motion on biodiversity, housing, customer service, a potential name change for Babergh Council and an issue with the 5 year land supply. M Barrett was questioned on developers putting in applications piecemeal to potentially get around the requirement for a proportion of affordable homes over a certain number. After prompting M Barrett agreed to make enquiries in respect of local applications. She confirmed the 5 year land supply has been lost recently due to the planning committee decision not to approve 80 houses in Boxford. Documentation providing the financial costs and benefits of a potential name change for the District Council was requested. M Barrett agreed to investigate.

**c. County Council Report**

County Cllr James Finch attended and reported on the response to the Sizewell Consultation, progress with the new archives and heritage centre, it's time for school places to be applied for, awards to the fire service personnel and volunteers and listening events arranged for senior officials to engage with residents. The Chairman is nearing completion of his walking challenge for Suffolk Mind and further fostering and adoption sessions are arranged. J Finch stayed to discuss the Highways item which had been brought forward on the Agenda.

**Parish Council Meeting**

1. **Apologies:** None
2. **Approval of Minutes of 11th September Meeting:** These were accepted as a true record.
3. **Declarations of Interest by Councillors:** The Chairman declared an interest in the Accounts for Payment item as she had requested reimbursement of expenses relating to village planting.
4. **Finance Report**

The Chairman read from the bank balances as at 30th September 2019 as £1000 in the Current Account, £47620.52 in the linked Account and £10967.46 in the Capital Investment Account making a total of £59587.98. The findings from the External Audit Report were shared with the Meeting. All was found to be in accordance with proper practices. Following the review at last meeting and the delegated action between meetings, the Parish Council has switched Insurers to Royal and Sun Alliance arranged through Community Action Suffolk on a 3 year long term agreement with a premium of £482.79 annually. This represents a considerable saving. There was a vote of thanks to the Clerk for her hard work in preparation for the audit. It was agreed for the Finance Meeting to be held on 27th November at 7.30 p.m. at the Chairman's address. L Erith will join the Finance Committee.
5. **Planning**
  1. **Decision from the Planning Authority:-**
    - a) Condition 3 (Contamination) at 8 Mill Street had been approved by the Planning Authority. Condition 4 (Contamination Report) had been partly approved - **DC/19/03701**.
    - b) Planning Permission had been granted for dwarf wall greenhouse on a cement base following removal of chicken shed and run at Little Bulmer Farm, Wiston Road - **DC/19/04015**
    - c) Planning Permission and Listed Building Consent had been granted for works in connection with the change of use of 41 Bear Street - **DC/19/02425 and 6** - It was agreed to send a communication to the Planning Authority seeking clarity over the interpretation of policies relating to the marketing of a

commercial entity and also querying the lack of drawings in respect of the proposed parking - **Action Clerk.**

2. St George House, Wissington Uplands - Proposed felling of protected lime tree. There were No Objections due to the very poor condition of the tree in question.
3. Any other Planning item: The Minerals and Waste Consultation had been circulated. G Battye agreed to review in respect of the impact to the Parish. It will form an Agenda item for the November Meeting - **Action Clerk.**
6. **Recreation and Open Spaces:** It was noted Bootcamp was closed for the winter. There was a meeting with our grounds maintenance contractors at the Bear Street Playing Field. Whilst there were no immediate hazards with the play park, some maintenance items were discussed and quotes were requested. The safety surface will need attention in the future. G Battye agreed to liaise with the Playground safety inspectors for the annual report - **Action G Battye.** The driveway has still not been attended to and it was agreed to seek a progress report from the Diocesan Surveyor - **Action Clerk.** It was agreed to arrange a meeting with our grounds maintenance contractors at Pop's Piece to agree a specification for the necessary works and a quotation. We can then get two further quotations for comparison. This was proposed by P Fuller, seconded by L Erith and unanimously carried - **Action Clerk and Chairman.** It was noted that our grounds maintenance contractors cleared branches from Caley Green following the high winds.
7. **Briefing to Re-name Babergh District Council:** Members felt a cost/benefit analysis would help inform them of whether this idea had merit. Concerns at this stage would be the unnecessary cost and that no proper public consultation has been arranged - **Action Clerk.**
8. **Housing Needs Survey/Neighbourhood Planning:**  
No developments were reported.
9. **Highways** J Finch was present for this item and the meeting was closed to allow him to join the discussion. He explained the issues and investigation regarding the drainage and he thanked the Chairman for pursuing the matter in respect of recent floods. The Chairman stressed that regular clearance by the County Council is essential to avoid the blocking by silt. This was evidenced as a clearance following one flood lessened the consequences of an equally serious rainfall the following week. J Finch explained that grit and silt continually washes down from Gravel Hill causing the on-going situation. A site meeting was planned shortly with relevant parties including the Parish Council Chairman. J Finch stressed that whilst the Engineers are aware of these various issues, they were working to priorities and even serious work planned to bridges have been postponed. J Finch was reminded that our litter contractors can't clear the verges on the A134 due to them being overgrown. J Finch was then asked to investigate responsibilities to clear accident debris, our contractors cleared some recently as it was left following an accident on the A134. J Finch agreed to investigate - **Action J Finch.**
10. **Street Lighting** It was confirmed that J Finch was intervening to chase the remaining Street Lighting works. It was agreed to ask for a quote for a new standard in Mill Street. The Clerk is to seek a site meeting with the Engineer for the Chairman and G Battye to attend - **Action Clerk.**
11. **Footpaths** The diversion at the Horkesley Lock bridge footpath was discussed and it was noted this has already been investigated by our Footpath Warden. It was agreed for the Chairman to seek a phone call with the owner to discuss his views regarding this permissive path - **Action Chairman.**
12. **Allotments** The hay has been cut on the allotment field and the Chairman had discussed with the tenant farmer. It was suggested that we spot spray the ragwort in the Spring. This will be on the Agenda for Finance Committee as will an introduction of a returnable deposit for new Allotment Holders - **Action Clerk.**
13. **Village Hall** A new cooker had been purchased. The cost was contributed to by a grant from the Community Council. Investigations and discussions in respect of the flaking paint in the hallway were on-going. The VAT office had finally replied to our request for clarification over the Village Hall Roof project. The letter was handed to P Fuller who was the representative for the project for both the Village Hall and the Parish Council. The Village Hall Gardening day was coming up.

14. **Community Council** There was nothing to report.
15. **Correspondence**  
The correspondence report had been circulated ahead of the meeting. The items had been picked up under the various agenda items.
16. **Burial Ground** An oak tree had partially fallen in the old Burial Ground which had been reported to Babergh District Council who maintain the old Burial Ground. Estimates were awaited from our Grounds Maintenance Contractors following the autumn review meeting with the Chairman and G Battye.
17. **Accounts for Payment**
- |   |         |
|---|---------|
| Mortimer Contracts (Litter/grass/open/recreation) | 954.00  |
| Employment Costs totalled                         | 1223.64 |
| Business Services at CAS Ltd ( PC Insurance)      | 482.79  |
| SALC (Training)                                   | 48.00   |
| PKF Littlejohn LLP (External Audit fee)           | 240.00  |
| M George (Planting expenses)                      | 16.50   |

**The meeting closed at 9.27 pm.**