

MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF NAYLAND WITH WISSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 9th SEPTEMBER 2009, AT 7.30 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL NAYLAND

Present: G Battye (Chairman), Mrs R Knox, C Hunt, Mrs M George, Ms A Knight, R Spencer, Mrs W Sparrow, Mrs D Hattrell (Clerk), R Cave (District Councillor), Mrs P Bray (for the Press) and 4 members of the public.

The Chairman welcomed everyone and agreed to meet as a working party at the end of the meeting to discuss an item on the recreation ground.

1. Public Forum

Mr Kelly Moroney introduced himself as formally a resident of Nayland for 28 years. He went through the schooling system in the area and was a member of the retained fire service until joining Essex Fire and Rescue Service where he has worked for the last 10 years. The reason he attended the meeting was an article in the East Anglian Daily Times on Saturday 5th September regarding massive shortfalls in fire crew cover. It cited July and Nayland being the worst crewed station during that month. Since leaving the village in 2005, Mr Moroney has been on the Council Housing list. He has always made it clear of his intention to help crew the fire station at Nayland which is where his career started back in 1997. He was aware that housing issues were not dealt with directly at Parish Council meetings. However, he was asking whether enough was being done for the community to sustain its services in the future regarding the social housing that is available to people like himself. As a former member of the community, he grew up in social housing and helped provide a service and fire cover, not just to Nayland but the surrounding areas. Had he lived in the community, it would have gained a fire fighter, a trauma trained co-responder and someone who cares about the place they live. The Chairman thanked Mr Moroney for speaking and confirmed that the Parish Council is supportive of affordable housing and has managed to complete a scheme on Harpers estate and is working towards more housing on Wiston Road. C Hunt was also concerned regarding the article in the East Anglian Daily Times. He confirmed it differs from the reassurances given to this Parish Council by the Fire Service. Comments were made that, if necessary, there should be an active marketing campaign to attract new people to the retained fire service. There was also mention that the allocations policy for housing should include key workers and that was an important contributor to sustainability. C Hunt confirmed that the Choice Based Letting scheme is scheduled for review in 2010. R Spencer asked whether Mr Moroney would be permitted to assist the retained fire service in view of his full time commitment as a fire fighter in Colchester. Mr Moroney confirmed that he had checked the rules and it would be fully acceptable. The Chairman urged that we will need to keep a close check on the allocations at the Wiston site if all goes to plan. It was also agreed to issue a letter to the Chief Fire Officer asking for an explanation regarding the article in the East Anglian Daily Times – **Action Clerk**. Will Hitchcock from Transition Nayland took the opportunity to speak. They are in the process of forming the constitution for Transition Nayland and would like representation from different organisations in the village. He confirmed they would like to work together with the Parish Council and the Conservation Society and he apologised for the way the letter came out from the 2 District Councils regarding recycling. The Chairman advised that the Parish Council has not been consulted by the District Councils. W Hitchcock confirmed that Transition Nayland would not want to proceed without a response from the Parish Council and Conservation Society. Members indicated issues that arose the last time the Parish Council wanted to install a bottle bank in the village. Following research, the Parish Council put in an application which was refused. The Chairman indicated that the letter did not contain a full scheme outlining screening, clearance, health and safety, neighbour amenity and road safety. Mr Hitchcock confirmed the purpose of the email to the Parish Council is to seek support and views to increase sustainability by encouraging parishioners to recycle more. It was agreed to discuss when the meeting was opened.

2. District Council Report

District Councillor Richard Cave confirmed he had listened to the comments made earlier in the public forum and suggested the Parish Council uses Mr Moroney's situation as a case study and recommended the Parish Council writes to the District Council regarding the allocation policy. He then went on to discuss the Local Government Review. He reminded members that the delay was due to an appeal by 3 District Councils which is being heard on 7th October. The current financial situation at the District Council is difficult with cash savings of 3.7 million required over the next 3 years. Unless they cut services these savings will not be achieved. If the Local Government Review does not go ahead, it will be essential to work closely with other District Councils or consider mergers to make the financial situation viable. He went on to discuss the National Grid proposals and the 4 corridor options. He understood the Parish Council would be contacted shortly regarding consultation.

