

Minutes from the meeting held on 5th January 2022 in the Church Hall

Rachel Hitchcock welcomed members to the meeting.

- ♦ **There were 14 members present:** Rachel Hitchcock, Lesley Jameson, Lorraine Brooks, Julie Clark, Claire Buller, Vicki Sargent, Kate Bevan, Iain Wright, Trevor Smy, Justin Dowding, Chris Hunt, Jeannette Finch, John Partridge, Tracy Le Grys.
- ♦ **Contributions from:** Wendy Sparrow, Martin Wright.
- ♦ **Apologies:** Sophie Williams, Luke Rumbelow, Rob Swan, Martin Wright, Wendy Sparrow, Jo Metson, Sally Dalton, Bryan Smith, Laura Erith.
- ♦ **Minutes of the last meeting** on 27th October 2021 were approved (*proposed Kate Bevan, seconded Vicki Sargent*).

MATTERS ARISING:

- ♦ **Executive Committee:** Rachel Hitchcock said we have a fabulous team on the Exec but reminded members that she would like to take a step back as Chair after four years in the role; it is time for change and new ideas. She felt it would be helpful going forward if different members could take the lead for some events, perhaps sharing the organisation of an event. They would be well supported by the rest of the Exec but it would share the responsibility and lighten the load on the Chair role. Rachel also said she would be prepared to share the role for a period of time if that encouraged someone to take it on. It was also discussed that two people could put themselves forward to share the role.
Lesley Jameson sadly advised she has to move home and this may be some distance away; although she will continue in the role until a new Treasurer can be found. We will be very sorry to see Lesley leave; she has done an outstanding job and brought us up-to-date in difficult times.
Action by:
ALL
- ♦ **Fundraising Activities/Events:** We have a good deal of activities being planned currently but as always future ideas and support are welcome.
- ♦ **Community Defibrillator:** Defibrillators are located at the Village Hall and at the Fire Station. Tracy Le Grys and Rachel Hitchcock will organise a training session. It will include general aspects of First Aid. **Tracy will investigate possible first aid training providers.**
Rachel Hitchcock & Tracy Le Grys
- ♦ **River Stour Water Level Gauge:** Rachel said that this project had stalled due to all the winter activities and Dale Leeks being very busy. She will pick it up now.
Rachel Hitchcock
- ♦ **Nayland 10k Fun Run:** nayland10k.co.uk Luke Rumbelow said he is awaiting confirmation from Littlegarth School, once received tickets will be available online. A medal competition to create this year's design will be held again, this time open for anyone to enter.
Luke Rumbelow
- ♦ **Online Ticketing Facility:** NaylandEvents.org – This facility has proved to be very useful to event organisers. If you are interested in selling tickets using this system get in touch with Justin Dowding.
- ♦ **Village Christmas Tree:** Many thanks to Claire for organising this and the team of helpers - the tree looked spectacular and received many compliments that it had been the best tree we have had. Claire said putting it up had its challenges as it was a very large tree.
- ♦ **Recent Activities:**
 - **Bonfire Night - 5th November:** Rachel Hitchcock said Bonfire Night had been a huge success with lots of positive feedback. The display was amazing from Dynamic Fireworks but they forgot to bring our sparkler order. Claire and her team did an amazing job selling nearly 500 hotdogs and over 50L of mulled wine! At the last minute Renu's Fish & Chip van attended as our ticket sales had gone through the roof to nearly 1400 (901 adults; 489 children). We had previously agreed that the ice cream van could attend. Selling tickets in advance worked well and the entry procedure on the gate went smoothly.
Unfortunately in 2022 5th November falls on a Saturday and Dynamic Fireworks are fully booked (the cost would be £5,000 as opposed to the £2,500 we paid this year) They could do Friday 4th for £3,500 or Thursday 3rd/Sunday 6th for £2,500. The CC likes to keep the display to the 5th, not least due to the effect on animals. (Lorraine said she distributed warnings of all local displays to help animal owners). It was felt booking Friday 4th was the best option if possible so, Jo Metson kindly agreed to investigate other pyrotechnic companies.
Jo Metson Rachel Hitchcock

- **Jingle Bells Coffee Morning with Father Christmas - 11th December:** Rachel said was a great success despite masks having to be worn and the hall being a little chillier than normal due to the necessary ventilation! As expected it was quieter than normal but well worth doing as those who came really enjoyed it. It was lovely to catch up with people and there was a real festive atmosphere. The school choir and ukles performed beautifully and with much enthusiasm and the societies did a great job with their stalls which were well supported. Santa was wonderful as usual; remaining presents will be saved for next Christmas.

Thank you so much to those of you who were able to help on the day. Our efforts were well appreciated by all who came along and although we didn't make a profit - that is not really the purpose of this event, even in normal years, but even more so this year.

