

MINUTES OF THE NAYLAND WITH WISSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 10TH MARCH 2021, AT 7.30 PM BY VIDEO CONFERENCING.

Present: M George (Chairman), G Battye, N Cartwright, L Erith, P Fuller, D Harris, R Thorogood, P Wilkie, D Hattrell (Clerk), J Finch (County Cllr), L Brooks (Community Times) and 7 members of the public.

Before Commencement of the Meeting

a. Public Forum including information about new potential plans - land north of Wiston rd:

The applicant/agent - S Davis - for the potential plans confirmed he realised the Parish Council would need to reserve judgement until receipt of new formal plans. However, he was seeking to engage with the Parish Council and neighbours to get as much feedback as possible to help shape a new application. He explained the changes he has made so far intended to lessen the impact to the surroundings and neighbours in the countryside and AONB. Various questions followed regarding

- the positioning of plots 7 & 8 and their garages,
- whether a pavement was possible,
- whether the flagship managed properties could be limited to local needs,
- road safety crossing the A134,
- whether the number of proposed houses could be reduced,
- whether the access could be amended so the existing houses could form a cul de sac.

S Davis was sympathetic to the issues raised and confirmed the size of development may be necessary in order to financially secure the affordable element. S Davis was thanked for listening to concerns and withdrawing the first application.

Attention then turned to the Mill Stream and the Parish Council were reminded of correspondence circulated in this respect. A resident suggested directing canoeists in the Sudbury direction as that part is easier to negotiate. The Chairman noted this suggestion and confirmed the Mill Stream would be considered as an Agenda item during the main meeting.

b. District Council Report

District Cllr M Barrett was unable to attend and her report confirmed the final decision regarding a reduction of free parking was made by cabinet on 4th February. Free parking will reduce from 3 hours to 1 from October 2021 at the earliest. In relation to finances, a 2.96 % increase in their element of Council tax was agreed, a 1.5% increase in Council rents and 69pence per week to Sheltered Housing Service charge. As confirmed last month, Babergh District Council met the Governments housing delivery requirement over the past three years, so planning applications can be considered against local planning policies. Income is being derived from parking enforcement. A review of future parking needs and sustainable travel options is being conducted.

c. County Council Report

County Cllr J Finch attended and reported on the continued focus on Covid 19 with the good news that there was no new infections in the 7 day period from 18th - 25th February in our immediate area. He reminded everyone to stick with the guidance and was pleased to report that Suffolk is now vaccinating the over 60's. More rapid testing centres are open including The Stevenson Centre, Gt Cornard and The Fire Station, Nayland. Substantial funds have been allocated to the County Council to handle the pandemic, however, they still needed to spend more. Despite the costs of the pandemic, the County Council will meet the shortfall by reserves and only increase their element of general council tax by 1.99% and an additional 2.00% for Social Care as usual. Further budget has been allocated to highways including drainage, surfacing and rights of way bridges and paths. Suffolk County Council's cabinet had confirmed its support for Freeport East which covers the ports of Felixstowe and Harwich and offer global and regional connectivity. This was to support reduced administrative burden and taxation and drive job creation, investment and international trade post Brexit. The final decision about Freeport designation rested with the UK central government and Freeport East has now been agreed. Further virtual Fostering and Adoption sessions were scheduled. J Finch was pleased to report the SCC Right of Way Manager, Claire Dickson had organised temporary barriers at Kingsland Lane and was investigating a more permanent solution.

Parish Council Meeting

1. **Apologies:** None were received.

2. **Approval of Minutes of 10th February Meeting:** These were accepted as a true record.

3. **Declarations of Interest by Councillors:** Nothing was declared.

