

Minutes from the meeting held on 3rd January 2024

Claire Buller welcomed members to the meeting.

- ♦ **There were 12 members present:** Claire Buller, Lorraine Brooks, Matt Cable, Jo Metson, Vicki Sargent, Iain Wright, Trevor Smy, Chris Hunt, Tracy Le Grys, Sam Treharne, Mike Hunter, David Slater.
- ♦ **Contributions from:** Sally Dalton
- ♦ **Apologies:** Julie Clark, Sally Dalton, Rachel Hitchcock.
- ♦ **Minutes of the last meeting** on 30th October 2023 were approved (*proposed Iain Wright, seconded Claire Buller*).

MATTERS ARISING:

- ♦ **Executive Committee:** As always we welcome new members to join the team – please spread an encouraging word to anyone who may be interested in joining us. It is an enjoyable friendly village committee that provides positive events and facilities for the community. Contact Rachel on 07788 954309 or rachel_hitchcock@hotmail.com if you would like to know more. Those in attendance agreed to continue on the Exec following the AGM; Jo Metson gave her apologies for the AGM.

Action by:

- ♦ **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. The defibrillator at the Village Hall is managed by the CC.

A resident raised an issue regarding access to the Village Hall defibrillator in December. The Community Heartbeat Trust (CHT) investigated the incident on our behalf and identified that because the originator of the 999 call sent someone else to get the defibrillator (just in case) the ambulance service were not able to give the code. The original 999 call had not triaged as needing a defibrillator – the operator simply asked if one was nearby (just in case) a question which applies to eg. office buildings which might have a readily-accessible defibrillator. Because of this when the second call to 999 was placed to access the community defibrillator at the Village Hall, a code was not available. To conclude – there is no problem with our community defibrillator and our site is fully registered with the East of England Ambulance Service (EASS). The issue arose because of the ambulance service script - an issue of which they are aware and are addressing by changing over to a new system. The CHT have reported the issue and are in regular contact with them.

Rachel
Hitchcock
Jo Metson

NB. It is not appropriate to put the defibrillator code on the cabinet as it may invalidate our insurance and risk the defibrillator being used without any record which could mean it would be unavailable for use next time it was required

Rachel
Hitchcock
Sam Treharne

Regarding the possibility a defibrillator in Wiston: Community Heartbeat Trust (CHT) confirmed a defibrillator could operate without a power supply; the cost would be in the region £2,300; a location by the Parish Council noticeboard in Wiston has been mooted. The PC supports the use of their CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) funds to be used towards a community Defibrillator for Wiston supported by a grant from the CC.

Rachel
Hitchcock
Tracy Le Grys

Three training sessions are being organised by the First Responder Team on 17th, 20th & 24th January in the Village Hall. The CC will be funding the hire of the hall. The sessions will provide confidence in performing CPR and using a defibrillator (AED). Numbers attending each session will be limited to ensure those attending get the attention that they need during the course. Children are welcome to attend.

- ♦ **River Stour Water Level Gauge:** SCC Properties Officer would permit the gauge to be installed on the Caley Green riverbank but exact location details (between the proposed wooden revetment and the long reed bed) should be confirmed with him.

The surveyor confirmed change of location to the south bank would not affect the datum mark for the above sea level gauge. Rachel has spoken to Danny Thurlow regarding installation; he is hopeful he will be able to install the water gauge and will be meeting Rachel on site in the New Year. As a reminder the original quoted cost for installation, agreed in May 2021, totalled £1,380 inc VAT (*oak post £450 + VAT, Gauge Boards £450 + VAT, backing boards £250 + VAT*)

Rachel H.

- ♦ **Nayland 10k Fun Run:** It has not yet been confirmed if and when the 10k will be held in 2024.