3. Apologies for Absence

Were received from Mrs Mimpriss and Mrs Fuller due to holiday. County Councillor James Finch had previously confirmed his apologies.

4. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on 12th August 2009 was proposed by C Hunt, seconded by Ms Knight and carried with 1 abstention due to absence at the previous meeting.

5. Recreation and Open Spaces

The situation with a potential recycling bank was then discussed. It was confirmed that the Parish Council has been committed to recycling for 20 years and all members wanted a bottle bank within the village. It was agreed to write to the 2 District Councils inviting Susannah Cole, Recycling Officer, to attend the next Parish Council meeting and seeking confirmation on the following points:-

- Will planning permission be required?
- What are the views of the Highways Authority on the locations proposed?
- Has a scheme been devised including screening, the management of the site regarding broken glass etc? – **Action Clerk.**

With regard to the poop scoop bag dispenser, it was agreed to ask Babergh Council whether a small plaque could be made confirming the sponsor details. Thereafter, we should seek confirmation from our potential sponsor before ordering the dispenser to trial at Cayleys Green. This was proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mrs George and unanimously carried. The Chairman read from the play ground inspection report confirming that 1 flat seat has been damaged and will require renewing as soon as possible. It was agreed for the Clerk to obtain a quotation in this respect – **Action Clerk.** Attention then turned to the new water supply required to the Rectory. Following discussion the Chairman proposed that we confirm to the surveyors for the Diocese that they can proceed subject to the Parish Council being indemnified in respect of the liability risk and that they take care to identify electric and telephone cables that also run along that stretch. This proposal was seconded by Mrs George and unanimously carried. Mrs Sparrow reported that the horsewatering is in need some garden maintenance. It was agreed to instruct R Mortimer Contractors to carry out the work – **Action Clerk.** The Clerk reported that a cheque has been received reimbursing the expenditure to reinstate the horsewatering.

6. Highways

Mrs Sparrow noted that in Bures and Stoke by Nayland, signs have been installed providing a 20's plenty school safety zone. She suggested that we try to get similar signs for Nayland. The Chairman believed this was linked to the primary school's travel plan. C Hunt felt that extra road signs would not achieve the desired result in Bear Street. He believed the congestion slows traffic down and this differs with Stoke by Nayland and Bures as they have off street parking. R Spencer was concerned that parents are parking inconsiderately and in some cases illegally. It was agreed to contact our community policing team to ask for extra patrols between 8.30 - 9.00 am and 3.00 to 3.30 pm to encourage people to park appropriately. The proposal for the 20's plenty zone to be included on next meeting's agenda failed.

7. Housing Needs

The Chairman thanked C Hunt for attending the Planning Committee meeting in relation to the proposed Affordable homes on Wiston Road. C Hunt reported that despite objections from the Airfield, the Development Committee supported and approved the application. The Clerk reported that we are now awaiting news regarding the transfer of the land. Mrs George formally proposed that we write to Babergh District Council on the issue of encouraging key workers to return to the village. It was confirmed that Mr Moroney's situation could be used as a case study. It was also proposed to ask that when the Choice Based Letting scheme is reviewed in April 2010, Parish Councils are consulted. This proposal was seconded by the Chairman and unanimously carried.

8. Village Hall

Mrs Knox provided a list of priority work in respect of the Village Hall. This showed as Priority 1, the external redecoration that is currently out to tender. A new small water heater is required for the kitchen together with alterations to the main hot water system to economise on use. £600 worth of work has been agreed in this respect. They will also build a concrete pad for the dustbin away from the hall at approximately £160. Priority 2 work included renewing the front door at approximately £2,500 and repairing the floor at approximately £4,000. Priority 3 included a new boiler at approximately £3,500 and oil tank at approximately £2,000 together with the

renewal of the bar shutter and if possible the kitchen shutter that is still to be priced. Mrs Knox went onto ask the Parish Council to consider marking a pedestrian route on the drive to the Village Hall. It was agreed to include as an agenda item for next meeting – **Action Clerk.**

