

MINUTES OF THE NAYLAND WITH WISSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 12th FEBRUARY 2025, AT 7.30 PM AT NAYLAND VILLAGE HALL AND BY VIDEO CONFERENCING.

Present: Cllr L Erith (Chair), Cllrs G Battye, O Brown, P Fuller, D Harris and K Sheath attended in person. D Hattrell (Clerk), and 2 members of the public attended in person and County Cllr J Finch was to arrive around 8.15 p.m. L Brooks and 1 member of the public attended by Video link.

Before Commencement of the Meeting

a. **Public Forum:** A resident reported on the work being done by neighbours to the horsewatering since lockdown to keep the area looking attractive and cared for. She had circulated a report ahead of the meeting and shared before and after photographs. She thanked the Parish Council (PC) for paying for 3 pesticide treatments per year at around £50 each time. With the budget for next financial year at £200 including the pesticide treatments, the nearby neighbours didn't consider the funding from the PC to be sufficient. Attention then turned to Caley Green and the PC explained we have written to the County Council representative offering to support them by contacting the Environment Agency, if required. The representative from the Conservation Society asked for his recent emails about the footpath diversion at Pop's Piece he was pursuing to be circulated to the PC – **Action Clerk.**

b. **District Council Report**

District Cllr Isabelle Reece had sent her apologies and on local matters had updated that she notified Address Management of the need for new posts for the Champions Hill sign. She also received a very kind voicemail from a local resident thanking Babergh for the work being done on the cemetery – she suspects this was in relation to the ground's maintenance of the old burial ground.

c. **County Council Report**

County Cllr J Finch attended, and his report covered that Suffolk County Council's (SCC) budget is set to increase the Council tax for their part by 4.99% overall. They have committed to devolution to a streamlined unitary council likely to cover Suffolk and Norfolk. National Grid are proposing to install pylons through the Waveney Valley as part of their Norwich to Tilbury project. Improvements are being implemented to Special Educational Needs and Disabilities Services (SEND) in Suffolk. SCC and Ipswich Football Club are launching a stop smoking campaign. Virtual Fostering and Adoption Sessions continue.

Parish Council Meeting

1. **Apologies:** were received and accepted from Cllr S Treharne. District Cllr I Reece had sent her apologies.
2. **Approval of Minutes of 15th January Meeting:** These were accepted as a true record.
3. **Declarations of Interest by Councillors:** Nothing was declared.
4. **PC Vacancies:** Cllr K Sheath offered to organise some leaflets/cards to be distributed locally. This was agreed with the Chair and Clerk to check the accuracy of any wording used – **Action Cllr K Sheath.** It was also agreed to verbally encourage residents to come along and consider getting involved – **Action All.**
5. **Highways:** The weeding on the A134 traffic islands has been authorised. The Clerk has set up a link for reporting fly tipping on our website. The support towards Stoke by Nayland PC regarding the 84-bus route was communicated between meetings as agreed.
6. **Finance Report:**
 - i)The Chair read from the bank balances as of 28th January 2025 as £1000 in the Current Account, £22,482.45 in the linked Account and £79,000 in the Capital Investment Account, £4,400.73 in the National Savings Account making a total of £106,883.18.

ii) List of pre-agreed payments for the December period: -

| | | | |
|----------------|---------------------------|----------|-----------------------------------|
| Funds Transfer | Employment Costs totalled | £1575.90 | Salary, NI and Pension |
| Funds Transfer | Mortimer Contracts Ltd | £1972.80 | Litter,Burial,Rec,Allot & Open Sp |
| Funds Transfer | Babergh District Council | £1.00 | Harpers Bus Shelter rent |

iii) Review of Reserves policy. A link to the current policy had been circulated. The Clerk suggested the level of general reserves be amended to between 30% and 50% to reflect the action needed to balance the budget for next year. Also, the Clerk's email address requires amendment on the document. This was unanimously resolved and has since been updated on our website.

iv) The review of Horsecwatering budget was to take place following the PC Meeting held in public. After much discussion, it was resolved to keep the budget at £200 for next financial year at this stage due to pressures on finances and it was suggested the residents may wish to seek some support from the Community Council.

v) **Any other urgent Finance Matters:** - Nothing was raised.

