

MINUTES OF THE NAYLAND WITH WISSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 10th JUNE 2020, AT 7.30 PM BY VIDEO CONFERENCING.

Present: M George (Chairman), P Fuller, G Battye, L Erith, N Cartwright, D Harris, P Wilkie, D Hattrell (Clerk), J Finch (County Cllr), L Brooks (Community Times) and 2 members of the public.

**Before Commencement of the Meeting**

**a. Public Forum**

The representative from the Conservation Society shared the intention to again seek a 20 mph limit in the Village. On arrival the County Cllr out-lined the process and costs involved.

**b. District Council Report**

District Cllr M Barrett attended and had reported in advance listing the measures taken due to Covid-19 including temporary closing of garden waste collections, recycling centres, play areas and leisure facilities and face to face committee meetings and customer advice points. Emergency repairs only were carried out to Council houses. A Home but not Alone phone line was launched and agreement was reached not to evict council property tenants at this time. Changes to planning procedures were put in place and planning committee meetings have now resumed by video conferencing. Site notices have been suspended and further letters are being sent to neighbouring properties as a result. Various grants have been encouraged and offered as a result of Covid-19. The next full District Council Meeting will go ahead on 21st July. She confirmed a Planning Survey would be sent out. Substantial grants have been allocated to support issues brought about by Covid-19. The District Council is involved with track and trace. Their work and challenges continue to help secure housing for the homeless. Investment is on-going to improve cycling provision.

**c. County Council Report**

County Cllr James Finch attended and first reported on Covid-19 related news. He also confirmed that a new Suffolk Heritage Explorer website has been launched. Children have been exploring the value of food through a drawing competition. During the lockdown, highways have taken the opportunity to carry out road improvements. Suffolk archives commemorate VE Day 75 with a new online exhibition. Data will be provided to the University of Suffolk from 100 streetlight sensors to evaluate the benefits in relation to monitoring traffic, road temperature, air quality, wind and waste. The local recruitment events for Suffolk Fostering and Adoption have been cancelled due to Covid-19.

**Parish Council Meeting**

1. **Apologies:** None were received. However, D Harris confirmed she would need to leave the meeting at 9.00 p.m.
2. **Approval of Minutes of 11th March Meeting:** These were accepted as a true record.
3. **Declarations of Interest by Councillors:** L Erith declared her interest in the Planning item for Old Maltings Farmhouse. D Harris declared an interest in the application at the Redundant Builders Merchants Yard at Nags Corner. This Parish Council's response to the Old Maltings Farmhouse application had been sent between meetings. D Harris left the meeting whilst the Nags Corner application was being discussed.

4. **Finance Report**

i) The Chairman read from the bank balances as at 1st June 2020 as £1000 in the Current Account, £41189.76 in the linked Account and £17240.37 in the Capital Investment Account making a total of £59430.13.

ii) List of Pre-agreed payments for April, May and June: -

**April**

Suffolk County Council (Street lighting power & maintenance)	1418.98
Mortimer Contracts (Grass/Litter/recreation/allotments)	991.20
Employment Costs totalled	1242.41
Mortimer Contracts (approved playgd surface)	4440.00

**May**

Mortimer Contracts (Grass/Litter/burial gd/allotments)	1018.80
Employment Costs totalled	1186.23
SALC (Subscription)	440.49

National Allotment Society (Membership)	66.00
Nayland Village Hall (Hall hire)	54.00
<b>June</b>	
Mortimer Contracts (Litter/grass/recreation)	970.80
Employment Costs totalled	1208.12
S Carter (Bus shelter clean)	20.00

iii) End of Year Accounts and Audit Submission for year ending 31st March 2020 had been circulated ahead of the Meeting. Following discussion G Battye proposed approval, this was seconded by P Fuller and unanimously carried. The Clerk was thanked for all the preparation. It was agreed for the horse trough planting costs to be reimbursed to the Chairman between Meetings - **Action Clerk**.

