

MINUTES OF THE NAYLAND WITH WISSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 8th JULY 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 3 members of the public.

Before Commencement of the Meeting

a. Public Forum

District Cllr Melanie Barrett was thanked for resolving the Brown Bin emptying at Newlands Lane recently.

b. District Council Report

District Cllr M Barrett attended and had reported in advance that the District Council Annual Meeting is now due in the autumn. The rates of transmission of Covid-19 in Babergh has been low in the last 12 days and generally across Suffolk. Cllr Barrett investigated a delay to the brown bin emptying which turned out to be due to a vehicle blocking access. CIL funding of £75,000 was approved for St Peter's in Sudbury. Other projects benefiting include the Church in Chelsworth for community events and a play area in Newton. CIFCO, the councils investment arm are generating significant funds. She added that the Appeal at the White Hart has been lodged and work is being undertaken behind the scenes for new phases of the Covid-19 response.

c. County Council Report

County Cllr James Finch attended and first reported on Covid-19 related news including the critical test and trace and urged people not to be complacent now we are coming out of the lockdown. People undertaking journeys on buses are being encouraged to travel at quieter times if they can. The temporary relaxation of concessionary travel rules will end shortly. The County Council's Renewable Energy Fund is open to eligible businesses looking to reduce their carbon footprint through solar power. Virtual Events will take place on the subject of fostering and adoption as demand has increased significantly.

Parish Council Meeting

1. **Apologies:** None were received.
2. **Approval of Minutes of 10th June Meeting:** These were accepted as a true record.
3. **Declarations of Interest by Councillors:** The Chairman confirmed she will decline from voting in relation to the payments as one is to reimburse expenditure incurred by herself.
4. **Finance Report**
 - i)The Chairman read from the bank balances as at 1st July 2020 as £1000 in the Current Account, £38990.84 in the linked Account and £17240.37 in the Capital Investment Account making a total of £57231.21.
 - ii) List of Pre-agreed payments for July: -

Mortimer Contracts (Grass/Litter/recreation/open spaces)	1011.60
Employment Costs totalled	1207.12
M George (open space and postage expenses)	20.84

It was agreed to delegate pre-agreed and emergency payments to the Chairman and Clerk to cover the August period where a meeting may not take place.

5. Planning

1. Decisions from the Planning Authority:-

- a) Conditions were approved for Dwelling Roof Lights, brickwork, heritage eaves and verges, rainwater goods, windows, doors and glazed panels, mechanical ventilation and Facing and roofing materials at Stour House, 23 Court Street. Refused conditions included facing and roofing materials and roof lights - **DC/20/02530/36 & 01972.**
- b) Conditions were approved in relation to contamination report and foundation design at 8 Mill Street - **DC/20/01876.**

- c) Reserved matters have been approved at The Bungalow, Harpers Hill for appearance, landscaping, layout, scale for 6 dwellings, associated garages, parking, private drive and vehicular access - **DC/20/00418**.
- d) It was noted that the planning authority had granted temporary consent to the Anchor to help them adapt to the challenges of trading in Covid-19 times.

e) Tree work approved by the Babergh Arboricultural Officer which didn't need the formal application process included a very tall and unsafe conifer on the meadow in Gravel Hill, behind the Perry and Birch Street. At Hollies on Stoke Road – trees planted approximately 20 years ago when the house was built on a field site required felling and thinning out.

2. 5 Birch Street - Listed Building application for internal alterations - the following response was agreed: - *"Please note Nayland with Wissington Parish Council has No Objections in view of the close involvement from the Heritage Team."*

3. Part retrospective application for storage bays at Harpers Hill Farm - the following response was agreed: - *"I am writing following a meeting of Nayland with Wissington Parish Council where this part retrospective application was considered. Firstly members agreed their previous objections still apply."*

Please note Nayland with Wissington Parish Council objects to any further expansion of this operation at the current location and therefore this application.

We repeat our comments listed below and our concern about traffic movements within the site generating further disturbance and continuous noise. We also remind you that the position at the top of the valley causes noise to reverberate around the valley.

Whilst this Council is supportive of local business/employment, no further expansion could be accommodated at such a sensitive and tranquil location in the Dedham Vale AONB.

Paragraph 115 of the NPPF gives the highest status of protection for the landscape and scenic beauty of AONB's.

The activities on this site already generate complaints of noise, dust and hours of work disturbance. We also have seen little evidence of effective monitoring despite complaints.

It is adjacent to Gladwins Farm, a major tourist/holiday destination in the Village.

This Parish Council supports the comments from the AONB Officer quoted below: - "Localised impacts from noise are still possible without interventions. In our original response we raised concern about a loss of tranquillity linked to the potential increase in noise levels associated with the business. Tranquillity is one for the natural beauty indicators used to designate AONBs. The AONB team note that a further noise assessment completed by SLR is generally positive about potential noise impacts from the revised site layout. We note that the report recommends the use of a condition limiting the hours of operation to help reduce and manage noise impacts on neighbouring residential properties, particularly the dwelling to the south of the site. The AONB team would have concerns about a reduction in tranquillity linked to this proposal. We therefore reiterate our previous position that SSC should be satisfied that the new surveys are robust and that any noise generated will be within acceptable limits and will not result in a significant reduction in tranquillity."

This Parish Council therefore repeats its objections to further industrialisation of this site in the AONB. However, if permission was to be given there would need to be a rigorous monitoring system in relation to noise, dust and impact mitigation. Working hours would need to be limited for neighbour amenity and the bund wall would need to be higher to reduce noise and dust escaping from the site.

Please take all these points into consideration."