- ◆ **Online Ticketing Facility:** *NaylandEvents.org* – This has become increasingly useful for selling tickets to village events. If village organisations wish to use this facility to sell tickets for their events contact Justin Dowding at jpdowding@gmail.com.
- ◆ **Queen Elizabeth II and King Charles III commemorative feature:** This Parish Council project has almost come to fruition; just a plaque to add. Installation of commemorative copper beech tree and railing for the late Queen and bench for King Charles was installed in December. The CC awarded a £1,538 contribution towards the project.
- ◆ **Nayland Post Office:** The Sorting Office closed at the end of August. The Post Office is still open three mornings a week.. There is no further news regarding the PO premises and PO counter service.
- ◆ **Community Involvement:** Ideas to help raise participation of village groups and events are welcome. An item headed '**Volunteer Vacancies**' has been added to the Community Times, listing the various volunteers needed by different groups; please let Lorraine know if you have vacancies to be included along with an idea of the level of commitment needed.
It would be helpful if everyone, when they see promotions for Nayland events on Facebook, could make a comment (however brief) and not just click on 'like' which is no help.
- ◆ **Village Hall Gardening Morning:** The spring gardening morning tidy will be held on Saturday 6th April from 9am with refreshments served; please pop along if you can.
- ◆ **St James' Christmas Tree Festival: 9th, 10th & 16th December.** Organised by Karen Freeman. There were 27 wonderful Christmas trees, decorated by village organisations and individuals, including the CC, on display. Thanks to Rachel for decorating our tree to represent what the CC does.
There were some issues with the size and uniformity of the trees supplied. Those that attended enjoyed the Festival which looked lovely with some ingenious decorations to demonstrate the activities of each village society. Thanks to them, the cake producers, all who helped, the Handbell Ringers for a wonderful performance, the groups that participated and the sponsors. They raised £600; half for the Primary School and half for the Church Coffee Morning.
- ◆ **Recent Activities:**
 - **Halloween sale of Firework Night Tickets: 31st October.** Claire Buller said it had been a very useful opportunity to remind residents about the CC. They sold a few tickets for bonfire night and prompted online sales and sold a few calendars. It was lovely to be alongside Nayland Bear and see the children enjoying Halloween and give out sweets for trick or treat.
 - **Bonfire Night: 5th November.** Claire Buller said it had been a great event with a wonderful firework display; it made £4,360 profit. Firework Crazy were brilliant; despite the flooding they just re-arranged the layout where needed and got on with the job. Mulled wine sold out very quickly and 500 sausages were soon sold. Further emphasis on 'NO SPARKLERS' should be made in future.
 - **Christmas Fayre: 2nd December.** This was as usual a nice festive event. Father Christmas and his elf (Peter Drew & Rachel Hitchcock) were busy and there were more stalls this year.
 - **Christmas Trail: Advent Windows, Christmas Tree Trail & Wreath Competition.** Elaine Muskett and William Torry (under 16) won the wreath competition and received chocolates as prizes. These activities received many positive comments. There were any other festive delights including the deer and additional lights opposite Caley Green and this year at Nags Corner and many houses on the Heights were adorned with lights and festive features. Bear and Fish were visiting and provided a lovely display. Thanks to Claire, Antony Day and others for taking photos of all the displays. Photo albums of the wreaths and Christmas trees can be viewed at: <http://www.naylandcommunitycouncil.org.uk/News.html> Photos of the windows and other displays will be added soon. Thanks to all who participated.
 - **Christmas Tree:** The tree went up on 3rd December and will be taken down on Sunday 7th January at 9.30am. Helpers would be welcome. There was an issue with the power supply getting wet but this was rectified. As usual the tree looked delightful and received many compliments; many thanks to Claire for organising this, Will for his chainsaw carving and the team of helpers of all ages.

Parish
Council

Lorraine Brooks
& ALL

- **Father Christmas:** 24th December, Tour of Nayland in George Pratt's vintage tractor and trailer. George dropped the trailer off at Bear Street; it was decorated by Claire Buller with help from John Spooner. The use of the trailer enabled children to get up close to Father Christmas for photos. There were many comments of how lovely this activity was. There was a large crowd waiting for them at the Christmas tree and they were mobbed at Caley Green. They gave out over 110 bags of chocolate coins; these were only given to children due to demand. Many thanks to Claire, Wayne, George and John. George donned an elf costume and made up and seemed to thoroughly enjoy himself. Claire will ask George if he would kindly put us in his diary for next year.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Matt Cable gave his report on finances to 31st December.