## 5. **Planning**

### **1. Decisions from the Planning Authority:-**

- a) Work can proceed to reduce cherry tree at 50 Bear Street - **DC/20/00910**.
- b) Planning Permission had been granted to change the use and convert barn/stables to annexed accommodation at Longwood House, Stoke Road - **DC/20/00180**.
- c) Conditions have been approved at 34 Bear Street for roofing materials, brick, eaves and verges, rainwater goods and roof lights - **DC/20/00602**.
- d) Non-material amendment for a larger window to the rear elevation at 82 Bear Street - **DC/20/01441**.
- e) Listed Building Consent had been granted for repair and renovation at 100 Bear Street - **DC/20/00530**.
- f) Conditions have been approved at The Anchor Inn, 26 Court Street for external facing and roofing materials and cobbles - **DC/20/00993**.
- g) Planning Permission had been granted for 3 holiday lodges, parking, communal rooms and storage at Gladwins Farm Holiday Cottages, Gladwins Farm, Harpers Hill - **DC/19/05964**.
- h) Work can proceed to prune tree at pumping station Fen Street - **DC/20/01495**.
- i) Listed Building Consent had been granted for alterations to boundary wall to widen gateway at 100 Bear Street - **DC/20/01345**.
- j) Planning Permission had been granted for summerhouse/home office and boathouse/home office at 100 Bear Street - **DC/20/00860**.
- k) Conditions have been approved at 82 Bear Street for fenestration and materials - **DC/20/01367**.
- l) The Chairman confirmed the leylandi felling in the meadow behind Perry did not require Planning Consent.

### **2. Harpers Hill Farm - report on Planning Committee**

N Cartwright attended the video conference Planning Meeting, however, this application was withdrawn as it is partially retrospective. A further application was to follow. N Cartwright out-lined some interesting points raised during the remainder of the meeting.

### **3. Report on observations that were sent from the Parish Council to applications between meetings were:-**

- a) There were **No Objections** to the tree application at the pumping station, Fen Street - **DC/20/01495**
- b) **DC/20/00418 - The Bungalow, Harpers Hill - Application for Reserved matters**

*Thank you for consulting Nayland with Wissington Parish Council on these Reserved Matters. However, we have concerns about the process which is confusing due to the drip feed of submissions. The Parish Council agrees the new Biodiversity Enhancement Strategy document is a welcome addition to the planning for this site, however, we still object to this application as the whole project on The Bungalow site is in contravention of Policy LP07 of the Joint Local Plan. Clearly Affordable Housing should have been incorporated.*

*We would also draw your attention to the spoil for this site which should not be dumped in the field behind Laburnum Way/ Willow Grove.*

- c) **DC/20/01185 - Gully in the field to the rear of Willow Grove. Application for retention of top soil in the gully**

*Please note that whilst Nayland with Wissington Parish Council has No Objections to this retrospective application, we do have comments, reservations and suggested conditions below:-*

- *Please note the field is visible across the valley*
- *The spoil and HGV track is also visible*
- *The field is agricultural and outside the Village Envelope*
- *We take issue with the statement that "the character & nature of the field & wider landscape quality and condition has not been altered or disrupted"*
- *We suggest a condition to ensure the spoil from the other approved development in the vicinity is not deposited in this rural field*

- We suggest a condition to ensure the spoil which is the subject of this application should be examined to ensure it is topsoil and is not contaminated, so is therefore consistent with the continued agricultural use which should be restored at the earliest opportunity.

d) There were **No Objections** to the application to reduce yew and fell holly at 8 Jane Walker Park - **DC/20/01606**.

e) **Full Planning Application for erection of 3 holiday lodges and ancillary parking and a communal function room etc. at Gladwins Farm Holiday Cottages - DC/19/05964**

Nayland with Wissington Parish Council has No Objections with some reservations.

Whilst we welcome the detail provided to a large extent, we have concerns relating to the external lighting and the design in relation to the roof lights.

There should be a condition ensuring the external lighting is not too bright to limit the impact on the dark sky area.

In relation to the roof lights, we have concerns that they may be overly prominent shining across the valley.

f) **DC/20/01345 - Application for Listed Building Consent for alterations to boundary wall to widen gateway; erect gates and posts following removal of existing at 100 Bear Street**

Please note Nayland with Wissington Parish Council objects to this application.

This is due to the visual impact on the streetscape of a conservation area. Insufficient detail of materials have been provided and we note that no pre application advice has been sought. Please note this is a busy stretch of road with access to Doctors and the School, so highways safety and adequate splaying are important considerations.

Some members were not against some alteration, however, this should follow pre-application advice, should be sympathetic with the street scene and the Listed host building and also have safe access to this busy stretch of road. However, this Parish Council Objects to this application in its current form.

g) There were **No Objections** to the application for change of use of land to erect 1 dwelling at Hammonds, Harpers Hill - **DC/20/01527**.

h) There were **No Objections** to the application for a detached dwelling and garage at Old Maltings Farmhouse, Bures Road - **DC/20/01619**.

