

MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF THE NAYLAND WITH WISSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 9th January 2008, AT 8.05 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL, NAYLAND.

Present: G Battye (Chairman), C Hunt, Mrs Knox, Mrs Sparrow, R Spencer, Mrs Mimpriss, Mrs Fuller, Ms Knight, Mrs Hattrell (Clerk), Mrs Bray (for the Press) R Cave (District Councillor), Mrs Bannister (Tree Warden) and 3 members of the public.

1. **Public Forum**

Mr Dowding asked for the support of the Parish Council regarding his request to the Rights of Way Officer at Suffolk County Council to provide either pedestrian or kissing gate to improve access to Nayland Fen. His comments were endorsed by Mrs Bannister, the Tree Warden.

2. **Report by PCSO Melissa Galyean**

PCSO Melissa Galyean attended to deliver her report. She confirmed that 3 crimes have been reported in Nayland over the last month. These include thefts from business premises of a motor vehicle and a separate incident where copper wiring was stolen. These have not been detected. A recent incident involved assault in a residential home. The recent robberies in the area have led to further police presence and visits to local shops and Post Offices. She went on to explain how they are trained to carry out speed detection and then about a new initiative called Community Speed Watch in which the community are trained and equipped to carry out speed checks, which generate letters from Police Headquarters. She agreed to provide full details.

3. **Apologies for Absence**

Mrs George gave her apologies due to a recent injury.

4. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Approval of the Minutes of the meeting held on 12th December 2007 was proposed by Mrs Fuller, seconded by Mrs Mimpriss and unanimously carried. The minutes were signed by the Chairman.

5. **Housing Needs**

It was agreed to meet early again at the February meeting to consider potential further affordable housing in the village. The meeting will be scheduled for 7.15 p.m and the Public Meeting will follow at 8.00 p.m.

6. **Village Hall**

Mrs Knox reported that the Village Hall Management Committee were due to meet next week. She confirmed that the Accounts were in a healthy position compared to last year helped by grants and the film shows. R, Spencer mentioned that the guttering is damaged causing water to leak onto the wall of the hall. Mrs Knox confirmed that repairs were in hand. The Chairman confirmed that he has been approached by a resident who has noticed a car on the playing field. The resident asked whether a suitable bollard could be installed. Mrs Knox agreed to make the Village Hall Management Committee aware of this request – **Action R Knox.**

7. **Finance Report**

The Clerk confirmed the cash position as at 31st December 2007 in the new Co-operative Bank Accounts. In the Current Account there is £1000 and in the linked Reserve Account there is £14075.98 making a total of £15075.98 including £5,968.00 in the Capital Investment Fund. The Precept P2 form was then duly signed by the Chairman, Mrs Fuller, C Hunt and the Clerk. The Clerk then provided details of the 3rd quarter budget review showing Income at 92% if you take into account the Locality Budget. Expenditure is 65% of budget slightly lower than the expected 75%. It was agreed to circulate the charity requests and include as an Agenda item for the February Meeting. A figure of £350 has been budgeted for this financial year to assist charities that benefit Parishioners in Nayland with Wissington – **Action Clerk.**

8. Accounts for payment

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| DK Hattrell (Clerk's Salary) | 519.64 |
| Inland Revenue Only (Clerk's Deductions and Employers NI Contributions)..... | 172.76 |
| SCC (Clerk's Pension)..... | 138.03 |
| Babergh District Council (Election Costs)..... | 62.65 |
| Nayland Village Hall (Hall Hire)..... | 22.50 |
| F P Rose (S.137 Litter Pick) | 143.52 |
| Anglian Water (Allotments) | 42.93 |

The above cheques were approved for payment.

9. Correspondence

The Clerk circulated her report ahead of the meeting and key areas were discussed. The Chairman read from a letter received from Babergh District Council regarding the new Babergh Watch Scheme. This involves the appointment of a local representative to become the focal point for local environmental quality issues such as litter, abandoned vehicles, full recycling banks and graffiti. The consensus was that this will not necessarily improve on the system where issues are noticed or made known to the Parish Council and these are reported and followed up as a result of Parish Council Meetings. It was agreed not to join the scheme at the present time, but to keep this matter under review and to form an Agenda item at the meeting prior to the Annual Parish Assembly – **Action Clerk**. The Chairman read a reply from the Suffolk Fire & Rescue Service to our response to the draft risk management action plan. Our feedback confirmed that the action plan addressed areas of priority for safety in the County, however, failed to refer to the retained section and the four priorities listed for the future did not refer specifically to rural locations. E Meelan, Assistant Chief Fire Officer, replied thanking the Parish Council for input. He stated that they covered the retained section in both the 2005/6 and 2006/7 IRMP plans. These issues covered in particular the recruitment and retention of staff and full engagement with the community. He also stated that rural matters are always given priority. Some of the areas that are explored in the plan for 2008/9 such as flooding and weather related fires will have the same affect on the rural community. The Suffolk Bus Strategy was included in the circulation envelope.