Please note these results are preliminary and awaiting certain income and expense items to be reported.

- **Breakdown of profits:** Community Times £1,013, Bonfire Night £4,369, Quiz £563, Village Calendar £430, Nayland 10K £425, Christmas Fayre £290.
- **Grants paid:** Parish Council bench and tree £1,538, First responders £2,165, Nayland Bear £100.
- **Expenses:** £566 for the Coronation event and £448 for Christmas activities. £857 for central costs including insurance for the year.
- **Current Position:** The accounts show reserves of £27,537.04 represented by Deposit a/c monies £11,165, Current a/c monies £15,250, Cash in Hand £1,078. We hold £89 for the RBL Services Fund and grants are pending for: VH roof £10,000, VH coffee machine £280 and Lizzie's Fund £153. **Therefore, unencumbered assets are £16,814.**

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

♦ **GRANTS & DONATIONS:**

- **Nayland Choir:** A lovely card had been received thanking the CC for their grant of £1,500 towards the costs for their 30th Anniversary concert.
- **Nayland First Responder's Training Sessions:** Following their offer to organise free of charge CPR and defibrillator (AED) training sessions in Nayland on 17th, 20th & 24th January it was agreed to award a grant of £157.50 to cover the cost of hall hire for the courses. (*proposed Iain Wright, seconded Vicki Sargent*).

Matt Cable,
Tracy Le Gryns

- ♦ **Community Times & Websites:** Lorraine Brooks thanked all for contributing to recent issues. Heading towards the next deadline; please let Lorraine know if you have promotion or large items to include so adequate space can be reserved.

Lorraine Brooks

- ♦ **Village Calendar:** Lorraine Brooks said the 2023 income is currently £430 (128 calendars sold). There is an additional £112 collected; a further estimated £110 expected; and will no doubt be some late sales. There is an outstanding sponsorship of £25. Potentially this would be £677 profit for the 2024 calendar. This is lower than previous years, largely due to reduced sales venues and events. The print cost for a 2025 calendar would be £599 inc. VAT for 250 copies.

Lorraine Brooks
Wendy Sparrow
Claire Buller
Jo Metson

The current calendar team has dwindled down to just Lorraine and Wendy Sparrow in recent years and by themselves cannot maximise sales. Claire Buller and Jo Metson have kindly agreed to join the team with a view to boosting sales. Opportunities such as Firework Night, busy times on Caley Green, including when the fish and chip van was present were mooted.

Many thanks to everyone involved in the 2024 calendar; sponsors, those submitting photos, those selling the calendars and of course everyone who bought copies. As we move into a new year don't forget to take photos ready for this year's calendar photo competition – details will be promoted in the Community Times.

♦ **Forthcoming Activities:**

- **Fun Village Quiz: Friday 2nd February.** The quiz is in hand; Jo Metson has agreed to help and the scorers are in place. A volunteer to man the raffle would be appreciated as would prizes for the raffle – please bring them along on the night or drop off at 107 Bear Street.
- **Community Council AGM: Monday 4th March.** This will be at 7.30pm (Exec 7pm) in the Village Hall. The Village Hall AGM will follow at 8.15pm.

Rachel H.
Jo Metson

Rachel H.
Lorraine Brooks

SOCIETY REPORTS

- ♦ **HortSoc:** Trevor Smy said they enjoyed participating at Christmas Fayre. They are planning their 2004 activities; Spring Flower Show on 23rd March, AGM & Fun Quiz on 16th April, Morning Market on 11th May, coach outing to Hyde Hall on 12th June.
- ♦ **Friends of Caley Green:** Sally Dalton reported the lone swan on the river is still alone. There is a pair of swans on the Meadow pond and most of the ducks spend the winter on the pond. The rotten railing on Bear Street above the culvert has been replaced. A few residents attended a Solstice Picnic on the new bench on the Green but it was a very cold day; not for the fainthearted.

