

Minutes from the AGM held on 3rd March 2021 via Zoom

Rachel Hitchcock welcomed members to the meeting.

- ♦ **There were 20 members and residents present:** Rachel Hitchcock, Lesley Jameson, Lorraine Brooks, Julie Clark, Claire Buller, Bryan Smith, Jo Metson, Vicki Sargent, Iain Wright, Luke Rumbelow, Kate Bevan, Ned Cartwright, Mike Hunter, Chris Hunt, Justin Dowding, Rob Swan, Tricia Fuller, Christine Thompson, Darius Laws, Gerry Battye.
- ♦ **Apologies:** Ken Willingale, Tricia Hall, Wendy Sparrow, Trevor Smy, Maggie Ryan.
Ken Willingale, CC President, sends this message: "The CC are to be congratulated in keeping going in such difficult circumstances. For me Nayland is such a wonderful village to live in. Having been here for over 50 years it is still way ahead of many others in Suffolk. Keep it going."
- ♦ **Minutes of the last AGM** on 2nd March 2020 were approved (*proposed Bryan Smith, seconded Iain Wright*).
- ♦ **Matters Arising from the last AGM:** Matters arising had been dealt with during the year.
- ♦ **CHAIR'S REPORT:** Rachel Hitchcock had circulated her report prior to the meeting.

I think that it is safe to say that I couldn't have foreseen the year to come as I sat and wrote my Chair's Report this time last year. It feels that it was both five minutes and a lifetime ago!

Given the year we have had this report will not be quite the same as usual, but it is to the credit of the whole of the Community Council and the spirit of all of the societies and organisations in Nayland and Wiston that there is still much to celebrate.

Thank you: Thanks, as always, to all members of the Community Council for their many contributions throughout the year and to the Officers and Executive Committee in particular – Ken Willingale, Bryan Smith, Julie Clark, Maggie Ryan, Lorraine Brooks, Claire Buller, Tricia Hall, Vicki Sargent, Luke Rumbelow, Jo Metson and Iain Wright as well as our Parish Council Reps. Special thanks as always to Lorraine without whose organisational skills we would not be half as efficient and productive as we are.

It is a credit to the Community Council that we rarely have people leave the committee. I am, however, pleased to acknowledge that we gained two lovely new members this year. Lesley Jameson who took on the role of Treasurer from Maggie Ryan and Sophie Williams who joined the committee. Both have hit the ground running and it has been great to welcome them on board, even though it has largely been via Zoom so far!

Huge thanks to Maggie for all of her efforts as Treasurer. I have very much appreciated her working alongside me on the committee and we are all very grateful for her commitment, time and expertise. She has resigned the role because of increasing outside commitments but we are delighted that she remains a valued member of the committee.

On a sad note we recently received news that our past Chairman, Alex Badman, has died. Alex, and his wife Jill, were extremely active members of the Community Council when they lived in Nayland. From organising the base for the village Christmas tree (much valued as it replaced a big concrete drum which had to be rolled out each year) to the wonderful Jubilee celebrations in 2012 including a huge lunch in the village hall, Alex made his mark on the Community Council. He will be sadly missed and is remembered with much gratitude and appreciation.

Community Council events and activities: Obviously, because of Covid-19 we have been unable to hold our usual programme of events this year. We unfortunately had to cancel Bonfire Night, the Christmas Fayre and the Village Quiz. The 10k, with which we are involved every year had to be postponed too. We very much hope that these events will be back in the coming year, giving us all something to look forward to.

However, we didn't rest on our laurels. The Community Council continued to monitor and maintain the defibrillator at the Village Hall through the Community Heartbeat Trust and their Webnos service. We also initiated a village volunteer list to support village residents during the Coronavirus lockdowns – thank you to all our members and village volunteers who were part of this. The Community Times was an invaluable source of entertainment and information throughout the year and helped to keep the village connected at what has been a difficult time for everybody – thank you to our able editor Lorraine for all her hard work. We also organised a Christmas Trail of Trees, Wreaths and Advent Windows which brightened the village throughout December. We are incredibly grateful to everyone in the village who helped make this such a success – and we hope that it will be back by popular demand next year! Father Christmas was even able to do a tour of the village too so thank you to him and his chauffeur. Finally, thanks to the Village Calendar (and Lorraine and Wendy Sparrow who produced it) we were even able to achieve some fundraising in a year when fundraising was very difficult – thank you so much to all the photographic competition entrants.