- **Christmas Trail:** Rachel said this was well received and thanked all those who participated with Advent Windows, the Christmas Tree Trail and the Christmas Wreath Competition. They looked wonderful and brought much cheer to the village.
- **Father Christmas - 24th December:** His tour of Nayland in Foster Jones' vintage car received many positive comments. Claire Buller said it was a wonderful atmosphere with villagers excited to see him on Christmas Eve. 85 bags of chocolate coins were given out. A big thank you to Foster and to Claire and Wayne for this

TREASURER'S REPORT: Lesley Jameson gave her report on finances.

- **Breakdown of profits:** Community Times £1,172.09, Nayland 10K £1,000, Calendar 2022 £622.98 plus late sales of Calendar 2021 total £283.70, Bonfire & Firework Night £4,766.86. Our Christmas Festivities made a loss of £397.01. **Total profit (surplus) to year end: £6,199.20.**
- **Grants paid:** none to date.
- **Expenses since our last meeting:** Christmas festivity expenses £343.56; £222 to Spingold for the December Community Times print run and £285.91 for CT admin expenses; Fasthosts for CC website hosting (L Brooks) £80.39; Community Council admin expenses £49.60; St James Church Hall hire £20.
- **Current Position:** The accounts show reserves of £33,049.19 represented by Deposit a/c monies £10,729.36, Current a/c monies £22,303.75, Cash in Hand £16.08. 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 £22,579.69.**
- It was agreed the Matt Cable be asked to approve the accounts (*proposed Claire Buller, seconded Iain Wright*)

♦ **GRANTS & DONATIONS:** There had been no grant applications or donations.

♦ **Correspondence:** There had been no correspondence not included elsewhere.

♦ **Community Times & Websites:** Lorraine Brooks thanked all for contributing to recent issues. Heading towards deadline with uncertain content due to Covid; early submission of copy and/or reservation of space would be much appreciated.

Lorraine Brooks

Advertising has decreased again this year but the CT still made £1,172 profit (2015 was a record high at £3,066. We lost £380 advertising subscription revenue this year but recently regained £112 of that. Another yearly (£50 or £87) just being drafted.

♦ **Village Calendar:** Lorraine Brooks said 143 Calendars sold compared to 183 this time last year; doesn't show financially as calendar price was increased from £5 to £7. The High Street stall in December wasn't held (40 sold in 2020). There are still likely to be some late sales; they are available to purchase at the Post Office, Forget Me Not or online.

Lorraine Brooks
Wendy Sparrow
& Sally Dalton

It was agreed to produce another calendar for 2023. The print cost which has been the same for 3 years has as expected increased; cost would be £58.80 higher but it's suggested we save on quantity. Lorraine & Wendy are willing to continue but need help at the competition/display if it is resumed and most importantly with sales. The photo competition could be an amalgamation of printed display and online entries as the latter during Covid has seen increased participation. A new date would be needed as the Fete has moved to early May Bank Holiday.

♦ **Forthcoming CC Activities:**

- **Fun Village Quiz on Friday 4th February 2022:** Rachel Hitchcock said organisation was progressing. Control of numbers would be possible if necessary due to Covid. Some tables have been booked; they are available using the online ticket facility as well as from Forget Me Not and the using the slip in the Community Times.
- **CC AGM on Wednesday 2nd March:** This will be on the same evening as the VHMC AGM. It was agreed the CC AGM would be at 7.30pm (Exec at 7pm) and the VHMC would follow at 8.15pm or sooner if the CC finished promptly. Lorraine will prepare the posters.

Rachel
Hitchcock

Rachel
Hitchcock

▪ **Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee: *Nayland Street Party on Sunday 5th June.***

Mugs: Parish Council will contribute 'up to £600' towards Jubilee mugs for qualifying children (no older than 16 on 31 Dec 2022). Mugs will also be available to purchase; all must be pre-ordered. Suppliers were researched; it was suggested we go with the previous supplier, Impact China, at cost of £5.48 inc. VAT for customised mug and box (for 300 Quantity) Last Jubilee we ordered 300. Lesley will liaise with the PC Clerk regarding payment. The initial outlay will be £1,644 but the PC are contributing up to £600 for the mugs to be gifted (*Diamond Jubilee needed 120 mugs for resident children*) and the majority of the mugs will be sold. Deadline for orders of mugs will be 28th February.