7. **Planning**

1. Decisions from the Planning Authority: -

- a) Planning and Listed Building Consent was granted for alterations to 5 High Street – **DC/24/04419/20.**
- b) Planning Permission was granted to extend The Willows, Wiston Road – **DC/24/04272.**
- c) Conditions were approved at 52-54 Bear Street relating to external lighting – **DC/24/01052.**
- d) Conditions were approved at 72-78 Bear Street for eaves, materials, rainwater goods, fenestration, rooflight details, ventilation and steps. The timber frame works condition had been part-satisfied – **DC/24/05477.**

2. Listed Building Application to remove fireplace and further works at Star House, 83 Bear Street – **DC/24/04756.**

The PC had **No Objections** between Meetings.

3. Householder application to construct a shed at Vine House, 1 Court Street – **DC/25/00057.**

The PC had **No Objections** subject to details and conditions relating to any hard surfacing/lighting scheme associated with this proposal.

4. Tree Preservation Order application to reduce lime at 104 Bear Street – **DC/25/00176.**

Both the PC and the Parish Tree Warden had **No Objections** between meetings.

5. Works to trees in Conservation Area at 5 High Street – **DC/25/00244.**

Both the PC and the Parish Tree Warden had **No Objections** between meetings.

6. Any other urgent planning matters – Cllr O Brown was concerned about the time involved in putting together a Neighbourhood Plan and whether the benefits outweigh the work involved. It would also need committed individuals from the Community to set up a Steering Group. Representatives from the PC could join the Steering Group. It was agreed to try to find a speaker for our Annual Parish Assembly on the subject – **Action Clerk.**

8. Street Lighting: There was nothing to report.

9. Community Led Housing: Cllr P Fuller attended the meeting with Lady Anne Windsor Charity and confirmed the Charity are pressing ahead with a Call for Sites for Affordable Housing. Examples of Almshouses are being researched. The site suggested currently is on Plough Lane, Leavenheath. Two recent applications in Leavenheath have gone to Appeal *and at the time of the PC Meeting it wasn't known that one had been approved following the Appeal Hearing.

10. **Recreation and Open Spaces:** Including arrangements for Tree Risk Assessment. It was agreed to seek an update directly from the Environment Agency on Caley Green – **Action Clerk**. County Cllr J Finch agreed to seek an update from the County Council representative – M Lee. An item regarding the Fairfield was to be discussed in Committee following the PC Meeting. A banner erected on Caley Green without permission has been removed and the organisers have apologised. Cllrs Harris and Sheath agreed to join the Tree Warden and Tree Surgeon for the Village Tree Risk Assessment – **Action Clerk to contact the parties involved to enable them to liaise over a suitable date**. It was agreed to contact our Independent Play Park assessor for his annual inspection and report – **Action Clerk**.
11. **Village Hall:** including roof project: The garden working party is scheduled for 5th April. The Village Hall and Community Council AGM's will be held on 3rd March. The PC were to be updated on the progress with the Roof Project following the Meeting. However, all matters in this respect were proceeding well. A Meeting was scheduled for the next day to confirm support for the District Council (DC) CIL grant towards the roof. The Clerk, County Cllr and District Cllr was due to attend with the Chair of the Village Hall and a representative from the DC. *This took place, and the DC representative is recommending the funding be awarded subject to the Committee decision on 11th March 2025.
12. **Community Council:** The Minutes are regularly circulated and there was nothing to report.
13. **Allotments:** update from the sub-committee. Arrangements to review the condition of plots will be made between meetings. In view of the resignations of two Councillors involved in the Allotment Sub Committee/working group, it was agreed to continue to be represented by the Chair, Vice Chair and two volunteer allotment holders. One of which is a new allotment holder who recently offered to help – **Action Clerk and Allotment Sub Committee**.
14. **Burial Ground:** Cllr O Brown inspects the Burial Ground periodically and reported there is no visible damage currently.
15. **Footpaths:** All the footpaths are presenting muddy under foot currently; however, no specific issues were noted.
16. **Annual Parish Assembly arrangements:** **The date was agreed as Wednesday 30th April 2025.** We will seek a speaker on the topic of a Neighbourhood Plan and reports will be delegated to each Councillor as in previous years.
17. **Correspondence:** The correspondence report had been circulated ahead of the meeting. The items had been picked up under the various agenda items.

The meeting closed at **8.45 pm**.