

MINUTES OF THE NAYLAND WITH WISSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 14TH DECEMBER 2022, AT 7.30 PM AT NAYLAND VILLAGE HALL AND BY VIDEO CONFERENCING.

Present: R Thorogood (Chairman), L Erith, M George, D Harris, N Cartwright, M Barrett (District Cllr), J Finch (County Cllr) and 3 members of the public attended in person and D Hattrell (Clerk), L Brooks (Community Times) and 1 member of the public joined by Video link.

Before Commencement of the Meeting

a. Public Forum:

M Hunter (Conservation Society) asked for clarification of the Minutes as the Parish Council Minutes in relation to speed monitoring were not as detailed as the report in Community Times. M George explained that the Council Minutes just need to record the resolutions, however, she was happy to propose more clarification around the speed monitoring. He then went onto ask whether the Parish Council were minded to challenge Babergh District Council Planning and Enforcement on their lack of support. County Cllr J Finch explained a complaint from a resident in respect of the new dog bin in Court Street. The Clerk confirmed she had also received the complaint and an email was to follow to be circulated to the Parish Council to consider.

b. District Council Report

District Cllr Melanie Barrett attended and confirmed at the District Council's November Meeting, they adopted the Local Government Association Policy "Debate not Hate". There will be no tolerance of abuse. Their December full Council Meeting was cancelled. The CIL application for the maximum funding of £100k is currently being considered towards the Village Hall Roof. Imogen Tink is our new Locality Officer at the District Council. In relation to Devolution, funding is available to regenerate brownfield land into affordable homes, devolvement of the Adult Education budget, additional transport powers and £3M to improve energy efficiency in homes. We also have the option to elect the leader of Suffolk County Council.

M George explained that she was investigating warm spaces including at Parkers Way and this will involve liaison with M Barrett and J Finch. M Barrett agreed to follow up.

Following her report, M Barrett wished everyone a Happy Christmas.

c. County Council Report

County Cllr J Finch attended and reported on a £500M devolution deal that gives money, power over building re-generation and skills provision in the hands of leaders in Suffolk. The deal is subject to local consultation and involves the election of a leader in May 2024. Further hosts are needed for Ukrainian Families already here or fleeing the conflict. Our Care Technology Solution, Cassius, wins Best Elderly Care Technology Solution Award. Suffolk Social Workers, Helen Southgate and Claire Fisk won Gold and Silver Awards respectively at the Social Worker of the Year Awards. The winter gritting program and grit replenishment is underway. Suffolk Archives have produced an online gallery showcasing our late Queen. A short film has been released to raise awareness of the need for foster carers.

On local matters, all agreed to check Parish Grit Bins. White Lining renewal had been ordered for the Bear Street/A134 junction. J Finch applauded the start that has been made by our new highways officer, Melanie Hall. It was noted the Parish Council are supportive of the experimental yellow lines in Bear Street to remain, however, they are disappointed with the lack of consultation. In relation to the speed monitoring, J Finch is funding this out of his Locality Budget, however, if the results are favourable towards a reduced speed limit, then a report will be required and he asked the Parish Council to consider sharing the cost of this report.

Parish Council Meeting

- 1. Election of Chairman:** L Erith confirmed her resignation from the Chair. R Thorogood confirmed his willingness to take on the role. This was resolved and the Declaration of Acceptance of Office was duly signed.

Apologies: were received and accepted from G Battye, P Wilkie and P Fuller. P Fuller joined by Zoom Video Link. D Hattrell (Clerk) attended to her duties via Zoom Video Link.

2. **Approval of Minutes of 9th November Meeting:** These were accepted as a true record with a fuller explanation regarding the speed monitoring.

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

4. **Finance Report**

i) The Chairman read from the bank balances as at 1st December 2022 as £1000 in the Current Account, £93987.29 in the linked Account and £34638.63 in the Capital Investment Account making a total of £129,625.92.

