

MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF THE NAYLAND WITH WISSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 12TH JULY 2006, at 7.30 PM IN THE COMMITTEE ROOM OF THE VILLAGE HALL, NAYLAND.

Present: G. Battye (Chairman), Mrs P Fuller, Mrs M George, C Hunt, Miss A Knight, Mrs R Knox, Mrs E Mimpriss, B Smith, Mrs W Sparrow (Clerk), Mrs P Bray (for the Press)

1. **Public Forum** There were no members of the public present

2. **Apologies for absence**

Apologies were received from R Spencer.

3. **Housing Needs**

The Clerk reported that Mr Malins, Flagship, had informed her that the plans for the houses at Harpers Estate would be ready for the Council to see by the next meeting and that he would attend. After this a public consultation day would be arranged in the Village Hall and a planning application then made. It was agreed to ask Mr Malins to send the plans before the meeting.

A letter from R Spencer queried whether, as a member of the Council's Housing Needs sub committee, he would be considered to have a conflict of interest as one of his daughters had applied for one of the proposed new houses at Harpers Estate. Most members felt there should be no problem as Babergh would make the decision as to whom the houses were given. However, it was decided to check the position with the Babergh Monitoring Officer.

4. **Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting**

The minutes of the meeting held on 14th June 2006 were confirmed and signed by the Chairman. Proposed by C Hunt, seconded by Mrs Fuller and carried with 3 abstentions.

5. **Village Hall**

(i) **VHMC.** Miss Knight confirmed that a notice would be put in the Community Times requesting people not to take their dogs onto the playing field.

(ii) **Car Park Flooding.** B Smith said the problem was that the soakaway did not have sufficient capacity because of the high water table. Flooding occurred at the entrance to the hall and the water generally did drain away fairly quickly except when there was exceptionally heavy rainfall. He thought there was a solution which he had earlier discussed with the Chairman of the VHMC. Mrs Knox said this had not been implemented because the machinery which would do the job had to be transported and this would destroy the car park. B Smith agreed to talk again to the Chairman.

(iii) **Chairs.** The Clerk reported that 50 new chairs had been purchased for the hall. It had been previously agreed to pay for these with the Council's Locality Budget, a cheque for which had just been received from the County Council. Miss Knight said these seats were replacements and that additional seats would be purchased with money being raised through the Country Music Club.

6. **Finance Report**

Cash position as at 12th July 2006 from all sources and after paying cheques to be signed at this meeting was given as £16,635.83 (Capital Fund £10,718).

7. Accounts for payment

Roy Mortimer (Grasscutting for June)	£385.40
Nayland Village Hall (Hirings April – June)	£46.50
M Azkalany, M & S Services (Wood preserving 9 benches)	£225.00
Wiles Contractors Ltd (Resurfacing driveway to Cemetery)	£3,252.40
(Letters sent to Diocese & Nayland House asking for their contributions)	
Office Needs (Chairs for Village Hall £1,175 & Stationery £42.17)	£1,217.17
Babergh District Council (Emptying dog waste & litter bins April – June)	£80.04
Mrs W Sparrow (3 months salary & expenses)	£1,355.50
(Duplicate cheque because of bank error)	
Mrs W Sparrow (Petty Cash)	£40.00
(Duplicate cheque, as above)	

G. Battye proposed approval of the cheques, seconded by Mrs Fuller and carried unanimously.

8. Clerkship

Several applications had been received by the closing date and the sub committee would now consider these.

9. Correspondence

- (i) **Police Report.** One crime of criminal damage at Harpers Hill reported during May.
- (ii) **Grants and Funding.** Sources of grant aid, copy to Community Council & VHMC.
- (iii) **Bottle Bank.** Email from G Jones with telephone number of Leavenheath Bottle Bank company
- (iv) **For circulation:** East of England Plan correspondence; SALC training; Charity Commission online services; SPS Water Abstraction; SCC Waste Procurement Programme Strategic Environmental Assessment report; Suffolk Carers Annual Review; Nayland Charity Trust Accounts; Babergh Media Releases; Farming Link; Agri-Environment Newsletter; Clerks & Councils Direct; Hospice News; Community Council & Street Fayre minutes; Leavenheath PC minutes

10. Training

The possibility of a further joint training evening with Stoke and Leavenheath Parish Councils was discussed. The Chairman suggested a Planning Procedure discussion in view of recent changes and it was agreed to consult with SALC about possible dates.

