

MINUTES OF THE NAYLAND WITH WISSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 16TH FEBRUARY 2022, AT 7.30 PM AT NAYLAND VILLAGE HALL AND BY VIDEO CONFERENCING.

Present: M George (Chairman), L Erith, G Battye, N Cartwright, P Fuller, R Thorogood, D Hattrell (Clerk), J Finch (County Cllr) and 2 member of the public attended in person and L Brooks (Community Times) and M Barrett (District Cllr) 2 members of the public joined by Video link.

Before Commencement of the Meeting

a. Public Forum: A representative from Bures St Mary explained their Quiet Lanes project for their Parish. She explained the history of Quiet Lanes and what they are doing in wave 4. The specific request for this Council to consider is whether approval can be given to extending the Bures St Mary scheme up to Wormingford Mill. They will fulfil all the admin and cost in this respect. This item was to be considered under the Highways Agenda item. A resident then thanked the Parish Council for replacing some fencing panels which border his property and the Burial Ground. He believed further were in a similar state and offered access from his property for the next Annual Inspection due in the autumn. He also offered access from his property during future works. He mentioned that the overgrown trees may be having an adverse impact on the condition of the fencing. He then asked some specific questions which would require more research. He asked how much was in the annual budget for fence and tree maintenance in 2021/22 and how much is in the draft budget for 2022/23. How much is in longer term reserves for this purpose. Do the Council and the Tree Warden believe that the current tree maintenance programme is adequate?

On a separate note, he confirmed some maintenance has been carried out on his land affecting the stream. This is to reduce the risk of flooding and surface water along part of the footpath which crosses his paddock. This work has increased the flow of water and may increase the need for maintenance downstream. The Chairman confirmed the figures could be researched between meetings, however, she explained that this Parish Council contracts an Independent Tree Specialist to carry out a thorough inspection of Village trees, including those in the Burial Ground, every two years and the findings are followed up. In relation to the work required downstream, this Parish Council has already been in correspondence with Tendring Hall Estate and will remind them. Cllr Barrett was thanked regarding the street cleansing, however, a reminder was made of debris left on the A134 island. Cllr J Finch confirmed clearance is in hand.

b. District Council Report At the full Council Meeting on 2nd February it was confirmed that face to face meetings have resumed in Endeavour House. Reports on Treasury Management, Overview and Scrutiny and Audit and Standards were noted by Council. Cabinet approved a reduction in the floor space by giving notice to the landlord at the council offices as we move to greater home working and the need for a fixed desk reduces. Babergh will make savings over the remainder of the lease period but plan to adopt more homeworking permanently. In relation to budget, the following were proposed:

- to increase council tax by 2% which for a Band D household is 29p a week or £3.48 per year,
- increase social rent by £3.72 to £95.50
- Increase affordable accommodation rent by £5.23 to £132
- keep sheltered housing charges and garage rents the same

A budget surplus £527k is expected at the end of 2022/23.

It is planned to reduce the council's general fund reserve from £1.2m to £1m as this is still a sufficient sum to have in reserve.

The £200k that is released will be awarded in grants to organisations and bids will be considered to aid recovery from the effects of the pandemic and aid economic growth.

In March Cllr's will consider whether to continue with a leader and cabinet model of governance or switch to a committee system. Whatever is chosen will be in place for 5 years from May 2022.

Babergh have operated on a leader and cabinet model for the last 4 and a half years. There are pros and cons for both systems. There is a growing awareness that members who are not on the Cabinet need to feel more included in decision making. Improvements to transparency of decisions, communications, and a checking process have been discussed by a working group of Cllr's and enhancements have been recommended for either eventuality. In relation to Street Cleansing, the vehicle has visited Nayland and Stoke by Nayland and feedback has been good on the improvements seen. A return visit was to be made to Nayland in February and it was hoped to be able to notify owners of cars parked on the street

so they can be parked elsewhere to allow easy access to the kerb for swift cleaning. In relation to the Planning for the Waste Transfer Station on Harpers Hill, this will now be decided by Suffolk County Council. Following the report, N Cartwright agreed to write to M Barrett regarding his concerns with items that have been, in his opinion, wrongly categorised as non-material amendments.