Grants: One of the roles of the Community Council is to provide grants to village organisations and individuals whose activities support our constitution. This year we were pleased to be able to support Lizzie's Fund, awarding a grant of £201 towards the hire of the village hall as part of a 50km endurance walk fundraiser for this charity. As this event had to be cancelled in 2020 this grant has been held over for when it is possible to hold it again. £400 to provide Nayland Primary School recorder and ukulele groups with bespoke t-shirts (as the choir already have). These groups always support village events including the Christmas Fayre and we hope to see them in action again in 2021. £649 to the Conservation Society, for steps to improve footpath access from A134 down to Nayland Meadow: Installation of steps has made transition down the steep slope safer for walkers along this well used path. £550 to Nayland with Wissington Land Company, for a bench to be installed next to the new permissive path on the Horkesley Road/A134 corner of Nayland Meadow. The village footpaths have been particularly well used this year so both of these grants will be of great benefit to residents. Further details and our grant application form are available at www.naylandcommunitycouncil.org.uk

Going forward: I am looking forward to another year as Chair of the Community Council. I did say that last year would be my last as Chair but, due to a quiet year of activities, I have said that I will hang on for another 12 months! However I would like to hand over the baton in time for next year's AGM so if you fancy taking on the role – please don't be shy – I can strongly recommend it and with our friendly and supportive committee it really is a massively enjoyable and worthwhile role.

- ◆ **TREASURER'S REPORT:** Lesley Jameson presented the year end accounts for the meeting - see income and expenditure statement and balance sheet below. There had been a deficit of £730 but there was a healthy balance of funds. The main income had been generated by the Community Times and the calendar. Expenditure on the Christmas activities was £600 but they provided much enjoyment to many residents. The accounts for 2020 had been examined and approved by Matt Cable and were adopted by the meeting (*proposed Julie Clark, seconded Claire Buller*). Lesley was thanked for her sterling work during her first year as Treasurer and Maggie Ryan for facilitating a smooth takeover.

This year's finances to 3rd March 2021: Breakdown of profits are Community Times £747, Village Calendar £238. The only expenditure was Community Times printing £218. There have been no grants to date. The current position show reserves of £27,835.51 represented by Deposit a/c monies £10,728.07, Current a/c monies £17,039.16, Cash in Hand £68.28. We hold £268.50 for the RBL Services Fund and grants are pending for: VH roof £10,000, Lizzie's Fund Walk £201. **Therefore, unencumbered assets are £17,634.51.**

It was noted that in total 238 copies of the 2021 calendar have been sold, the highest amount for a decade, generating a profit of £778 (including £540 profit in the 2020 financial year) and with £35 yet to be included.

- ◆ **ELECTION OF OFFICERS:** The following officers were re-elected en bloc: **President** Ken Willingale, **Vice President** Bryan Smith, **Chairman** Rachel Hitchcock, **Vice Chairman** Julie Clark, **Treasurer** Lesley Jameson, **Secretary** Lorraine Brooks (*proposed Claire Buller, seconded Sophie Williams*). The **Executive Committee** were re-elected en bloc: Luke Rumbelow, (*Individual*) Claire Buller, Maggie Ryan, Tricia Hall, Vicki Sargent, Jo Metson, Sophie Williams, Iain Wright. (*proposed Justin Dowding, seconded Rob Swan*). This included a new nomination to join the Exec: Kate Bevan. Parish Council representation will be shared between Laura Erith and Ned Cartwright.