4. Planning application for temporary siting of park home during construction at land at the Studios, Harpers Hill - the following response was agreed:-

"Please note Nayland with Wissington Parish Council has No Objections subject to a clear condition limiting the duration of the siting of the park home."

- 5.** Appeal at White Hart, 11 High Street for refusal to agree change of use - the following response was agreed: -

"I am writing following a Parish Council Meeting where this Appeal was discussed.

Nayland with Wissington Parish Council supported the decision by the Planning Authority to Refuse the Change of Use. We objected to the application at the time as there was no evidence provided to demonstrate the property had been marketed as a commercial premises. This is required by both National and Local Planning Policies. Employment sites and facilities such as these are important to the sustainability of village life. Having reviewed the arguments given supporting this Appeal we believe our original objections are still valid and a nearby approval would not set a precedent on an application correctly declined in our opinion.

We therefore urge you to refuse this Appeal."

- 6.** **Any other urgent Planning Matters** - P Fuller explained that further spoil behind Laburnum Way has been reported to the Babergh District Council Enforcement Team. The Chairman clarified whether the letter to the senior planning team should include other similar cases where significant amendments have been agreed without further consultation. This was agreed.

- 6.** **Urgent Recreation and Open Spaces:** Central Government has issued Guidelines on Play Park re-opening with stringent requirements on cleanliness, signage and social distancing. There was enthusiasm for re-opening but also a realisation that the requirements involved may not make the safe opening possible. It was agreed for G Battye to work with the Chairman on a Risk Assessment regarding the potential re-opening - **Action Chairman and G Battye**. In the meantime, the Clerk is to ask our contractors to carry out a safety inspection and a deep clean - **Action Clerk**. It was agreed to also liaise with the School in view of the close proximity to the Fairfield and Play Park in relation to re-opening. A Working Party for Caley Green and Open Spaces was formed including N Cartwright, L Erith and P Wilkie.

- 7.** **Any updates from Community Response to Covid 19:** The regular bulletins have been circulated to local organisations. Members took the opportunity to thank Lorraine Brooks for her significant and on-going contribution in keeping people up to date with information either through Facebook or Community Times during these challenging times.

- 8.** **Urgent Highways Safety Matters:** Details of the CCTV device at the Bear Street Bus Stop were yet to be established. The Chairman agreed to take forward the overgrown hedge near the Doctors and to issue a general reminder in relation to various footways in the village obstructed by overgrown hedges and vegetation - **Action Chairman**. A pot hole in the High Street has been marked for repair. The meeting was closed to allow J Finch to join the discussions. The potential to seek a solution to Anchor bridge parking safety issues and similar issues at Caley Green was discussed. J Finch explained the process including a consultation in respect of any Road Traffic Order. The meeting was opened again. G Battye agreed a review would be sensible, however, reminded members that parked cars slow traffic and he stressed the importance of consulting residents. It was agreed to ask County Highways to undertake a review. J Finch agreed to take this forward. J Finch left the meeting as previously agreed. The Chairman then reminded members of the Highways responsibility grid which she circulated allocating the various parts of the village for each Councillor to check on a regular basis. Further changes were agreed and the Chairman noted her copy. It was agreed for the Clerk to email J Finch and ask for a progress report on the necessary changes/work in Star Alley - **Action Clerk**. It was reported that various overgrown verges at junctions were making visibility difficult particularly in Wiston. Members were reminded about the Highways Reporting Tool and to use the official email address for the Parish Council to enable the Clerk to note the issue. The working party to review dog and litter bins in the Village consists of the Chairman, L Erith, D Harris and P Wilkie.

- 9.** **Urgent Street Lighting Matters:** There was nothing to report.

10. **Urgent Footpaths Matters** : Various on-going footpath issues were discussed including the obstruction near the Scout hut which has been cleared and the eroding path which has been the subject of various communications. Overgrown vegetation was making the path at Court Knoll difficult and it was agreed for the Chairman to seek assistance from the owner - **Action Chairman**.
11. **Urgent Allotment issues** : An idea of replacing the Allotment Competition this year with photographs of the Allotments to showcase all the effort being put in was discussed. This idea was positively received, however, concern was expressed that it could bring about security issues. There was a meeting recently at a neglected allotment and with the support from other allotment holders, the allotment was cleared of rubbish. It was agreed to obtain a quote for clearance and to seek reimbursement from the previous allotment holder. To increase the pro-activity of allotment monitoring and a review of the regulations, it was agreed to form an Allotment Committee. D Harris and P Wilkie agreed to form the Committee. The Clerk will send information to the members of the newly formed Committee - **Action Clerk**. The Chairman will order new numbers, so that each Allotment is clearly identified - **Action Chairman**. There is now a vacant Allotment and it was agreed for the Clerk to allocate to the first on the waiting list - **Action Clerk**.
12. **Urgent Village Hall matters**: The Village Hall Management Committee met recently on Zoom to consider the government guidance for the potential re-opening. Many activities were excluded at this stage and it is likely the re-opening will not take place in early course. The Committee are keeping matters closely under review. The issue regarding gaining grants towards the Village Hall roof has not been resolved. The complaint regarding the CIL money has not led to any substantial progress at this stage.
13. **Urgent Community Council matters**: N Cartwright attended the Community Council Meeting on behalf of the Parish Council and provided a report to them covering the successful first Zoom Parish Council Meeting and planning matters including at Harpers Hill Farm. The Community Council are considering how future events could be staged safely considering Covid-19.
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**: It was reported that the Burial Ground is generating more activity than usual. The Memorial Seat that was previously approved is now going ahead.

The meeting closed at **9.42 pm**.