- ◆ **First Responders:** Tracy Le Grys said their third defibrillator kit will be up and running in the very near future. They are holding three sessions for CPR and defibrillator training on the 17th, 20th and 24th January. The course lasts approximately 2 hours and as well as a slide show presentation, there are demonstrations and role playing. Children are welcome to attend. The community Council will fund the hire of the Village Hall for these sessions.
- ◆ **Parish Council:** Sam Treharne said they support a community speed watch within the village run by residents under the guidance of the Suffolk Constabulary. Data will be gathered as evidence of vehicles speeding within the village. The PC will look into the addition of traffic calming equipment within the village, such as a temporary Vehicle Activated Sign in Horkesley Road and a re-active sign which displays the speed in Stoke Road. The Royal Memorial tree, railings and bench are in place, the plaque is yet to be installed. The PC has objected to an application for signage at Harpers Hill Farm. Policing - Suffolk Constabulary have re-organised local policing and a Community Policing Team has been created: PC 1293 Niall Johnson and PCSO 3092 Jo Adams are our new allocated officers.
- ◆ **St James Church:** Chris Hunt said the Christmas Tree Festival but it was very successful. During December both Littlegarth and Nayland Primary schools held their carol concerts; they were as usual very good. On the 17th nine lessons and carols was held with mulled wine and mince pies after. On Christmas Eve the Christingle Service was held slightly different this year as we had no organist so we sang unaccompanied with thanks to David Pryor for leading us. On Christmas Day a family Eucharist was held. All these events were well attended and hopefully enjoyed by all. Some repairs to the roof on the south side (bordering Newlands Lane) are expected to take place soon.

The Wednesday Coffee Mornings will recommence from Wednesday 17th January.

- ◆ **Conservation Society:** Mike Hunter said their speakers for 2024 have been booked. Local resident Mick Inkpen will be talking about his career as a children's book author and illustrator at their AGM on 12th March. On 25th June we shall be celebrating the Society's 50th anniversary with a drinks reception for members followed by memories from three of our longest standing members and a contribution from local comedian Chris Hunt! Our October talk features Nigel Amies speaking on the subject of the Home Guard and our final speaker in November is David Pryor who is involved in the building of a Viking longship.

Open Gardens will take place on 9th June. We would be most grateful if the many excellent gardeners on the Heights would consider opening their gardens; many gardens open in the older part of the village and it would be a pleasure to spread the event more widely. Other significant events will include our Spring Footpath walk and our spring litter pick; dates for both events will be confirmed shortly.

- ◆ **Land Company (Nayland Meadow):** David Slater said a tree that came down across the footpath during Storm Henk has been removed; adjacent trees are being checked and may require work. Phase 2 of the path improvement work is due to be carried out. Phase 1 saw works to 230 metres of path completed; for phase 2 it's hoped over 400 metres of the permissive path – from the bench down to the Horkesley Road entrance and to the river – will be completed if weather permits by the end of March. We will endeavour to minimise inconvenience to walkers.
- ◆ **Village Hall:** Iain Wright said that the 2023 fund raising events made £7,500 for the replacement roof fund. They are still waiting for news on their Lottery grant application. They are still trying to overcome technical issues involved in installing a noise limiter at the hall; neighbouring houses have reported incidents of late night noise from the hall.
- ◆ **AOB: Volunteer List:** The need for establishing a list of a few volunteers willing to collect prescriptions, and perhaps help with other errands for those in need was raised. It was felt this would be helpful. The way forward and promotion in the CT would be discussed further via email.
- ◆ **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** will on **Monday 4th March** at 7.30pm (Exec 7pm) in the Village Hall. The Village Hall AGM will follow at 8.15pm
- ◆ **Meetings for 2024:** Weds 1st May, Weds 3rd July, Mon 2nd September, Weds 30th October.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm