

MINUTES OF THE NAYLAND WITH WISSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 13TH MARCH 2024, AT 7.30 PM AT NAYLAND VILLAGE HALL AND BY VIDEO CONFERENCING.

Present: Cllr R Thorogood (Chair), Cllrs L Erith, D Harris, G Battye, A Birchweaver, O Brown, P Fuller, S Treharne, and D Hattrell (Clerk), J Finch (County Cllr) attended after the start of the Meeting, I Reece (District Cllr) and 5 members of the public attended in person. Cllr T Leach joined the Meeting following his co-option. L Brooks and 1 member of the public attended by Video link.

**Before Commencement of the Meeting**

a. **Public Forum:** Questions raised included the whereabouts of the bus stops which should be at Nags Corner and have gone missing. Photos were provided of the diseased yew tree at Mill House which needed to be reduced further than anticipated during works by a Tree Surgeon. It was agreed to ask our County Cllr about the bus stops upon his arrival.

**b. District Council Report**

District Cllr Isabelle Reece attended and asked about the planting suggestions in relation to the green by the shelter at the start of Heycroft Way. Cllr D Harris confirmed she was still making enquiries in this respect. Attention then turned to the mud covering the yellow lines at the cul-de-sac at the start of Bear Street. District Cllr Reece agreed to ask for a mechanical sweep and will give notice for the Parish Council to let residents know to move their cars ahead of the sweep.

**c. County Council Report**

County Cllr J Finch was to arrive late to the Meeting and had sent his report in advance confirming that 60 additional staff are to strengthen the reform of Special Educational Needs and Disability services in Suffolk. A 10-week public consultation on Suffolk Devolution is due to start on 18<sup>th</sup> March. New technology is being used to fix rural potholes. Residents are invited to share their travel information to help inform Suffolk's Local Transport Plan. In 2022, for environmental reasons, County Highways agreed to stop using glyphosate for routine weed treatment and to find more natural alternatives. Unfortunately, the alternatives have not been as effective. Further research is on-going with some responsible usage of glyphosate. The County Council have issued formal objections to Consent Order for the Bramford to Twinstead lines. 98% of pupils have received a place of one of their preferred secondary schools. Virtual fostering and adoption sessions continue.

**Parish Council Meeting**

1. **Election of Chair/Co-option of Member:** Cllr L Erith resigned as Chair just ahead of the Meeting. Cllr G Battye took the opportunity to thank Cllr Erith for all she is doing. Cllr R Thorogood confirmed his willingness to stand as Chair and this was duly carried. The Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Chair was completed, and Cllr Thorogood took over the role as Chair to the Parish Council. Tim Leach had confirmed his willingness to join the Parish Council and members were pleased to co-opt him, bringing the Parish Council up to full strength of 9 members. Cllr T Leach duly completed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Member and joined the Meeting.
2. **Apologies:** none were received.
3. **Approval of Minutes of 14th February Meeting:** These were accepted as a true record.
4. **Declarations of Interest by Councillors :** G Battye declared an interest in the Planning application at 5 Elm Grove.
5. **Highways:** Cllr P Fuller explained her dissatisfaction with the patching that took place from bear Street up to the fork of Harpers Estate with Heycroft Way. The whole section needed attention and only a patch of 1 meter x 2 meters was filled. She has reported again on the Highways Reporting Tool. County Cllr Finch explained that any Highways work is subject to their criteria. It was agreed for Cllr P Fuller to send the Reference to Cllr Finch so he can investigate further – **Action Cllr Fuller**. Cllr Finch explained that the criteria is on the County Council website under – HMOP \*link since provided. In relation to the traffic island – the bollards will no longer be powered, and reflectors have been ordered. The surface dressing on the island will not be done in the short term. Cllr D Harris was

concerned that the island area near Caley Green was letting the pretty village down. Cllr Finch confirmed that the bus stops have been removed by unknown people and new ones are on order. Chambers buses are organising further stops in the Village from early summer. In Wiston, it was reported that the Bures Road ditch was not draining and reflector posts for the verge (where large vehicles have been getting stuck) were still outstanding. Boxted bridge is managed by Essex County Council and Cllr Finch is pressing for a resolution as more traffic is directed through the Village whilst the bridge is closed.