10. Highways

The Chairman read from the letter received from Sandra Gage, Senior Engineer at Suffolk County Council. She summarised the agreements from the previous meeting as: -

- raise with Highways Agency the possibility of closing the gap on the A12 at the B1068 junction
- look again, with Essex County Council, at restricting through HGV movements on both the B1068 and B1087 in the event of improved road links between the A134 and A12
- include advisory signing in advance of the B1087 in the 2008/9 Lorry Management programme of work. The Parish Council to discuss further the suggestion of advisory signing and the example provided, and to forward any agreed suggestions for consideration. Additionally any suggested warning of particular properties.
- comment also awaited from the Parish Council on the proposed minor signing for Bear Street/ Birch Street/ Mill Street to discourage Lorries from attempting to turn into Mill Street.

The Chairman then read from the email received from J Finch, which had already been circulated via the email. J Finch had emphasised that on average 7 HGV's per day were making no visits in the area, which represents in excess of 2000 per year which could be re-directed. He had noted that in view of the layout of roads and "relatively low numbers, the SCC officers could not justify or defend a weight restriction through Nayland. He had summarised the position of the range of possible solutions including improved advisory signage, pursuing the closure of the A12/ B1068 junction (noting that Guy McGregor, SCC Portfolio holder, agreed to seriously examine) and to review the weight restrictions in the whole area in conjunction with Essex County Council when the new junction off the A12/ Colchester by-pass is opened to service the new football stadium which is imminent.

The Chairman then read the email from G Jones in which he commented that closure of the A12/B1068 junction would then cause traffic to follow Satellite Navigation through Stratford St Mary and then onto the B1068 at Higham. He was most in favour of a complete review of weight restrictions once the new junction off the A12/ Colchester by-pass is opened.

The Chairman then directed the Parish Council to firstly consider possible signage solutions. Discussion then followed in which a view was expressed of not wanting to clutter the village with too many signs impacting on its visual appearance. It was agreed that improved signage on the A134 will not adversely affect the appearance of the village and should be proposed. The proposal made by the County Council for Road Sign 1 for traffic

heading towards Sudbury was agreed, including the proposed positioning. Road Sign 2 for traffic heading towards Colchester should be further up Harpers Hill and state "For A12 follow A134". It was agreed for C Hunt to investigate the signage currently in place before we communicate this decision to County Highways - **Action C Hunt and Clerk.** ** C Hunt has investigated and provided a photograph to the Clerk. For traffic heading towards Colchester, there is already a sign showing the junction and at the top it indicates straight on for Colchester A134. Please all consider and let the Clerk have your views by **23rd January**, should Road Sign 2 be positioned say 100 ft before the junction sign to ensure adequate warning is given or do you consider the current sign is sufficient or should it be adapted? – **Action All.**

The suggested signing for Birch Street had previously been agreed. This was proposed to direct Lorries approaching from Stoke Road to go straight on along Bear Street for the A134 rather than attempt to turn left along Mill Street. County Highways had delayed implementation as a resident has suggested that Lorries also approach from the other direction. It was agreed to advise County Highways to proceed with the agreed signage for traffic approaching from Stoke Road and review the outcome of all of the measures – **Action Clerk.** A view was then expressed that pressure should be put on County Highways to close the junction at A12/B1068 as this could lead to possible improvement, this was agreed – **Action Clerk.**

The Stoke Road gateway was then discussed. Following a review of the emails between County Highways and a resident, C Hunt proposed that the positioning of the gateway is the right one, however, the hedge obstructing the gateway should be cut back. This was seconded by Mrs Knox and unanimously carried – **Action Clerk to advise Highways.** The Chairman then read an email from K Smith, Engineer at County Highways, regarding deer warning signs. She has investigated following reports of two vehicle collisions with deer at the Campion Hill junction on Bures Road. K Smith did not propose further signs on the build up to the junction as three bend warning signs and accompanied horse crossing signs are already in place. This should indicate to drivers the need to slow down. Mrs Knox asked for the Clerk to contact the AA to remove their sign from the A134 – **Action Clerk.** Mrs Mimpriss asked for the next litter pick in Wiston to be carried out at the earliest opportunity in the new financial year.