9. **Finance**

The Clerk confirmed the cash position as at 28th August 2009 as £1000.00 in the current account, £15397.30 in the linked deposit account and £7738.42 in the capital investment fund making a total of £24135.72. It was agreed to transfer the £1500 agreed at budget time from the linked deposit account to the Capital Investment Fund. The letter to the bank was duly signed. The Clerk reported on the External Audit confirming that in the opinion of the Auditors no matters have come to their attention causing concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met. There were no other matters they wanted to draw to the attention of the Council. The Chairman took the opportunity to thank the Clerk for her skill and expertise in relation to the Accounts and Audit preparation. The Chairman then took the opportunity to remind members of the meeting scheduled for 8th October. He confirmed that he has considered the contents of the letters from Peter Mimpriss regarding our insurance arrangements and confirmed he would like to discuss with Mrs Knox the subject of Village Hall Management Committee insurances – **Action Chairman.** He asked members to have completed their risk assessment ahead of the 8th October meeting. The Clerk then confirmed that she has received the renewal notice from the Parish Council's insurers and has obtained a breakdown of the premium. An activities questionnaire is being forwarded which will focus mainly on public liability. At the same time as completing this questionnaire, the Clerk suggested that a proposal form is completed for an alternative quotation. This was agreed – **Action Clerk.**

10. **Accounts for payment**

DK Hattrell (Clerk's salary for August – cheque number 400193)).....	618.55
Inland Revenue Only (Clerk's deductions and ERS NIC – cheque number 400194)	211.87
Suffolk County Council (Clerk's pension – cheque number 400195).....	199.05
Babergh District Council (Wiston Mill Diversion – cheque number 400196)	580.19
BDO Stoy Hayward LLP (External Audit Fee – cheque number 400197)	327.75
Anglia Inspection Services Ltd (Playground Inspection - cheque number 400198)	160.00
Chilton Office Supplies (Stationery – cheque number 400199)	43.13

The above cheques were approved for payment.

11. **Correspondence**

The correspondence report had been circulated ahead of the meeting and key areas were discussed. The Chairman read from the Community Achievements Award information and it was agreed to include as an agenda item for next meeting – **Action Clerk.** Attention then turned to the information from National Grid regarding 4 potential route corridors for new overhead lines. He confirmed the website was www.nationalgrid.com and read from the letter that the Parish Council were considered to be important Consultees. The information was included in the Circulation Envelope. The Chairman then went through the items in the Circulation Envelope and commended the Planners Guide to Rural Economy and accompanying DVD to members. In view of the quantity of literature, 2 circulation envelopes were produced. The Chairman advised that we have received a request under the Freedom of Information Act and were currently responding with the relevant documents.

12. **Footpaths**

The Clerk confirmed she has received a telephone call from a parishioner reporting concerns with footpath 3 from Gravel Hill to the scout hut. An area has been fenced just past Buggs Haulage which leaves limited space for the footpath. Further on the path, near the pest house, it is very overgrown and various stiles are in need of repair. Mrs George had raised similar issues previously and it was agreed to remind the Right of Way Officer at Suffolk County Council in this regard – **Action Clerk.** Members did confirm that the sign leading from Gravel Hill has now been replaced. Mrs Knox reported that repairs have taken place to the Mill bridge.

13. **Planning**

i). **The following decisions were advised by the Planning Authority:-**

B/08/01252/FHA/LM – 2 Willow Grove.

Babergh Council confirmed permission had been granted to erect a part single storey and part 2 storey extension.

B/09/00326/LBC/MC – Alston Court, 2 Court Street.

Babergh Council confirmed Listed Building Consent had been granted for internal alterations.

ii). B/09/00872/FHA/873/LBC – Rose Cottage, 5 Fen Street.

This application was considered between meetings to comply with the deadline. The Parish Council had no objections to plans including Listed Building Consent to erect a 2 storey rear extension and single storey garden room. This was provided the local planning authority Conservation Officer had no objections.

iii). B/09/0078/FHA/AS – Proposed Stopping Up of Public Footpath at 5 – 6 Harpers Estate.

