

MINUTES OF THE NAYLAND WITH WISSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 17th JULY 2024, AT 7.30 PM AT NAYLAND VILLAGE HALL AND BY VIDEO CONFERENCING.

Present: Cllr G Battye (Chaired the Meeting), Cllrs P Fuller, and S Treharne attended in person. D Hattrell (Clerk), Cllr J Finch (County Cllr), Cllr I Reece (District Cllr) and 1 member of the public attended in person. Cllr A Birchweaver, L Brooks and 1 other attended by Video link.

Before Commencement of the Meeting

a. **Public Forum:** Mr Hunter from the Conservation Society attended and confirmed the autumn litter pick was scheduled for 12th October. Community Speed Watch was proceeding well. The volunteers are very visible to approaching traffic. County Cllr James Finch took the opportunity to thank the volunteers, and he confirmed the role is both to collect data and to deter speeding.

b. **District Council Report**

District Cllr Isabelle Reece had issued her report in advance confirming all, but some Planning matters, were deferred until after the Elections. A new cabinet was appointed, and they have a timetable for responding to the Norwich to Tilbury project. The next full Council meeting was scheduled for the following week. She attended Planning Training on Biodiversity Net Gain and offered to share the slides. On local matters she continues to pursue further cutting of the grass and repairs to the wall to the old burial ground (maintained by the District Council DC). She is in touch with the Head of Public Realms about weeds on footpaths.

c. **County Council Report**

County Cllr J Finch attended and, his report, issued in advance confirmed a £600m solar farm is given the go ahead in West Suffolk and Cambridgeshire despite local opposition. This project is for 2,792 acres of solar panel etc. The County Council's annual Carbon Charter Event celebrated the achievements of businesses in environmental sustainability. Suffolk Trading Standards are alerting residents to the dangers of being ripped off by cold callers. The County Council backs youth justice plan with a focus on keeping families together. Virtual Fostering and Adoption sessions continue. On local matters Cllr J Finch confirmed the A134 in the Village has been resurfaced and sign repaired. The non-lit reflective junction signs are still being chased. Cllr G Battye asked about the surfacing outside the Doctors Surgery from Bear Street. Cllr Finch agreed to include it in his Highways Meeting the following day.

Parish Council Meeting

1. **Election of Chair** and Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

Just ahead of the Meeting the existing Chair – Cllr R Thorogood had resigned from the Parish Council PC. Cllr L Erith had confirmed she was willing to be elected Chair in her absence. Cllr P Fuller nominated Cllr L Erith as Chair. This was seconded by Cllr S Treharne and unanimously carried.

Cllr G Battye Chaired this Meeting.

2. **Apologies:** were received and accepted from Cllrs R Thorogood, L Erith, D Harris, O Brown, A Birchweaver and T Leach. However, Cllr A Birchweaver joined via Video Link.

3. **Approval of Minutes of 12th June Meeting:** These were accepted as a true record.

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

5. **Highways:** It was noted edging stones had been removed and replaced with loose red bricks. It was agreed to ask Cllr J Finch to include with his Highways Meeting the following day - ***this was done.** The poor state of the road surface outside the Doctors Surgery from Bear Street was discussed under the County Council Report earlier and Cllr J Finch was investigating the following day.

6. **Finance Report:**

i)The Chair read from the bank balances as of 28th June 2024 as £1000 in the Current Account, £41383.67 in the linked Account and £65,000.00 in the Capital Investment Account, £4,400.73 in the National Savings Account making a total of £111,784.40.

ii) List of pre-agreed payments for the June period (paid early July 2024): -

Funds Transfer	Mortimer Contracts Ltd	£1143.60	Litter, Grass, Village H
Funds Transfer	Employment Costs totalled	£1525.34	Salary, NI and Pension
Funds Transfer	Babergh District Council	£1821.60	Bin Empty Charges
Funds Transfer	SALC	£386.40	Internal Audit
Funds Transfer	Bond Plumbing	£223.69	Allotments
Direct Debit	Wave	£24.98	Allotments

We currently have a re-fund due from HMRC due to change to Clerk's Tax Code – the net total after the refund is quoted above under employment costs.

iii) The Internal Audit Report had been received with all matters approved. Some recommendations were made. These were as follows: -

- a) Upload budget to website – **Action Clerk**
- b) Review National Savings to assess whether long-term or short-term investment. This has been done urgently in view of urgency with AGAR and it correctly fits the criteria and is correctly stated as a short-term investment – It was agreed to add this to the Agenda for the September PC Meeting and potentially for Finance Sub Committee – **Action Clerk**.
- c) Tailor Model Publication Scheme - It was agreed to add this to the Agenda for the September PC Meeting and potentially for Finance Sub Committee – **Action Clerk**.

iv) Any other urgent Finance Matters: - the first quarter budget review had been circulated and was noted.