4. **Finance Report**

i) The Chairman read from the bank balances as at 1st March 2021 as £1000 in the Current Account, £40516.19 in the linked Account and £17257.94 in the Capital Investment Account making a total of £58774.13.

ii) List of Pre-agreed payments for the February period: -

Mortimer Contracts (Litter/Burial Ground & Recreation)	670.80
Employment Costs totalled	1241.64
Anglia Inspection Services (Playground Safety Report)	186.00

It was resolved to continue to make use of the services of SALC for Internal Audit as their expertise in this field has been useful in previous years. It was noted the wider Internal Controls had already been reviewed in this financial year.

5. **Planning**

1. Decisions from the Planning Authority:-

- a) Work can proceed to trees in a Conservation Area at Alston Court, 2 Court Street - The Planning Authority did not Object - **DC/21/00255.**
- b) Planning Permission was granted to erect a general purpose livestock building at Townlands Farm, Harpers Hill - **DC/21/00180.**
- c) Planning Permission was granted for a swimming pool and filter shed at Hillrise, 42 Gravel Hill - **DC/21/00076.**
- d) Planning Permission was refused for part retrospective application for a worker's dwelling, construction of screening bunds and access at Harpers Hill Farm, Harpers Hill - **DC/20/03642.**
- e) The discharge of conditions application for materials, lighting scheme and management plan was approved at Gladwins Farm Holiday Cottages, Gladwins Farm, Harpers Hill - **DC/21/00211.**
- f) The discharge of conditions application for landscaping was approved at 24 Laburnum Way - **DC/21/00106.**

2. 84 Bear Street - **DC/21/01147/8.** Planning and Listed Building application for single storey rear extension and raised decking.

The Parish Council had **No Objections**

3. Hammonds, Harpers Hill - **DC/21/01212.** Application to vary conditions for new dwelling and associated outbuilding.

The Parish Council had **No Objections** subject to a condition that the outbuildings cannot be let or sold separately from the main dwelling.

4. **Model Design Code Consultation** - Following discussion, the Chairman proposed this Council is in broad agreement with the response prepared by NALC and would welcome the concept of design codes, however, we are disappointed there doesn't seem to be enough emphasis on climate change. It was resolved this statement should be sent to NALC via email - **Action Clerk.**

5. **Any urgent Planning matters** - P Fuller raised the refusal of the part retrospective application at Harpers Hill Farm. It was noted M Barrett had followed up and it was agreed to seek an update from M Barrett in this regard before taking any further action - **Action Clerk.**

6. **Urgent Recreation and Open Spaces:** The investigation since receipt of the Playpark safety inspection was out-lined and written recommendations had been made by G Batty. Members agreed to proceed with the first 3 quoted items as they were considered higher priority. These included welding to the slide, sticking down tears in surfacing of the multi unit and to seal the split on basketball court surface. In addition, it was agreed to remove the top layer of winter dirt - **Action Clerk to authorise the work.** In relation to the turning circle for burials, the bollards have been repaired and the costs have been sent to the removal firm in order to seek reimbursement. Members wanted to consider improvements to this section and some options had been provided by G Batty and our

grounds maintenance contractors. It was agreed to set up a communal form for members to vote on their preferred option to enable quotes to be obtained - **Action Clerk and All.**