This application was dealt with between meetings to comply with the deadline. The Parish Council had no objections.

iv). B/09/00934 – Perry Farmhouse, Bear Street.

This application was dealt with between meetings to comply with the deadline. The Parish Council objected to this part retrospective application to change the use from agricultural to domestic garden and erection of garden shed at the address. The change in status was considered unacceptable given planning policy that seeks to preserve the countryside, the AONB, the Nayland conservation area and development boundaries of the village. The application lacked detailed convincing evidence to support an important change of use and should fail for this reason. The proposed shed materials were not considered sympathetic to its location.

v). B/09/00793/FUL – Nayland Hall Farm, Cox Street.

Consulted as adjoining Parish. The Parish Council had no objections subject to the effluent discharge being satisfactorily dealt with. The means to which the drainage would be accomplished was not detailed in the application. The Chairman proposed this response. It was seconded by C Hunt and carried with 6 in favour (R Spencer had left the room).

vi). Dedham Vale AONB and Stour Valley Management Plan 2009 – 2014 – Consultation.

The Chairman had collated members' comments and proposed a draft response from the Parish Council. This read as follows:-

1). The notable statistics for us are:

only 10% of households have no vehicle.
222,000 visitors to Flatford envisaged.

They are just 2 within a raft of statistics presented in the plan. No sources of evidence are quoted. This would lend weight to the plan.

2). The Parish Council finds the aims of the plan commendable but these aims must have the support of all Local Authorities and be enshrined in their development guidelines. The management plan should be mentioned in such guidelines and the joint advisory committee's role should be to make representations to ensure that the management plan is quoted in Local Development Framework or other appropriate development guidelines.

3). No specific reference is made in the consultation draft, to the organisations involvement in making representations about possible further extensions to the National Grid high voltage pylon network within the AONB.

4). The following proposal needs further strengthening following this draft consultation.

Theme 5: Traffic and Transport/Policy TaT4 – Mitigate the impact of HGVs. Despite their relevance, the guidelines need to espouse the need for representations need to be made to other strategic and planning authorities as well as SAT Nav. Companies.

5). In addition, a greater specificity is needed that aims to commit the project to promote and participate fully in policy formulation regarding the A12 e.g. changing of junctions to mitigate the impact of traffic (including transitory HGV traffic) on routes crossing the AONB and serving the A12 e.g. B1068.

6). 1.14.3.1. Whilst encouraging appropriate access arrangements to rights of way, the management plan should include the need for appropriate surfacing to meet the needs of certain rights of way that are enjoyed as horse riding routes. Horse routes have different needs to cycling and walking routes.

7). Clearer statements need to be included concerning the Joint Advisory Committees' proactive role in responding to any development of water transfer systems and development affecting water quality within the AONB.

The above response was agreed to the Consultation.

vii). Babergh Local Development Framework Issues and Options Report

The Chairman confirmed that all the notes and comments made by members will be retained and assist with the next stage expected during the winter 2009.

14. Street Lighting

The Clerk reported an email from Suffolk County Council confirming that the 2 new feeder pillars for the High Street and Court Street are programmed for connection by EDF during week commencing Monday 19th October.

15. Burial Ground

Nothing to report

16. Allotments

Following discussion it was agreed to assess demand for new allotments before proceeding to make any further plans regarding increasing the area for allotments. A view was expressed that there may be space for a further allotment and the Allotment Sub-Committee agreed to investigate this matter. The Clerk confirmed that we currently have 3 parishioners on the waiting list. It was agreed for the Clerk to ask whether they were requiring half an allotment or a full allotment? - **Action Clerk**. The Allotment Sub-Committee agreed to draft a note for Community Times to assess demand for further allotments – **Action Allotments Sub-Committee**. Mrs George felt that we should be promoting the use of village allotments. Mrs Sparrow confirmed that the request for permission to erect a shed on an allotment was duly approved. The Allotment Committee recommended the rents remain the same for a further year. This was agreed with C Hunt abstaining due to a personal interest.

The meeting closed at 9.50 pm.