7. **Planning**

1. Decision from the Planning Authority: -

- a) Conditions were approved for biodiversity and ecological enhancement measures at Roziers, Wissington Uplands – **DC/24/01949**.
- b) Planning Permission was granted to extend and retain fence to northern boundary at 27 Harpers Estate – **DC/24/01791**.
- c) Advertisement Consent was granted for display signs (2) at Harpers Hill Farm, Harpers Hill – **DC/24/02305**
- d) The Planning Authority raised No Objections to Conservation Area tree work at 5 High Street – **DC/24/02755** – The Parish Tree Warden and the PC had No Objections between meetings.
- e) Planning Permission was granted to extend the property and for a garden shed at Kingfishers, 108 Bear Street – **DC/24/02135**.

2. Application for Lawful Development Certificate at 14 Church Lane – **DC/24/02935**.

The following response was agreed: -

'Two of our long-standing Councillors have recollections of this property being occupied as a residential dwelling over the past 40 years. One Councillor has visited the property over that time noting it was a former school, however, was used as a private home with a fully kitted out kitchen, car parking, lounge and bedrooms. The other Councillor had not visited; however, as far as she can remember, it has always been a residential property. She has lived in Nayland since 1968.

Therefore, this Parish Council has No Objections to the lawful development certificate being granted.'

3. Conservation Area Tree Application to reduce willow at Lower Courtwood, 13A Court Street – **DC/24/02989**.

No Objections raised by Parish Tree Warden and the PC

4. Conservation Area Tree Application at The White House, 16 Church Lane – **DC/24/03085**.

No Objections raised by Parish Tree Warden and the PC

5. Any other urgent planning matters. **The Clerk had contacted SALC re the Planning Webinar recordings and they will soon be available to purchase.**

8. **Street Lighting:** There was nothing to report.

9. **Community Led Housing:** Members had been reviewing potential locations abutting the built-up area in the Parish between meetings and the potential is limited. Further discussion and work are needed, however, in view of the low attendance of Councillors at this meeting, it was agreed to defer this item until September for a more comprehensive discussion on the way forward – **Action Clerk.**
10. **Recreation and Open Spaces:** including – River Stour Aquatic Vegetation Management, Pop’s Piece hedge cutting, Harpers shelter green planting and dog mess and action to increase awareness of locations of dog waste bins. In relation to the River Vegetation Management, the Environment Agency attended to this, however, it hasn’t been reviewed how much work they carried out. However, the site was cleared following their work. It was agreed for members to look and report their observations to a future meeting. In the meantime, the Clerk is to contact the County Council to seek an update regarding the Long Reed Bed – **Action Clerk.** It was agreed to defer the discussion about the potential planting scheme for the Harpers Shelter green area until the September PC Meeting – **Action Clerk.** L Brooks is publicising the dog waste bin locations, which will hopefully help improve the dog mess issue.
11. **Village Hall:** including roof project. Although we didn’t have a direct report from the Charity, the Clerk confirmed that the Solicitor acting to help support the Lottery Grant application is hopeful it will prove more straight-forward than initially thought. Cllr G Battye has been reviewing the Parish Council Minutes around the time the land was acquired.
12. **Community Council:** The Minutes are regularly circulated, and L Brooks was invited to speak. She confirmed the Community Council were funding some cuts of permissive paths at Stoke Road and Court Knoll. This Council had received some correspondence in this regard between meetings.
13. **Allotments:** update from the sub-committee. It was noted Allotment 11a is being vacated from the beginning of September. It was agreed to allocate this allotment to the next waiting; however, the rent will be waived to allow the new holder to bring it back to cultivation. Cllr A Birchweaver is happy to liaise with the new allotment holder to offer any assistance we can – **Action Clerk to initiate the contact.** Our usual Allotment judge has been taken ill and we have sent our good wishes. Cllr A Birchweaver volunteered to contact a potential new judge, and the Clerk agreed to provide full details – **Action Clerk and Cllr A Birchweaver.**
14. **Burial Ground:** Including Cllr O Brown’s recommendations: - Our contractors had raised concerns about glass left on graves and dog mess in the Burial Ground and an initial response had been issued to our Contractors following an investigation by Cllr O Brown. Cllr Brown had made recommendations of a polite notice regarding glass. We had agreed with our contractors that safety of the maintenance teams was important, and we have asked them not to attend to areas they deem safety risks. It was agreed to defer this item until September PC Meeting in view of the low attendance at this meeting – **Action Clerk.**
15. **Footpaths:** Cllr T Leach had carried out some strimming in Socket Alley. It was agreed to ask our contractors to do some further work in the area, ensuring the hollyhocks are not harmed – **Action Clerk.**
16. **Correspondence:** The correspondence report had been circulated ahead of the meeting. The items had been picked up under the various agenda items. It was agreed to ask our contractors to carry out some extra strimming on the greensward the length of the reed bed – **Action Clerk.**

The meeting closed at **9.00 pm.**