## 6. **Finance Report:**

i) The Chairman read from the bank balances as of 1<sup>st</sup> March 2024 as £1000 in the Current Account, £39255.01 in the linked Account and £63472.38 in the Capital Investment Account making a total of £103,727.39.

ii) List of Pre-agreed payments for the February period (paid early March 2024): -

Funds Transfer	Mortimer Contracts Ltd	£6506.10	Litter, Recreation, Burial gd
Funds Transfer	Employment Costs totalled	£1454.49	Salary, NI and Pension
Funds Transfer	Community Pantry	£1000.00	Charity donation
Funds Transfer	Babergh District Council	£1.00	Bus Shelter Rent

iii) The bank has confirmed that our payment of £20 did reach the account of the Nayland Royal British Legion. This has been communicated to them and the amount has been in their Account, so the matter is now closed. In relation to the highways kerb-line weeds, County Cllr was asked if they could consider the stronger weedkiller out-lined in his report to clear the traffic island of weeds.

iv) The quote for metal play park fencing. A substantial sum was quoted to replace the wooden play park fencing with metal fencing. It was agreed to press ahead with the Annual Play Park Inspection to help inform priorities – **Action Clerk**. Meanwhile Cllr D Harris is to seek some alternative quotes – **Action Cllr Harris**. District Cllr Reece confirmed she may be able to contribute from her Locality Budget in the next Financial Year.

v) Any other urgent Finance Matters: - The Horsewatering is now maintained by volunteer neighbours/residents. They have obtained a quote for professional herbicide applications between 3 to 4 times a year on the gravel area with a cost of £40 plus VAT per application. This was approved. The Meeting was reminded that budget is needed for Fairfield signage – this was noted.

## 7. **Planning**

1. Decisions from the Planning Authority: -

- a) Consent had been granted to reduce crown of protected silver birch at 85 Bear Street – **DC/24/00486**.
- b) Planning Permission had been granted for pool plant room with changing facilities at Roziers, Wissington Uplands – **DC/23/05891**.
- c) The Planning Authority do not object to the application to reduce cherry in Conservation Area at Vine House, 1 Court Street – **DC/24/00576**.
- d) Consent has been granted for works to protected walnut at 8 Jane Walker Park – **DC/24/00625**.

2. Householder application at 5 Elm Grove for extensions and driveway widening – **DC/24/00995**.

The Parish Council had No Objections, overall, as there are other examples of extensions in the vicinity. However, in view of the prominence to 4 Ash Rise, the Parish Council suggested a smaller window to the rear and that the French doors may not be necessary as there is already an outside door in the kitchen. These suggestions were to preserve neighbour amenity and the Planning Authority were asked to take these points into consideration.

3. Householder application at 52-54 Bear Street for an outbuilding in place of the summer house – **DC/24/01052**.

The Parish Council had No Objections.

**4.** Listed Building application at 11 Gravel Hill to repair and replace slate tiles and install 2 roof lights – **DC/24/01128**.

The Parish Council had No Objections, however, pointed out an error in the Design and Access Statement still showing 3 roof lights.

**5.** Any other urgent planning matters. It was agreed to chase a reply to our correspondence to the Chief Planning Officer regarding the site adjacent to Paddock Grove if we haven't heard by 4 weeks. It was also agreed to copy the email to District Cllr I Reece – **Action Clerk**. Cllr P Fuller reminded that full Council Planning Training would be useful – **Action Clerk to investigate**.

