

## Minutes from the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2022 in the Church Hall

Rachel Hitchcock welcomed members to the meeting.

- ♦ **There were 12 members present:** Rachel Hitchcock, Matt Cable, Lorraine Brooks, Claire Buller, Vicki Sargent, Kate Bevan, Julie Clark, Luke Rumbelow, Chris Hunt, Tracy Le Grys, Kathryn Niven, Justin Dowding.
- ♦ **Contributions from:** Trevor Smy, Sally Dalton, Mike Hunter, Laura Erith.
- ♦ **Apologies:** Iain Wright, Sally Dalton, Trevor Smy, Laura Erith, Mike Hunter.
- ♦ **Minutes of the last meeting** on 4<sup>th</sup> May 2022 were approved (*proposed Claire Buller, seconded Julie Clark*).

### MATTERS ARISING:

- ♦ **Executive Committee:** Rachel Hitchcock said we have a fabulous team on the Exec. **Action by:**  
However, as always we welcome new members to join our enjoyable friendly committee.
- ♦ **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.  
A training session was held 29th June; it went well with just over 15 people attending which was an ideal number. The CC will be giving a donation to the Gryphon First Aid Unit charity who ran the session for us; Martin Richards of Gryphon First Aid Unit, who trains First Responders, covered use of the defibrillator, CPR and basic first aid and answered questions. He was supported by Nayland First Responder Tracy Le Grys. It was agreed a training session should be held annually.  
Rachel Hitchcock said the defibrillator at the Village Hall which is managed by the CC is regularly checked by those on the rota: Dawn Harris of the Parish Council has said that she is happy to share the task. Rachel will arrange access to the reporting website.
- ♦ **River Stour Water Level Gauge:** Rachel said that she will get in touch with Dale Leeks; work on riverbanks is probably best carried out in autumn and this project will be picked up again. Other works may occur which could be tied into this. Rachel Hitchcock
- ♦ **Nayland 10k Fun Run:** [nayland10k.co.uk](http://nayland10k.co.uk) on **Sunday 10th July**. It will be starting again from Littlegarth School. Luke Rumbelow said about 450-500 runners are booked. They have sufficient volunteers from the Nayland community to help with marshalling, etc. Luke Rumbelow  
Luke stressed it is necessary to trim the footpaths on the route prior to the run as they become very overgrown. The CC felt we should consider if anything can be done to get strimming carried out in advance next year. This also benefits the community; there have been numerous complaints recently regarding the local paths being overgrown.
- ♦ **Online Ticketing Facility:** [NaylandEvents.org](http://NaylandEvents.org) – This facility continues to be very useful to event organisers and is well used. If you are interested in selling tickets using this system get in touch with Justin Dowding.
- ♦ **Community Involvement:** Several village groups have experienced disappointing support, both in attendance and support of their committees, post Covid. The CC included an appeal for residents to support them in the last Community Times and will do so again.
- ♦ **Recent Activities:**
  - **Calendar Photo Display** on 14th May: Lorraine Brooks thanked those that helped. There was a display of 150 lovely photographs and the history of the CC was back on display. Thirty visitors voted for their favourite photos and another twenty voted online. The number of people calling in was less than pre-Covid but it was still a pleasant sociable afternoon.
  - **Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee:** Huge thanks were expressed to Claire Buller and the Jubilee team for planning the Jubilee Party, which due to the weather forecast required a mammoth plan B operation, and to Wendy Sparrow and her helpers for staging the 1950s Exhibition.  
Claire thanked everyone who helped with planning, setting up, clearing away and participating during the afternoon. The party had been greatly enjoyed by all attending.  
A photo collection of the event is being finalised and will be put on the website. Thank you to Lorraine for putting this together.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Matt Cable gave his report on finances.

- **Breakdown of profits:** Community Times £1,222.00, Village Quiz £393.96, Calendar £158.88.
  - **Grants paid:** Nayland Choir £128, Village Hall replacement doors £10,000. We received £270.36 as a return of grant funds provided to the Post Office Project.
  - **Expenses:** £2,040.85 for the Jubilee Party, of which £1,047.44 was for mugs which will be for sale. Village Hall hire for Christmas Fair £54.
  - **Current Position:** The accounts show reserves of £23,236.06 represented by Deposit a/c monies £10,732.94, Current a/c monies £11,796.08, Stripe a/c £117.12, Cash in Hand £589.92. 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 £12,550.62.**
  - **Insurance Policy:** Rachel raised the issue of renewing our insurance policy in the autumn; last year it was agreed we would explore other insurers. Rachel and Matt to follow up in September.
- ♦ **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; early submission of copy and/or reservation of space would be much appreciated. Lorraine Brooks
- Three new advertisers commenced yearly subscriptions in the June issue, valued £187.
- ♦ **Village Calendar:** Lorraine Brooks said production of the calendar is almost completed - and is scheduled to go print and be ready for sales to commence at the Flower Show on 6th August. Lorraine Brooks  
Twelve sponsors are supporting the calendar again (income £300). As previously reported the cost of printing has increased to £579 +vat for 300 copies; it was felt we should keep the order at 300 copies and make effort to increase sales. Wendy Sparrow  
& Sally Dalton
- They will be on sale at the Post Office, Forget Me Not and online as usual, also at the new Hairdressers. Lorraine agreed to circulate a list of events where calendars could be sold to the Exec so volunteers could step forward to attend and sell them. Matt Cable offered to approach Gladwins Farm and Pippins Shop at the Stoke By Nayland Club and to organise sales at Bonfire Night. Rachel Hitchcock would cover the School and Woodland Corner. A stall in the High Street when the mobile library visits was suggested; dates for that are 5 Nov, 3 Dec, 31 Dec which clash with other CC activities. Any other suggestions or help would be welcome. Matt Cable
- ♦ **Forthcoming CC Activities:**
- **Bonfire & Fireworks: Saturday 5th November.** Rachel Hitchcock  
This is booked with experienced pyrotechnic display operators Firework Crazy, based in Gt Dunmow; Rachel will contact them to discuss a site visit to confirm layout, safety barriers, etc. Planning will be on the Agenda for the September meeting.
  - **Christmas Fayre/Coffee Morning: Saturday 3rd December.** Vicki Sargent & Kate Bevan leading. This will be on the Agenda for the September meeting. Vicki Sargent  
& Kate Bevan
  - **Other Christmas Activities: Christmas Trail (windows, trees & wreaths), Father Christmas' Tour of Nayland, Village Christmas Tree** Rachel Hitchcock
  - **Fun Village Quiz:** The date was confirmed as Friday 3rd February 2023.