At 9.30 p.m. Mrs Fuller proposed an extension of 30 minutes.

11. Footpaths

Mrs Mimpriss confirmed that footpath 8 has now been cleared and asked the Clerk to thank the Right of Way Officer at SCC for his part in this matter – **Action Clerk.** Mrs Mimpriss then made her apologies and left for the rest of the meeting due to another commitment. Mr Dowdings comments at the start of the meeting and his email were then discussed. Mrs Sparrow declared an interest and then left the room. Following discussion, the Parish Council were supportive of the plans to provide pedestrian or kissing gates to provide access for all to Nayland Fen. They agreed to write to SCC Right of Way Officer confirming their support and providing details of the secretary to the Fennages to enable on-going maintenance matters to be discussed – **Action Clerk.**

12. Planning

1) Decisions received

B/07/01677/FHA/AS – 7 High Street.

Babergh District Council confirmed that permission has been granted to erect a detached garden room. As this was not in accordance with the Parish Councils recommendations, it was agreed to seek an explanation and also a copy of the revised drawing no. 01.A. – **Action Clerk.**

B/07/00709/LBC/BEL – Guinea Wiggs, Bures Road.

Babergh District Council confirmed that listed building consent has been granted to raise the roof height of existing barn.

B/07/00611/FUL/FB – 25 and 26 Harpers Estate.

Babergh District Council confirmed that permission has been granted to erect four affordable dwellings.

B/07/01381/LBC/MC – Dresden Cottage, 10 Birch Street

Babergh District Council confirmed that permission has been granted to erect a satellite dish on the rear elevation.

Enforcement Notice – Butchers, 5 Bear Street

Babergh District Council provided a copy of the notice to the owners to carry out rectification works within 18 months after 15th January. The required work is to demolish and reconstruct the south west gable wall in accordance with the specification provided.

2) B/07/01974/ELE/BHW – Rushbanks Farm to New Maltings, Bures Road.

The Parish Council had no objections to the application to erect 11,000 volt overhead line from Rushbanks Farm to New Maltings, Bures Road. This was considered between meetings to comply with the deadline.

3) B/07/01948/9/FHA/BEL – Longwood House, Stoke Road including Listed Building Consent.

The Parish Council will determine between meetings.

13. Streetlighting

The Clerk reported that the Locality Budget Cheque has been received and therefore the order has been placed with SCC for the necessary work to the four street lighting units. These include unit 41 at the Bear Street Bus Stop, Unit 68 in Fen Street and units 72 and 73 in Wiston Road. Ms Knight reported that the light on the junction of Newlands Lane and Church Lane is still intermittent. The Clerk agreed to chase this up with SCC – **Action Clerk**. The Chairman reported that unit 47 in Bear Street is not working – **Clerk to report**.

14. Burial Ground

It was agreed to seek the present position from the Surveyors acting for the Diocese in respect of the request by the Playgroup for their contractors to use the driveway – **Action Clerk**.

15. Recreation Grounds & Open Spaces

C Hunt advised that the Community Council are staging a village event in July to replace the Street Fayre. He confirmed that ideas and contributions from the Parish Council would be welcome. Mrs Sparrow asked whether the recreation ground and pops piece hedges could be cut by Mr Taylor-Balls again this year. This was agreed and Mr Spencer agreed to follow up with Mr Taylor-Balls – **Action Mr Spencer**.

16. Allotments

A letter was signed authorising the Clerk to make the claim in respect of our ESA grant.

17. District Council Report

District Councillor R Cave reported again on the poor state of Hadleigh Pool and the decision from Babergh Council not to invest any further funds in renovation works. However, he did stress that the pool will be kept open for as long as possible until the condition deteriorates. Babergh Council are now looking at alternatives for the future. He then spoke of the financial situation at Babergh Council with an increase in their grant from central government of only 2.9%. This is below the level of inflation and will lead to further cost cutting and accelerate the process of re-organisation and potential joint working initiatives. Senior Officials that have left are not being replaced at the current time. Councillor Cave advised that all should be prepared for considerable and speedy change.

The meeting closed at 10.00 p.m.