11. Footpaths

Footpath No. 4, Cemetery path. C Hunt said the footpath was obstructed by undergrowth and trees near the Scout hut and the adjacent cemetery wall was covered with ivy. The wall, which was included on the local list, was in danger of being damaged. It was agreed to write to Rights of Way about the obstruction on the path, with a copy to the Tendring Hall Estate whose land the path was on, and to Babergh District about the ivy on the wall.

12. Town and Country Planning

(i) **Decisions received**

B/06/00714/FHA – 11 Laburnum Way. Erection of single storey side extension. Permission granted.

(ii) **Applications dealt with between meetings**

B/06/00741/FUL – Part side garden of 9 Wiston Road. Erection of 2 two storey semi detached

dwellings. Construction of new vehicular access. The Chairman had written to Babergh objecting: proposed development not in line with existing dwellings making bigger impact on streetscape & residential amenity of neighbours; close to dangerous A134 junction, no footways or crossing facilities, increased traffic would result with approved development at nearby Nags Building Supplies.

B/06/00077/LBC – 46 Bear Street. Erection of single storey rear extension; following removal of existing extension) internal alterations and insertion of damp proof course. No objections providing that materials acceptable to Conservation Officer, new windows and French doors to have matching joinery & replacement front door to be exact replica of the original.

Mrs George left the room

B/06/01004/LBC – 10 Birch Street. Replacement of render on front elevation and internal alterations. No objections.

Mrs George returned.

(iii) Current applications

B/06/01015/LBC – 14 Fen Street. Replacement of window in ground floor rear elevation with French doors & 2 windows, blocking up of door in rear elevation, replacement of 2 windows in first floor front elevation, provision of new external oil fired boiler & internal alterations. Mrs George proposed no objection subject to a condition that replacement double glazed windows on the front elevation should match existing exactly. There was no seconder. G Battye proposed no objections, seconded by B Smith and carried with 1 against. A copy letter from SPS was noted recommending existing windows and doors should be repaired and secondary glazing fitted as it was doubtful that proposed double glazed units would replicate existing windows.

B/00/109/ENF – 13 Court Street. Creation of a second separate unit of living accommodation. A reply from J Winders, Enforcement Officer, stated that since 2000 Mr Gray had maintained that the rear outbuilding was used in conjunction with the house and Babergh had been unable to disprove this so there was no breach of planning control. However in 2004 the situation changed and enforcement action was taken. In the lead up to the Appeal Mr Gray made a Declaration stating that since 1997 the annexe had been his only place of residence and at no time had he occupied 13 Court Street. The evidence was assessed by Babergh's legal team who found that a successful enforcement action could not be sustained and therefore Babergh withdrew from enforcement proceedings.

It was agreed that questions should be asked about Babergh's handling of this case. The Parish Council had sent evidence very early on and action should have been taken by Babergh much sooner. A precedent had now been set. C Hunt suggested writing to Mr Firth, Babergh's newly created Head of Building and Natural Environment and it was agreed to do this, voicing the Parish Council's concerns and sending him the planning history. Also to contact SALC.

11 Elm Grove. G Battye explained that planning permission had been received for a bedroom extension and conservatory but a bathroom window in the approved plan was now to be wider. The architect had written to Babergh but it was not known whether this change would be treated as an amendment to the approved plan and the Parish Council informed in the normal way. G. Battye therefore wished Councillors to see a photo copy of the plan. He then left the meeting and Mrs Fuller took the chair.

It was agreed that when the photo copy was received it would be sent round the Council for their comments and Mrs Fuller agreed to speak to the neighbours. G Battye returned.

16. Burial Ground

Memorial. An application in the name of Eva Rose Mann was approved.