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

Funds Transfer	Employment Costs totalled	£2173.15	Salary, NI and Pension
Funds Transfer	LuxSigns Ltd	£2088.00	War Memorial Balance
Funds Transfer	Mortimer Contracts	£1310.40	Litter/Rec/Village Hall
Funds Transfer	AIS Ltd	£189.60	Annual Playground Inspection
Funds Transfer	Suffolk County Council	£4499.19	Street Lighting upgrades

iii) Finance Committee Minutes and Recommendations.

Minutes for the Finance Meeting held on 29th November - These were accepted as correct.

Summary of Recommendations for adoption at December/January Parish Council Meetings

1. A Precept of £42952(1.9% increase) for 2023/24 year (subject to final tax base figures)
 2. Finance Committee have calculated that from our existing reserves and the Parish Council's CIL monies, a further maximum of £40,000 on top of the £10,000 already pledged can go towards the Village Hall Roof.
 3. A further £2000 be allocated to the Capital Investment Fund from the 2023/24 year.
 4. This Council continues to adhere to the National Scale for Clerks Salaries for 2023/24 year
 5. This Council will award the Grass and Litter Contracts for 2023/24 year to our existing contractors.
 6. The Contribution towards Webbs Meadow grass cutting to remain at £350
 7. The Allotment Rent is to remain the same for next financial year and consideration to be given to increasing next year.
 8. The Burial Fees will have a small uplift to allow for inflation in a similar way to previous years. M George to prepare the spreadsheet for full Council.
 9. The current Internal Control Policy, Financial Regulations and Standing Orders have been reviewed and currently meet our needs with a slight amendment to Financial Regulation 4.8 to reflect the half yearly budget reviews.
 10. Parish CIL monies are to be used for the new bins, new Play equipment and Village Hall Roof - the exact division to be proposed at a later date by Finance Committee dependent on the progress of each project. It had already been agreed the full cost of the new bins and installation will come out of our CIL monies.
 11. The Clerk to investigate a website that would deliver the required compliance.
- The Chairman proposed to approve all of the recommendations from Finance Committee. This was seconded by L Erith and unanimously carried.

iv) Review of Financial Regulations - the document with a minor update in relation to the frequency of budget reviews had been circulated ahead of the Meeting.

It was resolved to approve the Financial Regulations with this amendment.

v) Any other urgent Finance matters: Nothing was raised.

5. **Planning**

1. **Decision from the Planning Authority:-**

- a) Planning Permission was granted for conversion of garage/store to home office at 1 Stoke Road, Nayland - **DC/22/04730**.
- b) Non Material Amendment was approved to replace some roof slates with PV panels at Nayland Village Hall - **DC/22/05491**
- c) Listed Building Consent was granted to render over gable end at White Hart, 11 High Street - **DC/22/05098**.
- d) Planning Permission was granted for external staircase and door at 21 Stoke Road - **DC/22/05149**.