c. County Council Report

County Cllr J Finch reported in advance of an important update received via James Carlidge MP that a proposed 400 kV pylon line from Norwich to Tilbury is not expected to be an additional 3rd line along the Bramford to Twinstead power line route. Regrettably the planned public meeting on the subject was postponed. National Grid had agreed to 6 face to face events, the first of which was to be at Nayland Village Hall on 25th February. The consultation is due to finish on 21st March. Suffolk County Council are waiving some street party road closure fees for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The Suffolk Learning Disability Partnership has co-produced a refresh of the Suffolk Joint Learning Disability Strategy. Covid 19 rates are decreasing again in Suffolk. Virtual Fostering and Adoption sessions continue.

Parish Council Meeting

1. **Apologies:** were received from D Harris and P Wilkie.
2. **Approval of Minutes of 12th January 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 2nd February 2022 as £1000 in the Current Account, £71024.06 in the linked Account and £17263.33 in the Capital Investment Account making a total of £89287.39.
 - ii) List of Pre-agreed payments for the January period: -

Funds Tr	Mortimer Contracts	2643.60	Litter/Burial Gd/Recreation Gd
Funds Tr	Employment Costs totalled	1252.91	Clerks Salary, ERS NIC & Pension
Funds Tr	Impact China	597.76	Jubilee Mugs
Funds Tr	Nayland Village Hall	350.00	Contribution towards mowing
Funds Tr	Nayland Village Hall	168.00	Hall hire
 - iii) Any other urgent Finance matters: It was agreed to consider the finance questions raised in the public forum between meetings.
5. **Planning**
 1. **Decisions from the Planning Authority:-**
 - A) Non Material Amendments to enable introduction of entrance canopies, revision to fenestrations, amendment to the roof of Plot 4 and minor internal arrangements were approved at New Farm, Harpers Hill - **DC/21/06752**.
 - B) Planning Permission and Listed Building Consent was granted for rear extension and internal alterations at Mill House, 12 Mill Street - **DC/21/06086/06087**. The Chairman read the conditions.
 - C) The Planning Authority had No Objections to the felling of Scots Pine and to replant 3 heritage fruit trees at 39 Fen Street - **DC/1/06435**.
 - D) Consent was granted to crown raise beech at High Garth House, Cawley Road - **DC/21/06613**.
 - E) Listed Building Consent was granted to remove failing cement-based render and replace with traditional breathable hair chalk plaster at 9 Bear Street - **DC/21/06577**.
 - F) Planning permission was granted for extensions, chimney re-builds and replacement windows at Rushbanks House, Bures Road - **DC/21/06038**.
 - G) Planning Permission and Listed Building Consent was granted for alterations to fenestration and lobby at Bear House, Bear Street - **DC/21/04109 & 04077**.
 - H) Planning Permission and Listed Building Consent was refused for creation of parking space and associated works at 12 Stoke Road - **DC/21/06491/06621**. The Chairman read the reasons for refusal.

2. Part Retrospective application for concrete fire wall at Harpers Hill Farm, Harpers Hill - **DC/22/00129.**

The Parish Council Objected to this application as they have seen no evidence that this has 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. The Planning Authority will be aware that this site is situated in the AONB. This Council would like to see monitoring reports from the Environment Agency which so far have not been made available to us. This response was issued between meetings to comply with the deadline.

District Cllr M Barrett confirmed in the public section that this application would go before the County Council Planning.