- 8.** **Street Lighting:** The flickering streetlight outside 101 Bear Street has stopped working completely – **Action Clerk to report**.
- 9.** **Recreation and Open Spaces:** The Meeting was closed briefly to allow S Dalton to update about Caley Green. They were hoping for the long reed bed to be maintained. This has now been delayed due to the need for ecological surveys. We are now in the bird nesting season, so the next opportunity will be autumn. The meeting was reminded of the outstanding wooden revetment installation. The County Council are going to install the revetment; however, a timescale has not been given. It was agreed to write to Mr M Lee at SCC Property for an update – **Action Clerk**. Cllr D Harris confirmed she has a quote to maintain the bench on Caley Green and the Royal Bench would get a further coat of oil at the same time. All agreed this maintenance was required, so the work will be ordered – **Action Cllr D Harris and Clerk**. Finally in relation to Caley Green, members took the opportunity to thank S Dalton for all she is doing. Attention then turned to Woodland Corner signage. Woodland Corner had provided details of their proposed signage between meetings. This was circulated to members as agreed at last meeting and members unanimously agreed they had No Objections. This was communicated to Woodland Corner ahead of the Meeting. Harpers shelter/green parking – Cllr D Harris is seeking advice on a planting scheme for the green area near the bus shelter at the Harpers Estate/Heycroft Way junction – **Action Cllr D Harris**. The final item related to correspondence about the turning circle at the end of Fairfield Recreation Ground - This Council had received an on-going complaint about day long parking in the Burial Ground turning circle bays. All members had read the letter. Members debated the best actions including temporary or permanent signage. It was agreed to keep monitoring the issues as more signage may not be the best approach. The Clerk had already thanked the resident and explained the actions to date by email. It was noted that the bays in the turning circle were not reserved specifically for visitors to the burial ground and there was an expectation they would be used more widely including by visitors to the Fairfield Playpark – **Action All to Monitor and Clerk to update the Resident again**.
- 10.** **Village Hall:** including roof project. It was agreed to discuss the Village Hall Roof in Committee after the Meeting. Quotes for the legal work in relation to the National Lottery Grant application will be obtained – **Action Clerk**. The Chair and the Clerk will represent the Parish Council on this application and Cllr S Treharne will support the Clerk in relation to financial matters during the construction phase. The next gardening party was organised for Saturday 6<sup>th</sup> April at the Village Hall starting at 9.00am.
- 11.** **Community Council:** The Minutes are regularly circulated, and Cllr G Battye confirmed his attendance at the AGM for both the Community Council and the Village Hall.
- 12.** **Allotments:-** update from the sub-committee. Cllr D Harris had arranged a walk about at the Allotments that coming weekend to look at the untended allotments more closely. It had been noted that the extreme wet weather has delayed work to many allotments. Following this, the Allotment Sub Committee will recommend relevant letters to be issued re late payment and lack of cultivation of some plots – **Action Allotment Sub Committee**.
- 13.** **Burial Ground:** Following last Meeting, the Clerk contacted the Diocesan Surveyor to suggest patching repairs to the Burial Ground driveway in view of the urgency and cost. Following this, the Diocesan Surveyor has met a representative from the Care Home to take matters forward. The new fence panel replacement and boundary tidy up has taken place. The Jane Walker project group are organising for the memorial stone to be put in the agreed place.

14. **Footpaths:** Members had received a risk assessment from Suffolk County Council – Property- between Meetings – of the large tree in Star Alley. The tree is considered safe, and no action has been agreed.
15. **Correspondence:** The correspondence report had been circulated ahead of the meeting. The items had been picked up under the various agenda items.
16. **Annual Parish Assembly arrangements:** Publicise in Community Times – deadline this Sunday. Cllr R Thorogood, our PC Chair, will Chair the Annual Parish Assembly with support from Cllrs with reports as last year. Cllr O Brown has organised a speaker from Community Action Suffolk. Community Times will need an advert for the Assembly for the following weekend – \*this was arranged.

The meeting closed at **9.11 pm**.