

MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF THE NAYLAND WITH WISSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 11th June 2008, AT 8.10 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL, NAYLAND.

Present: G Battye (Chairman), C Hunt, Mrs Knox, Mrs Sparrow, R Spencer, Ms Knight, Mrs George, Mrs Fuller, Mrs Mimpriss, Mrs Hattrell (Clerk), Mrs Bray (for the Press) and R Cave (District Councillor).

1. **Public Forum**

No questions were raised.

2. **Report by District Councillor**

District Councillor Richard Cave reported that the Boundary Committee is scheduled to provide their preferred option for restructuring Local Authorities on 7th July. Councillor Cave urged Parish Council Members to attend the Local Government Review meeting arranged by Babergh for the 14th and 17th July. The Clerk confirmed that this will be discussed under correspondence. Councillor Cave continued to outline the timetable to implement Local Authority changes. He confirmed the whole process will take place by 2010. Mrs Mimpriss asked Councillor Cave on the progress of enquiries into the existing use of Rushbanks Camping and Caravan site. Councillor Cave confirmed that correspondence will be forthcoming from a Babergh Planning Officer. The Chairman asked whether there have been any changes to the brown bin collection. Recently, they were collected on Thursday instead of the usual Wednesday. Councillor Cave confirmed that this may have been due to the Bank Holiday.

3. **Apologies for Absence**

None were received.

4. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Acceptance of the minutes of the meeting held on 14th May 2008 were proposed by C Hunt, seconded by Ms Knight and unanimously carried.

5. **Housing Needs**

The Chairman explained that the Parish Council met as a working party with representatives from Flagship Housing and Babergh District Council to discuss the progress on the Harpers Estate Development and also potential other sites in the village. With regard to the landscaping at Harpers Estate, some issues were raised that it differs from the drawing agreed with the Parish Council. D Malins from Flagship Housing agreed to make some enquiries. It was agreed for the Parish Council to meet as a working party at the end of the Public Meeting to consider the next step in relation to other potential sites.

6. **Village Hall**

Mrs Knox reported an uneasy relationship between the organisers of the Youth Club and the Village Hall Management Committee. Unfortunately, certain activities in the hall have led to regular damage. The cost to rectify the damage has been met by the Youth Club, however, the ongoing situation has proved unsatisfactory. Efforts are being made to restore the relationship and careful monitoring is being carried out to determine when damage is occurring. The Parish Council expressed their support to the Village Hall Management Committee with regard to this matter and also that they were grateful to the organisers of the Youth Club for providing such an important facility to the Village. Questions raised with Mrs Knox included the Notice on the fire doors indicating they could not be used and also the necessary work to the flooring. Mrs Knox confirmed that she will take forward the issue of the Notice on the fire doors and she has already arranged to meet a contractor tomorrow morning in respect of the flooring. The Chairman then read a letter from A Gowen regarding the Village Hall Endowment fund. He was again urging the Parish Council to reconsider its previous decision. Following discussion, an amended proposal was put forward to include "Village Hall Endowment Fund" on the Agenda for next meeting and also to invite A Gowen to attend. This was seconded by Mrs Mimpriss and carried with 5 votes in favour and 4 against **Action Clerk – Agenda item and invite to A Gowen.**

7. **Finance Report**

The Clerk confirmed the cash position as at 30th May 2008 as £1,000 in the Current Account, £14,634.25 in the linked Deposit Account and £8,988.22 in the Capital Investment Fund Reserve Account, making a total of £24,622.47. The Clerk confirmed that she has recently transferred £3,000 into the Capital Investment Fund as agreed at the Finance Committee Meeting. The Clerk confirmed that a request has been received from Sudbury and District Citizens Advice Bureau for a donation. The Chairman proposed £75.00. This was seconded by

Mrs Fuller and unanimously carried. It was agreed to draw the cheque for next meeting – **Action Clerk**. The Clerk then confirmed that there has been a slight increase in the bin emptying charges. However, this should still be within budget. R Spencer confirmed that a dog bin is overflowing at the open space near the A134 by the river. The Clerk confirmed that Babergh are introducing a system of monitoring the bins. They have recently introduced colour plastic liners that keep changing to indicate whether the bin is being emptied at the appropriate time. The alternating colours are black, green and blue. In the future, when a bin does not appear to have been emptied, it will be important to report the colour of the liner – **Action all**. It was agreed for the Clerk to report the unemptied dog bin as above – **Action Clerk**. Attention then turned to the audit. The Clerk read the Internal Auditors report confirming that the parish accounts were being managed well and procedures were being properly followed. He raised a few points for consideration by Finance Committee in the future concerning depreciation of assets, simplifying the accounts and considering paying the Community Council loan early. The Internal Auditor regrettably confirmed that he is resigning from the role due to difficulty committing the time needed at this time of year. Copies of the proposed submission to the external auditor were provided to each Council Member. Following consideration and questioning Mrs Mimpriss proposed acceptance of the submission. This was seconded by Mrs George and unanimously carried. The Chairman and Clerk duly signed the forms accordingly. Mrs Mimpriss congratulated the Clerk on her work with the accounts and the preparation for audit. It was agreed to provide copies of the Internal Audit report to Finance Committee Members ahead of their meeting later this year – **Action Clerk**.

