

MINUTES OF AN ORDINARY MEETING OF NAYLAND WITH WISSINGTON PARISH
COUNCIL HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 14th APRIL 2010, AT 7.30 PM IN THE VILLAGE HALL
NAYLAND

Present: G Battye (Chairman), Mrs P Fuller, C Hunt, Mrs M George, Mrs W Sparrow, R Spencer, Mrs D Hattrell (Clerk), Mrs P Bray (for the Press) and 4 members of the public.

The Chairman took the opportunity to introduce the Parish Council members, Clerk and each member of the public.

Before Commencement of the Meeting

a. Public Forum

Mr Hitchcock commended the Easter Egg Hunt at the Anchor as an important date in a young family's diary. In his opinion it was well run and enjoyed by all. He referred to a letter put together by other attendees at the event in favour of it continuing. He went on to speak about the allotments and the gratitude to the Parish Council for extending the allotment provision. Mr Maguire thanked the Parish Council for agreeing to extend the allotments and confirmed people were already planting. He was concerned that the fencing was proving to be expensive and asked for the Parish Council to consider making a contribution.

b. District Council Report

District Councillor R Cave was unable to attend and no report was provided.

c. County Council Report

County Councillor J Finch was unable to attend however provided his report. The Chairman read from the report as follows:-

- 1) No major local issues to report this month.
- 2) The Council Cabinet has met during the month. The main issues discussed and agreed relevant to Nayland were:-

- a. **The Schools Organisational Review** progresses as per the timetable. The Key issues of concern will be the effect of the General Election on the timing of available funding for the Building Schools for the Future (BSF)

b. Greater Anglia Rail Franchise Consultation

The Cabinet endorsed the aspirations for improvement under the new franchise as set out below in summary:-

1. Service reliability and punctuality is of paramount importance.
2. All High Level Output Specification improvements must be carried forward to the new franchise including hourly services on the East Suffolk line, improved capacity on the Norwich to London inter-city service and improved capacity and train quality on the Ipswich to Cambridge service (with at least two car trains on all services between Ipswich and Cambridge).
3. Faster journey times between Ipswich and London are required, with a target of one hour or less. Wi-fi provision must be carried forward while current inter-city trains remain in service during the new franchise and restaurant facilities should be restored.
4. New inter-city standard rolling stock must be introduced as soon as possible, as referred to in the Greater Anglia Route Utilisation Strategy. Electric multiple units are acceptable but must be to full inter-city standard with 2+2 seating and tables, and also including wi-fi with power points and restaurant facilities.
5. There is a general need for station improvements throughout Suffolk, and there is a need for enhanced staffing levels at Lowestoft. With the High Level Output Specification enhancement, Ipswich is set to be a key interchange, and must have state of the art passenger facilities including platform access and sheltered waiting, toilets and real time passenger information.

6. Stowmarket is an area of high growth in Suffolk and should be served by at least an hourly service to London on weekdays/Saturdays.
7. There are further service frequency enhancements which the County Council wishes to see as early as possible in the new franchise including hourly services between Ipswich and Peterborough using trains of Class 170 quality or equivalent, half hourly service between Lowestoft and Norwich, Monday to Saturday and an hourly service between Lowestoft and Norwich on Sundays.
8. The County Council strongly supports community rail partnerships and a new franchise holder should demonstrate a strong commitment to the East Suffolk Line Community Rail Partnership, the Wherry Lines Community Rail Partnership, and the Essex and South Suffolk Community Rail Partnership (the Gainsborough Line).

d. Police Report

P C Chris Garrod was unable to attend, however, a police report was to be included under correspondence.

Parish Council Meeting

1. Apologies for Absence

Mrs Mimpriss sent her apologies due to business and Mrs Knox due to holiday.

2. Approval of Previous Minutes

Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on 10th March 2010 was proposed by C Hunt, seconded by R Spencer and carried with 1 abstention due to absence at the meeting concerned.

3. Information Sheet for the Public

Members were reminded that the information sheet proposed by C Hunt required minor amendment particularly to include the fact that the public were not allowed to speak during Parish Council meetings. It was agreed for C Hunt to make the necessary amendments and to forward to the Clerk and Chairman at least a week before next meeting – **Action C Hunt.**

4. Parish Council Vacancy

Members were reminded that the deadline for applications was extended to 30th April 2010. There have been no written applications to date. The Chairman advised that he was keen to encourage candidates to come forward and apply to become a member of the Parish Council.