- ◆ **CURRENT MATTERS ARISING:**

Action by:

- ◆ **Fundraising Activities/Events:** 2022 will be the **Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee** year with a 4 day Bank holiday weekend on Thursday 2nd-Sunday 5th June. The CC usually facilitates a large celebration for such occasions involving activities with/by other village groups will begin floating the idea and welcomes ideas from other village groups who may wish to participate and individuals.
- ◆ **Community Defibrillator:** Defibrillators are located at the Village Hall and at the Fire Station; the defibrillator at the Village Hall was provided as a Community Council project and is monitored by them. As previously discussed another training event will be arranged once the C-19 issues are over.
- ◆ **River Stour Water Level Gauge:** Rachel reported on progress: a local installer has quoted for installation (£450 + VAT, including oak post) of the gauge and a surveyor who is happy to set the OS above sea level datum for the water gauge for free. Shelley Signs are quoting for gauge and backing board (x 2 so that the level will be visible from both sides of the river). This will be a bespoke board with markings for both the height above sea level and height above river bed. A meeting will be arranged with the installer and the Land Company to get their final go-ahead. Members agreed they wished to proceed with the project subject to cost (*proposed Claire Buller, seconded Vicki Sargent*).

Rachel Hitchcock

Rachel Hitchcock

- ◆ **Nayland 10k Fun Run:** The 2021 Nayland 10k is being planned to take place on Sunday 4th July, dependent on space for parking 300 cars being found. This may mean that the location of the start of the Run is changed. Volunteers will again be sought to assist with marshalling the route.

Luke Rumbelow

- ◆ **Village Hall Gardening Morning:** *The next Gardening session will be on 10th April – please support this if you can and adhere to Covid-19 guidelines. The CC garden is in the corner by silver birch/bins.*
- ◆ **Correspondence:** There had been no correspondence not included elsewhere.
- ◆ **Grants & Donations:** There had been no grant applications received.

- ◆ **Community Times & CC Website:** Lorraine Brook's report had been circulated.

Since 1989 the Community Times has been keeping residents informed of what is going on in the parish; this year as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic the content has been somewhat different but we hope it has continued to fulfil its role and be useful.

There is quite a team behind producing the magazine every other month, without whom village news would not reach your doormats. We are very grateful to:

- the dedicated team of distributors led by Trevor Smy.
- Pat Bray for her contributions of village news and for proof reading, and to Mandy Cook for assisting with the PC meeting reports.
- the advertisers who cover printing costs and provide much valued income for the CC.
- all those who take the time to contribute articles, copy and reports on their societies, village happenings, letters and photographs.
- and to members of the local Facebook group who raise awareness of issues and permit use of their photographs for inclusion.

Many thanks to all who send in fabulous photographs of CC activities, especially the Christmas activities - this enabled photo albums available to view on

naylandcommunitycouncil.org.uk

Thanks also to Justin Dowding for managing the Nayland and Wiston website - www.naylandandwiston.net. When life returns to normal please use it to promote your community activities.

Lorraine
Brooks

- ◆ **Village Calendar:** Lorraine Brook's report had been circulated.

The Nayland with Wissington Calendar, which has proved very popular with residents, was first published 12 years ago. We are enormously grateful to the Calendar Team for their commitment and hard work.

The calendar team are very grateful to: local businesses that sponsor the calendar, all those who enter their photographs and those who help with sales at local shops or village activities. And of course, last but not least, those who buy the calendars.

We are delighted that Wendy Sparrow and Lorraine Brooks have agreed to continue on the team with some support from the CC Executive to take the calendar forward into 2022.

Plans are now in hand for the next photographic competition to generate images for the calendar. Due to the Covid-19 pandemic we feel this will again need to be conducted online. Further details about entry will be available in the Community Times and at www.naylandandwiston.net. As in the last two years we will ask residents to select their favourite images for inclusion in the calendar rather than have an independent judge select the images. This worked well with high participation last year.

Calendar
Team

- ◆ **Forthcoming Community Council Activities:**

Members unanimously agreed that, subject to Government Covid-19 guidelines that we should go ahead with plans for Bonfire & Firework Night. Dynamic are provisionally booked.

- ◆ **Forthcoming Village Activities:** Rachel said the future is looking brighter with established village activities hopefully resuming and some new events being considered.