**4.** Consideration was then given during the meeting to the application for a Class B1 building at Redundant Builders Merchants Yard, Nags Corner - **DC/20/02094**. After discussion, the following response was agreed: -

*Whilst this Parish Council is supportive of local employment and would be in favour of an office building on this site, we object to this application in its current form due to: -*

- 1) *The profile metal roof which is unsuitable in the AONB*
- 2) *The extent of the glazing to the south elevation which would lead to light pollution and overlooking*
- 3) *The lack of a proper landscaping plan*
- 4) *The need for suitable hedging to the north and west borders*
- 5) *The lack of a low level lighting scheme appropriate in the AONB*
- 6) *No details of the hours of work which could impact on neighbour amenity*

*Therefore we object to this application, but are confident a suitably sympathetic scheme could be designed in this sensitive location in the AONB.*

**5.** **Any other urgent Planning matters:** The Decision to grant permission to 100 Bear Street was discussed with M Barrett before she left the meeting. Concern was expressed that dramatic changes to the plans were agreed without further consultation. The case was made that the original application should have been withdrawn and a new application should have been considered. M Barrett agreed to investigate further. It was then agreed for the Chairman to draft a communication to Tom Barker at Babergh Planning sharing our concerns - **Action Chairman**.

**6.** **Urgent Recreation and Open Spaces:** Caley Green Parking has been more challenging during the lockdown period. The Chairman suggested setting up an Open Spaces Committee to look at all the issues between meetings. This will include consideration of permanent signage for Caley Green. This was agreed and the importance of involving other agencies and the Friends of Caley Green in discussions was stressed. An Agenda item of Working Group for Caley Green and Open Spaces to be added to the July Agenda - **Action Clerk**. Nettles are encroaching from the river bank on Caley Green. It was agreed for G Battye to draft a communication to our contractor explaining what is required - **Action G Battye**.

The War Memorial is due for an inspection and possible maintenance this year. It was agreed for this to form a future Agenda item - **Action Clerk**. The bench near the War Memorial was impacted by a car. The driver immediately contacted the Parish Council and has offered to reimburse the cost of

repairs. A quotation had been received from a local contractor and had been circulated to the Parish Council ahead of the meeting. This also recommended some minor maintenance work. It was agreed to proceed and obviously the impact repair element will be passed to the driver for reimbursement on completion - **Action Clerk**.

7. **Any updates from Community Response to Covid 19**: The regular bulletins have been circulated to local organisations. The Parish Council agreed a vote of thanks to all the volunteers and local businesses who have stepped up during this crisis and continue to provide very valuable support to residents in need.
8. **Urgent Highways Safety Matters**: The increased use of beautiful open spaces and waterways has led to further village parking issues including on Caley Green, Anchor bridge and around junctions. The excessive and inappropriate parking forces traffic onto the wrong side of the road. A positive point made is that stationary vehicles slow traffic generally. The meeting was closed to allow J Finch to contribute. He felt the crucial points were whether this was a temporary or permanent issue and collection of data would be required to evidence a case for changes. M Barrett confirmed that parking enforcement is now the responsibility of Babergh District Council and she offered to investigate their powers including in relation to highway code guidance not to park near junctions - **Action M Barrett**. Attention then turned to Star Alley which is now in a poor state. J Finch agreed to work with G Battye to try to find a resolution which may involve upgrading the status of the path - **Action G Battye and J Finch**. It was agreed for members to review their areas and list any broken street name signs. To facilitate this the Chairman will circulate the existing highways responsibility list as some areas need re-allocation - **Action Chairman**. A request had been made to remove a redundant litter bin at the Horsewatering as this is a health and safety issue. This was agreed and our contractors will be asked to store - **Action Clerk**. Meanwhile members are to review and recommend any changes to existing bin provision in the village. To facilitate this the Clerk will provide an on-line form for comments between meetings - **Action Clerk**.
9. **Urgent Street Lighting Matters**: Nothing to report.
10. **Urgent Footpaths Matters**: It was agreed for the Chairman to contact the landowner again regarding the eroding path. Details provided by G Battye will be shared with the landowner.
11. **Urgent Allotment issues**: We now have a short waiting list. A complaint was shared from a resident about the cutting of the Allotment field for hay. The history was discussed and it was agreed for the Chairman to word a suitable communication to the resident concerned - **Action Chairman**. The gate has been made safe. The Chairman suggested an Allotment Sub Committee of the Parish Council would be useful to consider matters between meetings and then report investigation and recommendations to the Parish Council Meetings. An Agenda item for July was agreed of Allotment Committee - **Action Clerk**. A small number of plots have not been attended to during the lockdown potentially with good reason. Gentle enquiries will be made as time permits.
12. **Urgent Village Hall matters**: There was nothing further to report, however, grant support has been provided due to the Covid-19 lockdown. They continue to challenge the lack of grant support to the Village Hall Roof Project.
13. **Urgent Community Council matters**: Nothing was raised.
14. **Correspondence**: The correspondence report had been circulated ahead of the meeting. The items had been picked up under the various agenda items.
15. **Urgent Burial Ground issues**: Work continues between meetings on items delegated to the Clerk. There was nothing further to report apart from the gate has been left open to avoid visitors needing to touch it.

The meeting closed at **9.30 pm**.