## SOCIETY REPORTS

- ♦ **HortSoc:** Trevor Smy reported that their coach outing to the lovely East Ruston Old Vicarage Garden in June was very enjoyable; fortunately financially they just broke even but the coach had spaces. They have experienced disappointing support post Covid.
- Nayland Flower Show is on 6th August; schedules were delivered but are available in the PO, Forget Me Not, from the committee or website. It is a friendly show and entering home-grown or home-cooked produce is fun and gives opportunity get to know fellow villagers and some friendly rivalry.
- ♦ **Friends of Caley Green:** Lorraine said that the Friends continue to keep an eye on occurrences on the Green, empty waste bins when required, put parking signs out, litter pick, etc. The Green has been giving much pleasure to many residents as well as visitors; the school recently enjoyed their summer picnic there and it is used daily by Nayland House residents. Sally Dalton has been participating at PC working party meetings; their aim is to find a suitable solution for protecting the riverbank from erosion
- ♦ **First Responders:** Tracy LeGrys said their fourth responder will be trained next month and they have a fifth person interested in training.

- ◆ **Art Group:** Kathryn Niven said that the art group continues their weekly meetings at the church hall. Two local artists come along regularly to teach and they have just had a session drawing a life model which was challenging. Meetings pause during the summer holidays although some of us plan to meet up to sketch or paint outdoors. They hope to plan a visit the Munnings Museum in the autumn.
- ◆ **Nayland Choir:** Justin Dowding said their summer event 'A Little Light Music' and light supper takes place on 15th July at 7pm; tickets available at [naylandevents.org](http://naylandevents.org).
- ◆ **Village Players:** Justin Dowding said the pantomime on 8th-10th December will be 'The Oz Factor'; auditions take place this week.
- ◆ **St James' Church:** Chris Hunt said a variety of services continue at the churches in the benefice including a popular Family Service on the third Sunday of the month; full details are in the CT and the church notice board. The Wednesday Coffee mornings continue to be popular, especially as there is nowhere else in the village to meet up. The Varga String Quartet Concert was postponed until October due to Covid. Groups of children have been visiting the church. The churchyard has had the grass cut and is looking nice; it provides a popular green space in the middle of the village – many thanks to the team of mowers who leave space for wildlife, the Cowslips looked marvellous this year. It is an area frequently used by walkers – please clear up after you dog. The Sponsored Cycle Ride is coming up, please consider taking part; you can do whatever distance you wish, it's a matter of cycling from one church to another and being sponsored for how many churches you reach. Details will be in the Community Times.
- ◆ **Parish Council:** Laura Erith reported that at their annual meeting Mary George stepped down as Chair; she was thanked for her hard work especially during Covid. Gerry Battye took over the role of Chairman, Laura Erith who is Vice-Chair will chair PC meetings in August-October. There is still a vacancy on the PC. The main recent projects have been: Caley Green for which they are awaiting various reports; and the provision of additional waste bins (litter and dog bins). The Parish Council wish to express a big thank you to all of you who organised such a fantastic Jubilee celebration - everyone was thrilled with it.
- ◆ **Conservation Society:** Mike Hunter reported Nayland Open Gardens was held on the 12th June for the first time in three years. It was the most successful event we have ever held with 563 visitors in attendance and 24 gardens open to the public. The team of ladies responsible for the teas and cakes in the village hall also had a record-breaking afternoon with sales exceeding all previous records. Next year, Open Gardens will take place on 4th June.  
We had to cancel our speaker meeting due to be held on the 27th June as a result of the recent increase in Covid cases in the village; we shall re-arrange for another date next year.  
The Society has lodged an objection to National Grid's latest proposals for the new overland pylon scheme from Norwich to Tilbury. As and when a formal application is made for planning permission we shall encourage members and everyone else to lodge objections as a submarine route would be far more acceptable.
- ◆ **AOB:**
  - **St James' Bellringers:** The Jubilee peal on 5th June had been much enjoyed. The bellringing team are short of ringers and Chris Hunt would be pleased to train new volunteers. Six ringers are needed to perform a peal. Ideally they would be able to ring on Sunday mornings; practice sessions are held on Monday afternoons. Claire Buller, Rachel Hitchcock and Kate Bevan expressed an interest; promotion will be included in the Community Times. .
  - **River Stour:** It was noted that water levels over the horseshoe weir have been fluctuating and are low again – this was reported to the EA by a resident on 3rd July. They also reported on 7th June that reeds are growing two-thirds of the way across the head of the weir.
- ◆ **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** will be on **Monday 5th September** at 8pm (Exec 7.30pm) in the Church Hall.  
Meeting dates for 2022/23: Wednesday 26th October and Wednesday 4th January 2023.  
*The meeting closed at 9pm*