- **Village Hall Gardening Morning:** on 10th April – do come along to help (social distanced)
- **Calendar Photographic Competition:** in late May/early June
- **Nayland 10K Fun Run:** on 4th July
- **Nayland Flower Show:** on 7th August
- **Nayland Festival:** August/September
- **Bonfire & Fireworks:** 5th November
- **Christmas Fayre:** on 4th December.
- **Fun Village Quiz:** in February 2022
- **Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Event:** June 2022

SOCIETY REPORTS

- ◆ **Women's Institute:** It has been decided that in future all meetings of the WI will be held on Thursday afternoons from 2.30 to 4.30 pm in the Village Hall instead of Monday evenings. A provisional programme of speakers is being arranged although it is not yet known when the Village Hall will reopen.

- ◆ **Book Club:** Members have recently read *'The Cuckoo's Calling'* by Robert Galbraith (aka J K Rowling) and are currently reading *'Curtain'* by Agatha Christie, the last of the Hercule Poirot series.
- ◆ **HortSoc:** They are hoping it will be possible to hold the Flower Show in August and have a coach trip to Kew Gardens in September. They are looking into the possibility of having an outside plant and cake stall in late May instead of the usual Morning Market.
- ◆ **Nayland Land Company:** Despite the Covid restrictions, lots of wet weather and consequent flooding, we have made good progress. In the area behind the Community Council seat 50 native species trees have been planted with guards, mulch mats, and a new perimeter fence. Only half of these are on land in our ownership and we are grateful to Suffolk County Council for allowing us to plant the rest on land owned by them. The large volume of material produced from the length of hedge that has been laid has been dragged across the field, cut up, and used to build 110m dead hedge and provide a small quantity of woodchip. All fencing work will be completed this week, but the sheep will not return immediately as they have plenty of grass where they are at present.
- ◆ **Nayland Church:** Chris Hunt reported that St James' church remains closed for services but is open Sundays and Tuesdays 10am until 5pm both days. It is regrettable that services are not held but in the circumstances the Ministry Team are waiting for their vaccinations. Special services, which at the moment include funerals, still take place. It is hoped that limited services will be held over Easter, and going forward - please see notices in the church porch for details. In spite of Covid church matters are still active. The removal of pews to create more free space is being planned and funding is being sought to create a Youth Worker position for the Benefice. People should also be aware that the Community Pantry is located in the Church Porch and is available to anyone.
- ◆ **Conservation Society:** Mike Hunter reported that the Society was severely affected by the Covid restrictions but managed to perform many of its functions during 2020. Open Gardens was cancelled but 32 residents participated in a virtual Open Gardens whereby an album of photographs was displayed online. This will be repeated for June 2021 while we decide if an Opens Gardens for village residents only will be held in September. Speaker meetings were cancelled, however via Zoom in November Rick Lewis spoke on the subject of *'Timber Framed buildings and carpentry in the 15th to 17th Century'* and the 2021 AGM will take place on 8th of March via Zoom with Jeremy Greenwood speaking about the artist *'John Nash and the Stour Valley'*. Speakers are booked for June, October and November and will take place by Zoom if Covid restrictions still apply.

It was possible to complete the Swift Nesting Box project where 31 swift boxes were installed onto 19 houses and the local primary school; with luck this spring will see some new residents in the village. The Society obtained grants from the Community Council and the Dedham Vale and Stour Valley Project to cover the cost of the installation of steps and a handrail to facilitate safer descent from the A134 to the footpath following the river around Nayland Meadow. They planted 500 narcissi on the northern side of Horkelesley Road where it meets the A134. Radio carbon dating of wood recovered from trench 1 during the Court Knoll Project suggests a 9th century date which is earlier than expected. The Society made representations on 12 planning applications during 2020 and engaged in correspondence with the company controlling flight routes ("NATS") and has sought a reduction in the extent of overflying the Dedham Vale.

It is hoped that the short film of Nayland – by local cameraman Stuart Howells with Wendy Sparrow writing the script and Peter Drew narrating - will be complete by the end of spring 2021.

- ◆ **Nayland Choir:** Rob Swan reported this time last year Nayland Choir were looking forward to *'A Red, Red Rose'*. All we have been able to do is sing together on Zoom (very much a second best activity) and for a very brief time during the "tiered" period, some people got together in a separated kind of way in Langham village hall which had gone through the full risk assessment process. He was pleased to say the Choir will hopefully be able to get together again after 17th May.
- ◆ **Parish Council:** Ned Cartwright reported that, following consultation with nearby residents, double yellow line parking restrictions would be installed near Caley Green; on the south side of Bear Street and south side of the cul-de-sac. They are looking at including informative signage on Caley Green. Other matters on their agenda have been the play park inspection, HGV warning signs on the A134, street names for the new developments on Harpers Hill – Larch Rise and Grove Close. Following considerable local objection to a planning application for 5 new dwellings on land off Wiston Road, the application was withdrawn.