5. Highways

Mrs George proposed that the final specification for Street cleaning and litter picking was to be drawn up to also incorporate Wiston litter picks and a bin emptying service. This was agreed and the drawing up of the specification was delegated to Mrs George and C Hunt – **Action Mrs George and C Hunt.** It was agreed that as soon as the new specification was available, the Clerk will contact potential contractors for quotations – **Action Clerk.** Mrs Sparrow reminded regarding the litter bin for outside the school. A litter bin in Bear Street outside the flats was no longer being emptied. It was agreed that this needs to be removed. It was noted that we could seek assistance from Babergh Council in the first instance. The Chairman has been researching a suitable new bin for outside the school and it was felt that both items could be looked at together – **Action Chairman and Clerk.** There was some suggestion that a further dog bin may be required on Bear Street and it was agreed for members to raise at next meeting if appropriate – **Action All.**

6. Planning

1. Decisions from the Planning Authorities: -

- a) **B/09/01156/FUL/GC – White Hart, 11 High Street.** Babergh Council confirmed that permission has been refused to change the use and alterations of existing Public House and Restaurant to form Public House and 3 Residential Flats.
- b) **B/09/01157/LBC/GC – White Hart, 11 High Street.** Babergh Council confirmed that listed building consent has been refused in respect of the above application. This was due to policies requiring plans to sub-divide or change the use of a listed building should retain

elements, components and features which form part of the buildings special interest and respect the original scale, form, design and purpose of the building. The proposed subdivision of the 15th century element of the building, a reduction in the employment unit and the loss of the pub garden are, in the opinion of the planning officers, harmful to the significance of the building. The viability of the pub is also questionable given the proposed size, lack of parking and garden space. This leads to concerns that future changes would be required if the Public House proved unviable.

- c) **B/10/00060/FHA/LM – Woodside, Wissington Uplands.** Babergh Council confirmed that permission has been granted for the erection of a summer house.
- d) **B/10/00134/FHA/GD – Birch House, 33 Heycroft Way.** Babergh Council confirmed that permission has been granted for the erection of an enclosed porch.

2. **B/10/00202/FUL – Harpers Hill Farm.**

The Parish Council had no objections to the change of use providing certain conditions were made as follows:-

- 1) The hours of use of the storage area should be the same as the hours of use of the waste station.
- 2) Access to the application area to be ONLY via the new perimeter road.
- 3) Lighting should be restricted on site.
- 4) The Planning Authority may want to consider that any permanent signage should conform to the requirements of an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.
- 5) The Planning Authority should ensure there is adequate provision for central storage of waste.

Providing the above conditions are met, the Parish Council has no objections.

3. **B/10/00109/LBC – Ranworth House, 22 Stoke Road.**

In order to consider this application there would need to be a Design Statement that made a convincing case that the integrity of the building would not be compromised by installing the solar panels. Members did not consider they could comment at this stage in view of the new technology and that they were not familiar with the guidance. Members would expect full consideration by the Conservation Officer before any decision is made by the Planning Authority.

7. **Recreation and Open Spaces**

The Chairman read from the 6 monthly Safety Inspection Report of the Play ground on Bear Street. Only 1 defect was raised requiring corrective action as soon as reasonably practicable. That was a post on the log trail balancing beams had become loose in the ground. It was agreed for the Clerk to obtain a quotation in this respect – **Action Clerk**. It was further noted that the water pipe has now been laid to the Vicarage and making good was required. The speed bump has cracked and there is a large pot hole. The Clerk reminded members that the Building Contractor for the Fire Station would be making use of the Recreation Ground to park their vehicles. Part of their agreement was to make good the pot hole. It was therefore agreed for members to monitor the situation and this to form an agenda item at next meeting – **Action all and Clerk**. The Chairman asked for a further agenda item at next meeting of Section 106 Recreation Contributions, this was agreed – **Action Clerk**. Members were then informed the sad news that a Picus test was carried out on the Jubilee tree in Bear Street. This Jubilee tree was planted in 1935 and has been protected by a Tree Preservation Order. The Picus test has shown the tree severely decayed with only 38% of the main stem showing as sound and functional wood. Comparing this reading to one taken in 2004, it is evident that the decay has significantly increased. This decay is now affecting the structure of the main stem to such a degree that this Council has been advised that it can only get worse. It has been recommended in view of the tree's close proximity to areas of high public access that the tree is removed on the grounds of public safety. The stump would be completely ground out to allow for the planting of a replacement specimen. We have therefore written to 3 contractors for quotations to completely remove the tree and grind out the stump. We have asked the contractors to take into consideration how they would arrange to close a section of the highway to allow for the works. We have also asked them to consider the implications to surrounding properties and recommend whether complete removal would be the best approach in their opinion. Ultimately, the Babergh Arboricultural Officer would approve any works as the tree is protected under a Tree Preservation Order. A deadline has been given for the quotations of Friday 30th April 2010. The above course of action was formally carried unanimously by Council. C Hunt reported concerns regarding willow trees by the river. It was agreed to report to the Environment Agency – **Action Clerk**. R Spencer expressed concern that village trees were

being removed and not replaced. The Chairman urged careful management of any replacement trees and it was thought that the Dedham Vale/ Stour Valley Project may be able to assist. It was agreed to include an agenda item for next meeting – **Action Clerk**.

8. **Housing Needs**

It was noted that work had not started in respect of the Wiston Road Affordable Housing Scheme. It was agreed if work has not commenced by the end of April, the Clerk would check progress with Flagship Housing – **Action Clerk**. It was confirmed that an article went in Community Times regarding the Choice Based Letting System. C Hunt referred to the review of the Choice Based Lettings System and asked that a letter be sent from the Parish Council stressing the importance of Key Workers to the sustainability of villages. C Hunt had suggested a wording to Babergh District Council and this was agreed – **Action Clerk**.

