

MINUTES OF THE NAYLAND WITH WISSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 13TH APRIL 2022, AT 7.30 PM AT NAYLAND VILLAGE HALL AND BY VIDEO CONFERENCING.

Present: M George (Chairman), P Wilkie, P Fuller, D Harris, R Thorogood, D Hattrell (Clerk), M Barrett (District Cllr) attended in person and G Battye, N Cartwright, L Brooks (Community Times) and 3 members of the public joined by Video link.

Before Commencement of the Meeting

a. Public Forum: Nothing was raised.

b. District Council Report

District Cllr Melanie Barrett attended and had given advance sight of her Annual Report which was to be available at the Annual Parish Assembly. She confirmed the £150 towards increased fuel costs would be straight forward for residents who pay their Council Tax via direct debit. Further monies were available to apply for to help against hardship in the cost of living crisis. N Cartwright asked about the costs of the solar project at Kingfisher. M Barrett confirmed she will investigate and advise.

c. County Council Report

County Councillor James Finch had sent his apologies and had given advance sight of his Annual Report which was to be available at the Annual Parish Assembly. Locally regarding Caley Green, J Finch has now had confirmation that Suffolk County Council is the Riparian Landowner of the River Stour at this point after a long debate with the Environmental Agency and the ditch from Bear Street into the river at Caley Green is also owned by the County Council and clearance is now on the job list.

Parish Council Meeting

- 1. Apologies:** were received from G Battye and N Cartwright - they both attended via Video link. L Erith had hoped to attend later, however, was unable to make the meeting.
- 2. Approval of Minutes of 9th March 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 April 2022 as £1000 in the Current Account, £57983.17 in the linked Account and £17263.33 in the Capital Investment Account making a total of £76246.50

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

Funds Transfer	Employment Costs totalled	£1525.33	Salary, NI and Pension
Funds Transfer	Mortimer Contracts	£649.20	Litter/Grass
Funds Transfer	F Bugg	£500.00	Tree Work
Funds Transfer	The National Allotment Soc	£66.00	Membership
Funds Transfer	S Carter	£21.00	Bus Shelter Clean
Funds Transfer	Mortimer Contracts	£7680.00	Play Park Surfacing

The Play Park Surfacing was inspected ahead of releasing the Payment. Confirmation had been received between meetings that the 1.75% pay deal from April 2021 had been agreed, so the employment costs include the back-dated pay as agreed.

iii) Charity Payments - The last Section 137 charity payment was made in June 2021 for £200. In the current year, £375 had been budgeted to support charities. This can include the Citizen's Advice Bureau, although we do have a power to support them over and above Section 137. The charities debated were the Community Pantry in Nayland that also supports hardship in other nearby villages, Sudbury Citizens Advice Bureau, Homestart, Suffolk - Providing volunteer support to families throughout Suffolk, Age Concern and Suffolk Accident Rescue. It was agreed to give Councillors further time to research and also to issue a shared form for comments - **Action All**. It will form an Agenda item at the May Meeting - **Action Clerk**.

iv) Any other urgent Finance matters: The Chairman confirmed that the Public Works loans for the Village Hall would be completed by 2029.

5. **Planning**

1. Decisions from the Planning Authority:-

- A) Discharge of Conditions in relation to front door were approved at 82 Bear Street, Nayland with Wissington - **DC/22/01006**
- B) The Planning Authority raised No Objections to notification of works to trees in Conservation Area at Hillside, 14 Stoke Road, Nayland with Wissington - **DC/22/00983**.
- C) Listed Building Consent was Granted for French doors and window and downstairs WC at 10 Mill Street, Nayland with Wissington - **DC/22/00593**.
- D) Planning Permission was Refused to extend Rushbanks House, Bures Road - **DC/22/00804**.

2. Harpers Hill Farm, Harpers Hill - **SCC/0099/19B/VOC**. The Parish Council Objected to this part retrospective application to which part of the wall was already constructed. The design and materials were considered inappropriate in the AONB. There was no evidence that the wall had or will minimise the noise and litter escaping from the site. The wall would look unsightly, even with extensive planting, and it is in a prominent and sensitive location in the AONB. The site should be afforded all the protections that this designation brings in planning terms. Further this Parish Council would like to see monitoring reports from the Environment Agency which so far have not been made available to us.

3. New Farm, Harpers Hill - Application for New Boundary fence and hedge - **DC/22/01538**. The Parish Council Objected to this application due to the inappropriate materials and design in the AONB. As the hedging in the original plans was removed the Parish Council considered a far better solution to be removal of the new inappropriate fencing and in its place a new mixed native hedge of mature plants is planted and protected on the inside with agricultural wire fencing to ensure the boundaries are secure.