Attention then turned to the Caley Green Review Meeting which took place involving all the main agencies. It was noted at the meeting the Green is owned by the County Council (SCC) and managed by the Parish Council under license. The Parish Council Chairman and J Finch explained the discussion and agreements from the meeting. Summer 2020 led to an increase of visitors and users of the river picnicking, canoeing and using paddle boards. This led to some parking and traffic issues, litter, river bank damage and erosion and no public toilets are available for use by visitors. Residents were impacted including those whose properties back onto the river. New users of paddle boards and inflatables are not always aware that all crafts on the waterway should be licensed. The Environment Agency (EA) are promoting river etiquette and the need for licencing. The EA do not undertake erosion control, however any works require their permission. A like for like replacement of timber edging would be acceptable at the river bank on Caley Green. Vegetation helps to protect the bank, an option of pre-seeded coir rolls would be a preferred solution for Caley Green river bank as they benefit wildlife, require less management and do not obscure views or access to the river. The Mill Stream is part of the Stour navigation. The countryside code should be the focus including protect, respect, enjoy and of course the need to licence watercraft. Public engagement opportunities include social media, signage, licencing and Licence Enforcement Patrols. The actions agreed were to continue with parking restrictions where experimental yellow lines are being introduced. J Finch is pursuing this and also involving the SCC Right of Way team. Signage will include roadside for motorists arriving on site stating no parking, bbq's or overnight camping. Interpretive information boards will include a wider positive message and information about the locality. The Parish Council Chairman was taking the lead on both of these signs and also investigating funding. The EA will install signage at the Mill Stream junction showing preferred routes. A further multi agency review meeting will be scheduled within 4 weeks. G Battye took the opportunity to thank the support by the Friends of Caley Green with the management of signage on the Green and also the input from residents regarding the Mill Stream. The history of the Mill lade was out-lined and the criteria for lifebuoy rings was asked. All the points were listened to. The Parish Council were supportive of the agreed actions and will review proposed signage in due course - **Action Chairman.**

7. **Any updates from Community Response to Covid 19:** The regular bulletins have been circulated to local organisations. L Brooks continues to update the FaceBook page.
8. **Urgent Highways Safety Matters:** The new experimental parking restrictions for Bear Street are with the County Council Legal Department. The new HGV signage has been confirmed and will be installed shortly. Any queries relating to these items should be directed to J Finch. Between meetings J Finch has been investigating appropriate signage for Wiston to follow up on site meetings held some time ago now without his involvement. It was agreed to include Quiet Lanes as an Agenda item for next meeting - **Action Clerk.** Meanwhile members are to consider appropriate lanes for the scheme. Gravel Hill was suggested for a possible quiet lane. More speed detection/traffic calming was requested, posts already exist for the speed devices to be rotated and consideration could be given to further posts. J Finch agreed to investigate.
9. **Urgent Burial Ground issues:** The broken fencing panel and winter maintenance had been carried out.
10. **Urgent Street Lighting Matters:** There was nothing substantial to report. A response had been given in response to the power and maintenance invoicing enquiry.
11. **Urgent Footpaths Matters :** Temporary posts have been erected on both ends of Kingsland Lane. This was organised by Claire Dickson, Right of Way Manager at the County Council. The poor state of Dead Lane was raised and it was agreed to involve Claire Dickson again and also review the condition between meetings. It was agreed to include Dead Lane as an Agenda item for next meeting - **Action Clerk.**
12. **Urgent Allotment issues :** There was nothing to report.
13. **Urgent Village Hall matters:** An exciting event is being organised for the August Bank Holiday to bring the village together and start raising much needed funds. A small committee was being formed and P Wilkie volunteered to join that committee from the Parish Council - **Action Clerk to advise I Wright accordingly.**

14. **Urgent Community Council matters:** Their AGM was held and the Minutes have been circulated.
15. **Correspondence:** The correspondence report had been circulated ahead of the meeting. The items had been picked up under the various agenda items. The Chairman reminded members training courses were available organised by SALC via video conferencing.
16. **Annual Parish Assembly:** The uncertainty of arrangements for Annual Parish Assemblies and the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council were discussed. Interpreting the proposals coming out of lockdown, it seems a face to face meeting on the scale needed would not be appropriate until potentially July. The Annual Parish Assembly must be held ahead of June. It was agreed a Zoom Meeting can be arranged for our usual dates around the end of April and all the reports could be available on our website. Members were supportive of this taking place, so it was agreed for the Chairman and Clerk to liaise over suitable dates - **Action**. Further advice will be sought in relation to the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council from SALC as rushing to hold this meeting whilst video conferencing is permitted may not be practical - **Action Clerk**.

The meeting closed at **10.00 pm**.