AOB:

- **Nayland Event:** The possibility of organising a village wide event to be held in August/September is being discussed by the Village Hall and the Church. It is proposed this would be an event for the whole village with music and refreshment to provide enjoyment after lockdown and raise funds for the Village Hall and St James' church.
- Chris Hunt thanked Rachel and the Community Council for their work and an interesting meeting – despite the less sociable nature of being by Zoom! Lesley Jameson congratulated Rachel on the encouragement she gives to members and the positive way she chairs the meetings.
- ◆ **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** will be **Wednesday 5th May** by Zoom at 8pm with Exec at 7.30pm
- ◆ **Meetings for 2021:** Monday 5th July, Wednesday 1st September, Wednesday 27th October.
The meeting closed at 8.40pm

Income and Expenditure statement for the year ending 31st December 2020

<u>INCOME</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
Community Times	£ 2,935.00	£ 2,855.00
Village Calendar	£ 1,332.00	£ 1,316.30
Bonfire Night	.....	£ 4,765.89
Christmas Festivities	.....	£ 652.75
Village Quiz	£ 527.00	£ 357.00
Other Events (<i>Nayland 10k</i>)	.....	£ 1,414.40
Other Income	£ 0.01	.....
Interest CCLA	£ 28.13	£ 60.56
Services Fund	.....	£ 100.00
TOTAL	£ 4,822.14	£ 11,521.90
<u>EXPENDITURE</u>		
Grants:	£ 1,599.00	£ 1,043.99
Community Times	£ 1,573.54	£ 1,727.45
Village Calendar	£ 691.74	£ 794.54
Bonfire Night	.....	£ 1,593.49
Christmas Festivities	£ 600.19	£ 405.79
Village Quiz	£ 126.46	£ 147.00
Insurance	£ 435.97	£ 513.56
Hall Hire & Admin	£ 276.97	£ 259.33
Defibrillator	£ 198.00	£ 408.00
Services Fund	£ 50.00	£ 100.00
TOTAL	£ 5,551.87	£ 6,993.15
(Deficit)/Surplus for Year	(£ 729.73)	£ 4,528.75

Balance Sheet for the year ended 31st December 2020

<u>Accumulated Surplus:</u>	<u>2020</u>	<u>2019</u>
As at beginning of the financial year	£ 27,579.74	£ 23,050.99
Add/deduct surplus (deficit)	(£ 729.73)	£ 4,528.75
Balance carried forward	£ 26,850.01	£ 27,579.74
<u>Represented by:</u>		
CCLA Charities deposit fund	£ 10,728.07	£ 10,699.94
NatWest current A/c	£ 16,046.16	£ 16,807.02
Cash in Hand	£ 75.78	£ 72.78
TOTAL Year to date*	£ 26,850.01	£ 27,579.74
*Included in Balance:		
Services Fund	£ 268.50	£ 318.50
VHMC Grant pending	£ 10,000.00	£ 10,000.00
Lizzie's Fund grant pending	£ 201.00	.....
Unencumbered assets, year to date, are:	£ 16,380.51	£ 17,261.24

TREASURER *Lesley Jameson BA (Hons)*

CHAIRMAN *Rachel Hitchcock*

I have examined the books of The Nayland with Wissington Community Council (without carrying out an audit), and in my opinion, the accounts for 2020 represent a true and fair record of the Society's financial affairs.

Matt Cable CFA

Grants Awarded: Nayland School Music Group £400, NwW Land Company £550 & NwW Conservation Society £649. Plus £201 for Lizzie's Fund Endurance Walk is pending and £10,000 has been pledged to the Village Hall replacement roof.

Breakdown of Profits: Community Times £1,361, Village Quiz £401, Bonfire Night £0, Nayland 10K £0, Christmas Festivities (£600), Village Calendar £640.