4. Planning and Listed Building applications for extension and alterations at 13 Birch Street - **DC/22/01731 & 01732**. The Parish Council had **No Objections** subject to approval by the Heritage Team.

5. Listed Building application at 18 Court Street for repairs to external render - **DC/22/01599**. The Parish Council had **No Objections** subject to approval by the Heritage Team.

6. Listed Building application for repairs to roof and velux windows at 1 Fen Street - **DC/22/01271**. The Parish Council had **No Objections** subject to approval by the Heritage Team.

7. Any other urgent Planning matters - An enforcement issue in Wiston had received a response from the Planning Enforcement Team.

6. **Urgent Highways Safety Matters:** Firstly correspondence with the organisers of the Stour Valley Marathon was discussed and that details of the drainage works had been sent. Members were supportive of the event and it was agreed to provide details of the land agent in relation to the farmland queried by the organisers - **Action Clerk**. It was noted the overgrown trees on Harpers Hill were being investigated. The Community Litterpick had been scheduled for 23rd April. Members were looking to litterpick Wiston at the same time, so a risk assessment was being undertaken. It was noted the original contractor hadn't responded to our request for a quotation to restore the memorial, milestone and horsetrough. Another 2 Stone Masons had been approached. Historically a plate was on the horsetrough which has been found and the successful contractor will be asked to include the fitting of the plate within the works.

7. **Community Governance Review:** It was noted that a response was required towards the end of May, so it was agreed to set up a shared form for comments between meetings and an Agenda item at the May Meeting - **Action Clerk**.

8. **Annual Parish Assembly arrangements:** The final arrangements were made with Councillors arriving around 7.00 p.m. to set up.

9. **Urgent Street Lighting Matters:** There was nothing to report, however, it was noted billing for power and maintenance and upgrades from last financial year were awaited.

10. **Urgent Recreation and Open Spaces:** It was confirmed that the authorised work to improve the turning circle on the recreation ground was completed ahead of the financial year end. The Play Park

surfacing had also been completed at the start of this financial year. It was reported that funds in the region of £4000 has been raised in memory of Margaret Underwood. This is to be put towards new play equipment at the Fairfield in her memory. It was agreed to thank the family for this kind donation which will be appreciated by children using the play park for years to come - **Action Clerk**. As none of the contractors have responded to a request for further information to help inform the planting scheme at Caley Green, it was agreed for the working party to re-visit the request and consider the next steps. Our County Councillor had provided some good information regarding responsibility for the river and the ditch in his report to this meeting, so progress is being made. The Parish Council thanked J Finch for his pro-activity in this matter. The power cuts caused problems to the sluice gates particularly affecting the Wiston side. It was delegated to the Chairman and Clerk to write to the Environment Agency to seek assurances for contingencies covering future power cuts - **Action Chairman and Clerk**. The Parish Council were thankful to F Bugg for promptly clearing the damaged ash tree as a result of the storm.

11. **Any updates from Community Response to Covid 19:** L Brooks continues to update FaceBook. There were no updates to be made.
12. **Urgent Village Hall matters:** A new front door was being installed and new cleaners had been hired. A site meeting was carried out between meetings to examine 3 prunus trees in the car park. An independent tree specialist was appointed as a result. The Village Hall Management Committee are supportive and the report from the tree specialist was awaited.
13. **Urgent Community Council matters:** The Minutes are regularly circulated and P Wilkie updated the meeting on the Platinum Jubilee arrangements. The take up of mugs had been slower than for previous Jubilees. Members agreed that mugs could be provided to the school children if the numbers work. P Wilkie agreed to investigate with the Head teacher. It was agreed to ask L Erith and D Harris to attend the school during the Jubilee celebrations on Wednesday 1st June if they are available.
14. **Urgent Allotment issues :** It was agreed to ask our Grounds Maintenance Contractors to quote to remove vegetation and repair the chestnut pale fencing - **Action Clerk**. Correspondence is on-going regarding the proposed work to the PROW path at the Allotments. Further details had been received from County Right of Way.
15. **Urgent Burial Ground issues:** It was agreed to get quotes to pollard Burial Ground trees identified in the Tree Specialist's Report - **Action Clerk**.
16. **Urgent Footpaths Matters :** L Erith agreed to investigate the condition of Dead Lane following work due from the landowner - **Action L Erith**. This is to be discussed at future meetings.
17. **Correspondence:** The correspondence report had been circulated ahead of the meeting. The items had been picked up under the various agenda items. In relation to the Torch Relay on 19th May, the Clerk reminded the Parish Council that once they nominate a community hero and get confirmation of their willingness, the Clerk will pass the name and contact details to the organisers who will do the rest - **Action All to secure a nomination ASAP**.

The meeting closed at **9.49 pm**.