8. Accounts for Payment

DK Hattrell (Clerk's Salary)	£633.83
Inland Revenue Only (Clerk's Deductions and Employers NI Contributions)	£190.61
Suffolk County Council (Clerk's Pension)	£176.99
FP Rose (S137 Litter Picking)	£143.52
Babergh District Council (Bin Emptying)	£80.04
Roy A Mortimer (Grass Cutting)	£399.50

The above cheques were approved for payment.

9. Correspondence

The Clerk had circulated the correspondence report ahead of the meeting and key areas were discussed. The Clerk read from letters received since the correspondence report was produced. A letter had been received from the Chairman of Nayland Community Council objecting to the Leavenheath, Stoke by Nayland and Polstead Community News extending into Nayland. The objections focussed on the protection of the Nayland Community Times and its role in serving the community and doubts over the quality of a Community Newsletter that represents a wider number of villages. Mrs Sparrow stressed that a considerable amount of advertising revenue could be lost to the Community Times which would ultimately affect the Community Council's ability to award grants to village organisations. Whilst there was some support by Parish Council members towards the arguments put forward, it was agreed that it would not be appropriate for the Parish Council to take any action. It was agreed that the Chairman and individual Council Members may speak to the editor of MJO Publications in a personal capacity. The Clerk read an email from a resident regarding the mowing regime of the Crescent. It was agreed that nothing further could be done. The Clerk read from an email from a resident regarding garden rubbish in the river. This has been reported to the Environment Agency who is arranging to send letters to nearby residents. It was agreed for the Chairman and C Hunt to attend the Local Government Review Meeting at Stoke by Nayland Club on Thursday 17th July. Light refreshments will be available from 7.00 pm for a 7.30 pm start and a 9.30 pm finish – **Action Clerk to book the places accordingly**. It was agreed to include the letter from North East Essex NHS, regarding the proposal to provide a GP led Health Centre in Colchester, in the circulation envelope. The letter from Babergh Council in response to the Airspace Consultation was also included for circulation. The Clerk read an email in response to enquires regarding bulk buying of heating oil. It has been confirmed that oil companies do not want to offer discounts in the current climate so a scheme could not be pursued at the present time. It was agreed for the Clerk to pass on this information to the Chairman of the Community Council – **Action Clerk**. The Clerk then read from the Police Report showing 1 crime in Nayland with Wissington during April involving a theft of keys from a dwelling on Harpers Estate.

10. Boundary Committee Review

The Chairman explained that the information regarding the Boundary Committee Review of Local Authority Structure in Suffolk has been circulated to Parish Council Members. The Chairman read through some of the

comments made. Following discussion, it was agreed not to send a formal response at this stage. A detailed proposal is awaited from the Boundary Committee on 7th July which will prompt further consideration.

11. Highways

It was reported that pot holes have been repaired on Wiston Road and the verge has also been cut. The Clerk read from an email from J Nunn, Suffolk County Council Highways, stating that pot holes in Wisington are identified and filled periodically. However, there is a more fundamental problem to which the solution is to culvert more of the ditch and to complete a major edge repair. County Highways put in a bid for funding this year that was not successful and they will put in a further bid for 2009/10. The Chairman believed that this is a priority for Health and Safety reasons in relation to school transport and safety of normal road users as they are avoiding pulling left around the corner due to the road damage. It was agreed for the Clerk to stress this urgency to County Highways – **Action Clerk**. R Spencer confirmed that he is unhappy with the quality of road surfacing on the Heights. The Clerk confirmed that SALC are investigating within the St Edmundsbury borough area to see if any Community Speed Watch schemes are already up and running.

12. Footpaths

The Clerk read from emails regarding footpath 10 and specifically the bridge. She confirmed that Mrs Knox had remembered a long history of use of this path. Having checked the definitive map, Mrs Knox had confirmed that the path is not in its correct alignment, however, the path as it is has been walked for many years and 20 years could be proved with ease. The current crossing seems the best place without disrupting meadow grazing. Moving the bridge would prove expensive. A reply from K Verlander, Right of Way Officer at the County Council confirmed that the 20 year rule will create a new right of way. However, this would not remove the original route, merely add a further route which would require Suffolk County Council to maintain the current bridge and install a new bridge on the definitive alignment. He did not believe this to be a workable solution. Mrs Knox confirmed that whilst the footpath has been diverted, the bridge is in its original position, so she failed to understand the comments made by the Right of Way Officer. It was agreed for the Clerk to contact the department with responsibility for bridges to obtain further clarification – **Action Clerk**. R Spencer expressed concern for users of the footpath where a bull is kept in a farmer's field. C Hunt confirmed that the fen has now been classed for open access and dogs should be kept on leads until 31st August. He went on to confirm that he will be representing the Parish Council by giving a guided tour of footpaths on Saturday 12th July at 11.00 am as part of the Village Festival.