9. **Village Hall**

The Chairman reported that the hall is being redecorated at a steady pace and he has met the new Bookings Secretary, Sara Strover. The bonfire site will be cleared ahead of the Church Fete. A damaged seat was reported outside the Village Hall and it was agreed for R Spencer and Mrs Sparrow to assess whether it could be repaired. In any event, the plaque will be saved.

10. **Finance Report**

The Clerk confirmed the cash position as at 31st March 2010 as £1000.00 in the Current Account, £15867.22 in the linked Deposit Account and £7258.35 in the Capital Investment Fund making a total of £24125.57.

11. **Accounts for Payment**

Pete Irving Tree Services Ltd (Tree work in open spaces and cemetery cheque number 400251).	1400.00
DK Hattrell (Clerk's salary – cheque number 400252).....	657.11
Inland Revenue Only (Clerk's deductions and ERS NIC – cheque number 400253)	214.98
Suffolk County Council (Clerk's pension – cheque number 400254).....	201.05
Suffolk Association of Local Councils (Subscription – cheque number 400255)	355.40
Roy A Mortimer (Grass cutting and litter picking – cheque number 400256).....	327.83
Suffolk Tree Services (PICUS jubilee tree test – cheque number 400257).....	205.63
Suffolk County Council (Street lighting repairs – cheque number 400258)	174.14
Anglia Inspection Services Ltd (Play ground repairs – cheque number 400259)	70.00
Office Needs (Stationery – cheque number 400260)	57.72
John Peak and Sons (Pops Piece Hedge – cheque number 400261)	58.75
Suffolk Association of Local Councils (Training – cheque number 400262)	29.38
Chilton Office Supplies (Annual Parish Assembly photocopies – cheque number 400263).....	29.08
Nayland Village Hall (Hall hire – cheque number 400264)	22.50
Environment Agency (Allotment drainage – cheque number 400265)	14.14

The above cheques were approved for payment.

12. **Correspondence**

The correspondence report had been circulated ahead of the meeting. C Hunt had suggested a suitable response to the Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service Review. This was agreed – **Action Clerk**. The Chairman then read from a letter from National Grid responding to feedback from this Council. The Clerk explained the two stages of the new overhead line consultation. The first stage has ended and we were awaiting a recommendation from National Grid as to their chosen route. Thereafter they will concentrate on the detailed alignment and measures to lessen the impact on the landscape on the particular route chosen. Once the second stage of the consultation is completed, the Infrastructure Planning Commission will decide whether to give the go ahead. The Chairman then referred to the detailed training schedule from SALC covering the forthcoming year. He urged members to consider carefully when they receive the Circulation envelope and they may wish to consider tailoring a course specifically for this Council. Attention then turned to the Easter Egg Hunt and the Chairman explained the contents of a letter received from Stephen Bunting. The services of a security company were used in respect of the parking and the police were informed ahead of the event. Other parishioners had written commending the event. The Parish Council had not received any complaints and members who had been in the vicinity were not aware

of any problems. Members of the Parish Council decided not to pursue the matter as a Council, however, individual councillors may write to the organisers as they see appropriate.

Mrs Fuller asked for a 30 minute extension to 10.00 pm. This was agreed.

13. Footpaths

Nothing was reported.

14. Street Lighting

Nothing was reported.

15. Burial Ground

The various recommendations from the Burial Sub-Committee regarding the increases and changes to the burial conditions were taken in turn. Firstly, the suggested increase in fees recommended by the Sub-Committee were proposed by Mrs Fuller, seconded by C Hunt and unanimously carried. It was also agreed that these should be reviewed annually. The next point related to extending the Right of Burial period to 99 years. The Chairman proposed adoption of this extension. This was seconded by C Hunt and unanimously carried. Thirdly, the conditions should include the width of the head stone and fourthly, a right to level and reseed neglected graves was to be included. These latter 2 items were proposed by the Chairman, seconded by Mrs Fuller and unanimously carried. It was agreed to defer consideration of a new notice board to the May meeting – **Clerk to include on the agenda.** The memorial request in memory of Eric Asquith was duly approved.

16. Allotments

R Spencer brought members up to date with the harrowing and marking out of the new allotments. A total of 6 half allotments and 1 full allotment have been created and allocated. Agreements have been issued to the new Allotment Holders. R Spencer then went onto confirm that fencing is now an issue which is proving costly for the new Allotment Holders. They have received a quote in the region of £900 for the perimeter fencing. Mrs Sparrow felt that the Parish Council should make a contribution towards this cost. C Hunt also agreed we should progress towards the possibility of funding this item. It was made clear that the fencing is the responsibility of the Allotment Holders and that no provision has been made in the budget. It was agreed to review the carry over from last financial year and establish whether funds remain that could be reallocated to this item and to include as an agenda item for the next meeting – **Action Clerk.**

17. Annual Parish Assembly

It was agreed for members to attend at 7.30 pm to help set up the hall ahead of the meeting commencement at 8.00 pm on 26th April 2010.

The meeting closed at 10.00 pm