Claire Buller has kindly agreed to lead a Street Party committee with some of the Exec, Mandy Cook and Patricia Wilkie. The event will be held in the High Street, the village hall is booked in case of bad weather and for toilets, parking, etc. There will be street performers, entertainment and competitions for youngsters. The street will be adorned with red, white and blue as well as party goers to add to the celebratory atmosphere. If you would like to join the planning committee contact Claire 07971 065856 clairejbuller@gmail.com

Claire Buller
& Planning
Committee

SOCIETY REPORTS

- ♦ **HortSoc:** Trevor Smy said they enjoyed the Jingle Bells Coffee Morning, which they felt was a lovely social event, before their usual winter hibernation. The Spring Flower Show will be held on 26th March, their AGM and Fun Quiz will be on 12th April and Morning Market on 7th May. Their next coach outing on 22nd June will be to East Ruston Old Vicarage Gardens in Norfolk.
- ♦ **Nayland Choir:** Justin Dowding said they will be rehearsing on Thursdays at 8pm in Nayland Village Hall for their next Concert on 27th March at Stoke by Nayland Church. They will be performing performing Mozart's Mass in C K317 (Coronation) and Handel's Coronation anthem My Heart is Inditing.
- ♦ **Village Players:** Justin Dowding said he is aware their next production will be '*Moon Over Buffalo*', a comedy written by Ken Ludwig. Casting is taking place and performances will be 31st March and 1st and 2nd April.
- ♦ **Village Hall:** Iain Wright said ongoing maintenance of the hall continues and the replacement of the roof remains a priority. The small committee of four have plans for a number of events including one on the August bank holiday weekend but will need the support of the community to enable this fundraising. New committee members welcome.
- ♦ **St James' Church:** Chris Hunt said there are few restrictions in place except that face coverings must be worn in church (unless singing - don't ask !). A Carol Concert, Christingle Family Service and the Mid-night Mass were held over the Christmas period and, bearing in mind the situation, these were well attended. Many thanks go to the team of Flower Ladies who decorate and look after the flowers in church. Many visitors comment how beautiful the church looked over the Christmas period. Our Priest in Charge, Revd Stéphane intends to be taking more of the services and this may mean a change in timing for some services, information will be in the CT. Although times are difficult the church wishes everyone all the best for 2022.
- ♦ **Royal British Legion:** Chris Hunt said the Remembrance Service and the Poppy Appeal involved doorstep sales, a stall by the War Memorial and a Coffee Morning was organised in November. The Chairman is now Robert Dossor. They are an active branch with regular meetings which start with refreshments before an interesting talk. All are welcome to come along.
- ♦ **Conservation Society:** John Partridge said their AGM will be on 7th March when Chris Hunt will be the speaker on the topic of '*Industry in Nayland*'. They have interesting speakers and activities planned for 2022, including Open Gardens.
Their latest project involves an introduction of a 20 mph speed limit in the village. An approach has been made to our Suffolk County Councillor who has indicated that the initial step will necessitate checking that the current mean speeds are at or below 24 mph. At some stage it may be necessary to show evidence of support within the village for this.
- ♦ **Women's Institute:** Wendy Sparrow reported that in November Janet Brown gave an amusing talk on '*Living on a Narrow Boat*'; in December the Nayland Hand bell ringers entertained the group and members were invited to join in, the WI also had their usual stall of Christmas goodies at the Jingle Bells Coffee Morning. A new programme for 2022 has been agreed and local florist Julia Ivory will be the first speaker at their meeting on 13th January.
Jeannette Finch said on 10th February Mervyn Lindford would be talking on '*Journey Down the Stour*' and on 14th April the subject of a talk by Paula Baker will be '*Hedgehogs*'. The Nayland branch of the WI will celebrate its 65th birthday in March and they hope to organise a lunch.
- ♦ **Book Club:** Wendy Sparrow reported that the group have just read '*Wilding*' by Isabella Tree and are currently reading '*The Thursday Murder Club*' by Richard Osman.
- ♦ **Nayland First Responders:** Tracy Le Grys said it has obviously been a hard time for the first responders recently but on a positive note there are three new first responders who have now joined Tracy in the local area which is great news.

◆ **Nayland Land Co:** Martin Wright reported that Phase 2 of the hedge laying is well advanced thanks to the knowledgeable and highly skilled Neil Catchpole. Volunteers came along to gain the skill and help. There will be other labouring tasks on the meadow during 2022, including to build five stag beetle log piles; assistance would be much appreciated. A big thank you to those who have made a financial contribution; donations are always welcome.

◆ **AOB:**

▪ **John Spooner's Christmas Light Display:** John has mentioned, that without some help putting the lights up this may have been their last year. The lights are very popular with residents and have become a village feature at Christmas. It was agreed we should ensure there are volunteers to assist putting up and taking down the lights.

▪ **Village Hall Gardening Morning:** The spring tidy up will be held on Saturday 2nd April. Please help if you can; it's a pleasant social morning and refreshments are provided. The CC section of the garden is in the corner by the Silver Birch trees.

◆ **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** will be the AGM on **Wednesday 2nd March** at 7.30pm (Exec 7pm) which will be followed by the VHMC AGM at 8.15pm.

Meetings in 2022: Wednesday 4th May, Monday 4th July, Monday 5th September & Wednesday 26th October in the Church Hall at 8pm with Exec at 7.30pm.

The meeting closed at 9.20pm