3. Consider Listed Building application for soil & vent pipe at Campions Farm, Campions Hill - **DC/22/00226.**

The Parish Council had **No Objections.**

4. Consider the Planning and Listed Building applications for installation of french doors and window and creation of downstairs WC at 10 Mill Street - **DC/22/00593/591.**

The Parish Council had **No Objections.**

5. **Any other urgent Planning matters** including Pylons and Stansted Consultations -

The Chairman and G Battye were planning to attend the exhibition at the Village Hall on the pylons on Friday 25th February. They agreed to provide a report to the Parish Council following that attendance. County Cllr J Finch explained the research so far and committed to provide the County Council response when finalised. G Battye was concerned about the impact on the road network during construction. It was noted that a major site compound will be sited near the border with Leavenheath Parish. The Chairman agreed to work on a draft response for consideration at the March Parish Council Meeting as the deadline for responses is 21st March 2022. An Agenda item was to be included - **Action Clerk**. In relation to the night flights Consultation for Stansted Airport, this ends on 3rd March, it was agreed to log a response. The comment is that we are concerned with any detrimental noise impact on the AONB and ask for notification of any planned changes to night flight manoeuvres over our Parish of Nayland with Wissington - **Action Clerk**.

- 6.** **Urgent Recreation and Open Spaces:** The meeting was closed briefly for J Finch to explain the on-going talks between Suffolk County Council as landowners and the Environment Agency who need to give permission for any works to the river. Natural growth in the river is strongly encouraged, however, this does not necessarily allow for fishing rights, so talks go on, being facilitated by J Finch. There has been an application from our local branch of the Royal British Legion for permission to erect something to commemorate their Centenary. Caley Green was one of their preferred locations. The principle was agreed subject to further discussion between meetings.

- 7.** **Any updates from Community Response to Covid 19:** L Brooks continues to update FaceBook. The local volunteers including P Wilkie were thanked for helping with the Vaccination Program.

- 8.** **Urgent Highways Safety Matters:** The meeting was closed again briefly for J Finch to explain about the forthcoming drainage works. These are due to start in April and all those directly affected will get advance notice. Recent meetings have been positive with all parties willing to work together. Community Times has reserved space for the final announcement when all details are known. The work is to go on until August. The Chairman explained an opportunity to get involved in a speed detection project on the Stoke Road site. In view of the drainage works, this has been delayed until the Autumn. In relation to the Quiet Lanes request in the Public Forum, it was resolved unanimously to back their request in extending the scheme to Wormingford Mill - **Action Clerk to confirm**. It was noted that various pot-holes were reported between meetings in the usual way.

9. **Urgent Burial Ground issues:** It was agreed to consider the questions raised in the Public Forum between Meetings - **Action Chairman and Clerk.**
10. **Urgent Street Lighting Matters:** Concern was expressed about the quality of new lighting on the Heights. The Clerk was asked to report that there is a light out in Bear Street near Parkers Way - **Action Clerk.**
11. **Urgent Footpaths Matters :** There was nothing to report.
12. **Urgent Allotment issues :** All agreed to ask the grazier to treat the Allotment Field for Ragwort. Rent reminders had been issued with most already paid. There is a proposal for a long low slope to replace the steps and to help with the boggy ground. It was agreed to set up a joint project team with representatives from the Parish Council and the owner of Bell Meadow. The Footpath Warden and Suffolk Right of Way will be consulted throughout - **Action All.**
13. **Urgent Village Hall matters:** The Annual Parish Assembly was agreed for Monday 25th April in the main hall. It was agreed to book the Committee Room for Parish Council Meetings from April onwards and as N Cartwright was confident with setting up the Committee Room for hybrid meetings ahead of April, no temporary improved amplifier was required. N Cartwright agreed to liaise with the Chairman of the Village Hall Management Committee as these changes could enhance the hall for future hirers. **Action Clerk to make the hall bookings.**
14. **Urgent Community Council matters:** The Minutes are regularly circulated and the AGM was confirmed as 2nd March.
15. **Correspondence:** The correspondence report had been circulated ahead of the meeting. The items had been picked up under the various agenda items. G Batty reported on the Walsh Trust Village Charities with the aims of giving out Christmas Bonuses. It is becoming increasingly difficult to fulfil their objectives and a special trust meeting was planned. G Batty agreed to circulate the Minutes of that Meeting and members approved his request to get advice from SALC to help the Charity.

The meeting closed at **9.46 pm.**