13. Planning

The Chairman read from a letter from Babergh District Council confirming the planning website is now operational. Instructions on how to access planning on the website were included in the circulation envelope. The Chairman confirmed that an acknowledgement has been received in respect of application B/08/00231 – The Annex, 13 Court Street. The Parish Council have asked for a detailed explanation as the decision went against the Parish Council's recommendations. They have also asked for detailed clarification of why this application did not go before the Development Committee. It was agreed to chase the Chief Planning Officer for an early response to this matter – **Action Clerk**.

1) Decisions received

B/07/00615/FHA/LJB – Farthing Hall, Wiston Road.

Babergh District Council confirmed permission has been granted to erect a 2 storey side extension as amended by revised site plan 3565/03A received on 31st March 2008.

B/08/00736/TCA – Removal of Lime Tree at the Old GuildHall, 13 High Street.

Babergh District Council confirmed that work can proceed to remove the lime tree.

B/08/00507/FUL/BEL – Nags Corner

Permission has been granted and it was agreed to include full details of the conditions stipulated in the circulation envelope.

B/08/00441/FHA/CJT – 2 Willow Grove.

Babergh District Council confirmed permission has been granted to erect a single storey side and rear extension, 2 storey side extension and attached single garage. It was agreed to seek an explanation as this has gone against the Parish Council's recommendations.

B/07/01900/FUL/GD – Wissington Grove Farm, Bures Road.

Babergh District Council confirmed permission has been granted to erect a detached 2 storey dwelling for agricultural worker and construct new vehicular access. The Chairman read that the occupation of the dwelling is to be limited to a person solely or mainly working in the locality in agriculture.

2) B/08/00650/FUL – Rushbanks Farm Caravan Site, Bures Road

The Chairman confirmed the Parish Council objected to the application to use the land for the stationing of 15 caravans (in lieu of the current 10 lawful caravans). This was due to:-

- I. The proposed scale of the operation, which should be low key in the Dedham Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, being too great and thus will have a detrimental affect in the area.
- II. Loss of amenity already experienced by neighbouring property holders can only increase due to the planned expansion. Traffic entering the site causes noise and dust. An increase in size would only lead to further disturbance to neighbours.
- III. Lack of amenities on the site to accommodate the expansion give cause for concern on ecological grounds especially in view of the proximity to the watercourse.

Whilst the Parish Council were encouraged by the suggestion of having the site properly managed, the increase proposed is too significant to be accommodated in the vicinity. The Parish Council therefore recommended refusal of this application. A letter has since been received from Babergh Planning confirming that the application has been withdrawn.

3) B/08/00621/FUL – Wissington Grove Farm, Bures Road.

The Parish Council had no objections to the application to erect a detached cattle building. This was considered between meetings to comply with the deadline.

4) Planning Enforcement Reports

It was agreed for the Clerk to chase Babergh Planning for a response in relation to issues raised regarding Rushbanks Farm campsite – **Action Clerk.**

14. Streetlighting

Mrs George reported that the light on Bear Street near to the driveway to the school is obscured by a tree. It was agreed for the Clerk to write to the resident of Constable House accordingly – **Action Clerk.** R Spencer confirmed that the lights on the entrance to Wiston Road are still not working. Mrs Knox reported that there are 2 redundant telegraph poles which may become a hazard and also where the cabling has been redirected underground, there are holes exposing the cabling. It was agreed for Mrs Knox to identify the pole numbers and advise the Clerk – **Action Mrs Knox.** Thereafter, it was agreed for the Clerk to report to British Telecom – **Action Clerk.**

15. Burial Ground

The application to erect a memorial in grave space 12P in the new burial ground was duly approved. The quotation from Roy Mortimer Contractors in respect of short term work in Nayland Cemetery and removal of branches at Candy Lane was discussed. Following discussion, Mrs George proposed acceptance of both

quotations which were £720.00 plus VAT for the Cemetery and £285.00 plus VAT at Candy Lane. This was seconded by Mrs Mimpriss and unanimously carried – **Action Clerk to instruct the Contractor accordingly.**

16. **Recreation Grounds & Open Spaces**

Mrs Sparrow reported the untidy state of the Horsewatering. It was agreed to instruct our usual contractor to carry out general strimming and tidying of the area – **Action Clerk.**

17. **Allotments**

The Clerk confirmed that the allotment judging will take place on 9th July at 10.00 am. The Clerk will put up the usual posters to advertise the competition – **Action Clerk.** Mrs Sparrow volunteered to meet the judge on the day – **Action Mrs Sparrow.**

The meeting closed at 10.00 p.m.