2. Application for holiday lodges at Oak Cottage, Kingsland Lane - **DC/22/05478**. The Parish Council **Objected** to further development of this site into the Countryside. The proposal is in a tranquil location in open countryside. In addition to protecting the nature of this location and not permitting any increase in the size and dominance of this site, it is essential that lighting at the proposal does not escape into the surrounding AONB and also that the footpaths in the vicinity remain unaltered.
3. Application for cart lodge at Roziers, Wissington Uplands - **DC/22/05633**. The Parish Council had **No Objections** between Meetings.
4. Applications for cart lodges at Old Brewery House - **DC/22/05718** and The White House - **DC/22/05721** both on Church Lane. The Parish Council had **No Objections** between Meetings.
5. Any other urgent Planning matters - The question was asked in the Public Forum from the Conservation Society as to whether the Parish Council was also uncomfortable with the level of service from Babergh Planning and Enforcement and if so, what they wanted to do about it. The Parish Council then considered cases where their comments were seemingly ignored, the lack of site inspections by Planning Officers and the delays with Enforcement action. It would be helpful to consider specific examples. After discussion it was agreed for L Erith and D Harris to join the Conservation Society to put a paper together on the subject which can be used to challenge Babergh Planning - **Action L Erith and D Harris**.
6. **Highways:** It was noted the speed survey had been ordered. J Finch was happy to fund the survey, however, if a report is required following survey, he asked if the Parish Council could consider contributing to the cost. It was agreed to include a Financial Agenda of cost of report following speed survey for the January Meeting - **Action Clerk**. The truck stuck on the grass verge in Wiston Road was raised. D Harris agreed to follow up with J Finch and ask for a site meeting between the Parish Council and County Highways - **Action D Harris**. M George reported on the transport group meetings and that J Finch had chased up the issue of the unsafe bus stop. Highways have confirmed they have no budget for this and were trying to put the onus on the Parish Council. It was agreed for M George to attend the next transport group meeting in January and get some more details to report to future Parish Council Meetings - **Action M George**.
7. **A Lasting Royal Memorial for the Village:** It was resolved it would be better to agree a whole Community Memorial. The Community Council agreed to include an Agenda item for January. This item will continue on the Agenda for Parish Council Meetings - **Action Clerk**.
8. **Street Lighting:** We are now up to date with the billing from the County Council. It was agreed for our lights to be programmed to remain on all night on both Christmas Eve and New Years Eve in line with the County Council lights - **Action Clerk to reply to the County Council**.
9. **Recreation and Open Spaces:** The Caley Green working group had a zoom meeting recently to discuss the recommendations made by the Contractors approached to help with the project. The next stage would be to discuss with the County Council and the working group were to set up a meeting in January. The County Council have completed the tree work identified in their tree risk assessment that we had chased them for. The project for new play equipment at the Fairfield was at the stage of considering quotes. The work would be completed in drier weather, so there was still time to bring proposals before the full Parish Council. In relation to general maintenance, this is being examined and the cost will be considered at the January Parish Council Meeting - **Action Clerk to put Fairfield General Maintenance as a Financial Agenda item**. The dog bins are being installed and we had a complaint from a resident in Court Street regarding the location. This was to be followed up by email. Members agreed to take a look between meetings.
10. **Village Hall:** D Harris updated the Meeting in relation to the Village Hall Roof project. I Wright is proposing fund raising events next year. The floor also needs maintenance, but the priority is the roof. Quotes for the Roof are being sought currently. It was noted that the Finance recommendations including a further £40,000 to be pledged towards the roof will be very helpful in this regard - **Action Clerk to contact I Wright**.
11. **Community Council:** The Minutes are regularly circulated and it was agreed for D Harris to represent the Parish Council at the January Meeting - **Action D Harris**.

12. **Allotments:** The Annual Allotment Meeting took place in the Church Hall on Monday 14th November and the Minutes have been circulated. The rents have been requested and were coming in. One Half Allotment has recently changed hands which reduced the Waiting List as the two people ahead did not require the Allotment due to changes in circumstances since they were put on the List. The next Allotment Meeting is scheduled for 20th March in the Church Hall. There is an issue with an ash tree to which our Grounds Maintenance Contractors are quoting. Regular Allotment Inspections have now been instigated by the Committee. There were concerns that some Allotments should be better managed.
13. **Burial Ground:** The Annual Meeting with our Grounds Maintenance Contractors went ahead. D Harris attended from the Parish Council with M George. A quote for a good tidy up came to £475 and it was resolved to authorise this work. Some more heavy pollarding recommended would require alternative quotes from tree surgeons in the New Year - **Action Clerk**. M George has updated the long term maintenance plan. Burial fees will be uplifted slightly as agreed in the Finance Agenda item.
14. **Footpaths:** The unsuitable stones in the vicinity of Dead Lane have been removed and not replaced to date. The stones were originally put down in conjunction with Suffolk Wildlife Trust and land owner.
15. **Correspondence:** The correspondence report had been circulated ahead of the meeting. The items had been picked up under the various agenda items. M George explained the correspondence in relation to the Nayland Bear and all were in favour. We have had a request for a bottlebank. This subject has a long history and in the past it has been difficult to find a suitable location. It was agreed for the Clerk and M George to reply suitably asking for suggestions - **Action Clerk and M George**. The Clerk reminded of the request for permission to install some ground level stones to a grave similar to other graves in close proximity. M George and D Harris agreed to take a look and the decision was delegated to them between meetings - **Action M George and D Harris**.

The meeting closed at **9.17 pm**.