17. Recreation Grounds; Open Spaces

(a) **Recreation Grounds.** (i) **Fencing of play equipment area.** The RoSPA information referred mainly to dogs and safety near roads. It was agreed that generally there wasn't a dog problem. To eliminate all risks a fence would be needed the whole length of the field which was not practical and would alter the whole appearance. It was agreed there was only a low risk on this private driveway. Extending the existing fence and closing the gap at the beginning was considered and it was agreed all Councillors should look at this possibility before the next meeting. B Smith said he would also shortly be meeting the insurance inspector on site and would get his views.

(ii) **Anglia in Bloom.** B Smith reported on the arrangements for the judging on the 19th July. The Clerk said that the Streetcleaner would be coming on the following Monday instead of Tuesday to join the volunteers in a litter pick and tidying up.

(b) **Open Spaces.** (i) **Bear Street Open Space.** In addition to the names already considered, C Hunt suggested another - Caley's Acre. Part of the open space previously belonged to the Caley Charity Trust. The Chairman read out the list of various names discussed to date and Mrs Fuller proposed the area should be known as Caley Green. Seconded by B Smith and carried unanimously.

(ii) **Trafalgar Tree.** It was reported that the tree seemed to be dying and C Hunt said that this had been discussed by the British Legion who would be keeping an eye on the tree.

16. Highways

(i) **Stoke Road Hedge.** G Battye had attended a site meeting with Peter Ennis, Dedham Vale Project, David Carmichael, Babergh Tree Officer, and Dr Dryden of Stoke Road. The proposal was to start a new mixed species hedge of 8 – 10 m length immediately behind the existing, extending it either side, so that there was some relationship to the old field boundary; the existing hedge would need to be cut back in time or it would disappear. One existing tree would be in the way and this would have to be moved. G. Battye proposed the Council should write to Mr Carmichael asking him to go ahead with the scheme as discussed at the site meeting. Seconded by Mrs Fuller and carried unanimously.

(ii) **Streetcleaner.** C Hunt expressed concern for the safety of the Streetcleaner and suggested that he should be wearing protective clothing as he was not always visible to passing traffic. It was agreed to write to him reminding him to wear the jacket which he already had in his possession.

(iii) **Litter Bins.** C Hunt said the dog bins seemed to be emptied regularly but not the litter bins. The Clerk said Babergh had been asked to add the bin at Popp's Piece to the list of bins being emptied for which the Parish Council now paid; the Streetcleaner currently emptied any overflowing bins and it was agreed to ask him not to do this and any complaints to be forwarded to Babergh. Re the litter bin near the war memorial, it was suggested this was not an appropriate place. C Hunt thought this would fit on a post further along the wall or on the ground. It was agreed everyone should look and put it on the agenda for the next meeting.

(iv) **Court Street closure.** Notice from Suffolk County Council stating the road would be closed on the 17th July from 0830 – 1700 hours so that a new water connection could be installed.

17. Allotments

(i) **Tap.** C Hunt reported that the timber framework was broken and it was agreed to obtain a quote for repairs.

(ii) **Trough.** The Clerk reported that a bill for £96.30 had been received from Anglian Water. She had checked its accuracy with AW and also the current meter reading to ascertain if there was a leak. The trough had earlier been leaking, until someone had temporarily fixed the broken ball valve, which no doubt accounted for the high bill. It was agreed to check whether the grazier used the trough and to obtain a quote for either a stopcock or ball valve. In the meantime G Battye proposed the bill should be paid, seconded by Mrs Fuller and carried unanimously.

(iii) **Rent for forthcoming year.** The sub committee agreed to meet to make a recommendation re the rent at the next meeting.

18. **Report by District Councillor**

C Hunt reported that the Babergh Strategy Committee had met and they were going ahead with a feasibility study for the Hadleigh Swimming Pool. He urged the Parish Council to comment on the current Review of Schools. One person in the village had taken advantage of the New Fridges for Old scheme.

The meeting closed at 9.30 pm and the Council went into committee.