

Minutes from the meeting held on 30th October 2024

Rachel Hitchcock welcomed members to the meeting.

- **There were 14 members present:** Rachel Hitchcock, Claire Buller, Lorraine Brooks, Matt Cable, Jo Metson, Vicki Sargent, Iain Wright, Heike Ellwood, Chris Hunt, Trevor Smy, Mike Hunter, Justin Dowding, David Slater, Adam Lunn
- **Contributions from:** Sally Dalton, Kathy Hunt, Gillian Manser, Laura Erith
- **Apologies:** Julie Clark, Sally Dalton, Laura Erith
- **Minutes of the last meeting** on 3rd September 2024 were approved (*proposed Jo Metson, seconded Vicki Sargent*).

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. **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 (AED):** AEDs are located at the Village Hall and at the Fire Station. The AED at the Village Hall is managed by the CC and regularly checked.
Regarding the proposed public access AED in Wiston. Community Heartbeat Trust (CHT) confirmed a defibrillator could operate without a power supply. The cost would be in the region £2,600; the PC have agreed to contribute 50% of the cost (approx £1,300) via CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) funding. A location by the Parish Council noticeboard in Wiston is being considered; the PC are writing to a nearby householder to advise of the proposal. We are awaiting confirmation on the status of the AED at the Fire Station (whether it is registered with the Ambulance Service) prior to finalising a location for one at Wiston. **Rachel Hitchcock**
- ♦ **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.
- ♦ **Village Hall Garden:** The autumn gardening session was on Saturday 26th October; there were a good number of volunteers helping but a CC member was unable to attend.
- ♦ **Community Involvement:** Ideas to help raise participation of village groups and events are welcome. A ‘**Volunteer Vacancies**’ item in the Community Times lists the various volunteers needed by different groups; please let Lorraine know if you have vacancies to be included. When on Facebook and you see promotions for Nayland events please make a comment, however brief, and don’t just click on ‘like’. All village groups would benefit from this. **Lorraine Brooks & ALL**
- ♦ **Resident Volunteer List:** This is a list of residents prepared to assist other residents who at times are unable to get out for themselves and would benefit from having a prescription collected, an errand run or some shopping dropped off. If anyone requires assistance or could give assistance if needed please contact Lorraine. **Lorraine Brooks**
- ♦ **Plaque for Ken & Olive Willingale:** Members had agreed a plaque to commemorate the contribution of Ken Willingale to the CC and for this to incorporate an existing tribute to his wife Olive in the HortSoc section of the village hall garden. A slate plaque will have the wording: “*Ken Willingale, Community Council Treasurer, Chairman and President 1966-2024 and Olive Willingale, Horticultural Society Secretary & President 1980-2011. Commemorating their many contributions to the village*”. Tony Fryer will engrave the plaque. This was agreed in principal at the September meeting; a quote has been requested. **Rachel Hitchcock**
It was suggested also that tribute / history of the hall might be included somewhere inside the hall. Lorraine is willing to assemble display and has a wealth of detail to hand on the purchase of Webb’s Meadow and building of the hall. Collection of information of the 1999 extension would be required,
- ♦ **Recent Activities:**
 - **Sale of Bonfire Night tickets:** *5th October with WC Cake Sale*. This went well and helped promote the CC as well as providing an opportunity for sales of tickets and a few calendars.

- **Nayland Post Office:** The PO closed for the last time on 27th August when Claire Buller presented postmistress Patsie Ford with a card and flowers on behalf of the CC. A community thank you presentation and toast to Patsie Ford's retirement was organised by the CC on 27th September. A card signed by a host of villagers and a watercolour painting of the Post Office by the late John Parsonson, kindly gifted by his wife Jill, was framed for the presentation.

In a post-office packed with well-wishers Rachel Hitchcock presented the gift and thanked Patsie for her contribution to village life, Gerry Battye reminisced on Patsie's 43 years providing an important village hub, there was a celebratory cake baked by Kathy Hunt and villagers toasted Patsie on her future retirement.

Patsie has since said: "I had a really touching and kind send off and I can't express my thanks enough to all that were involved - it made me feel very proud and happy and a tad emotional".

TREASURER'S REPORT: Matt Cable gave his report on finances to 30th October.

- **Breakdown of profits:** Community Times £543, Calendar £134, Quiz £664.20, profit recognised for Bonfire night so far £689.
- **Grants paid:** Nayland Village Choir £1,500, Nayland School Choir £400, Baby & Toddler Group £300.
- **Expenses:** £974 for water gauge at Caley Green, £180 for permissive path mowing (along Stoke Rd), £270 for hall hire, £94 for web hosting and £198 for annual defibrillator maintenance, £633 for insurance, £119 for post office closure event.
- **Current Position:** The accounts show reserves of £25,208.99 represented by Deposit a/c monies £11,748.13, Current a/c monies £10,738.62, Stripe a/c £1,472.92, Cash in Hand £1,249.32. We hold £143.51 for the RBL Services Fund and grants are pending for: VH roof £10,000, Lizzie's Fund £153, VH coffee machine £280. **Therefore, unencumbered assets are £14,632.48.**

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

• GRANTS & DONATIONS:

- **Permissive footpath maintenance:** Members previously agreed to maintain a popular stretch of path from Court Knoll to the allotments at a cost of £600; the work is due to be done by Daniel Bowman on 4th November with a volunteer from the Tendring Estate helping with the clearing up. Going forward, with regular maintenance, the cost would be less; Rachel will consider asking the Parish Council if they would be able to contribute to the future cost of vegetation management. There is a section of this path that is prone to flooding so possible solutions to make this more passable may be worth considering as well as whether any grants may be available. Matthew Hague of the Tendring Estate wanted to wait until the maintenance work had been completed before exploring that possibility. (As reported by the Conservation Society, they have arranged for another nearly permissive path to be cleared, also on 4th November.)
- **Nayland First Responders:** Members previously agreed to cover the cost of hiring the village hall for a NFR fundraiser; Anthony Roberts has donated one of his 'Dickens' Christmas Carol' performances which will be held on 19th December. The cost for hire of the hall will be £155. (*proposed Claire Buller, seconded Vicki Sargent*)

Rachel H.

- **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

She said advertising income has reduced about a third from its 2015 all time high and printing expenses have risen. However the original aim of the CT was for communication, not profit.

- **Village Calendar:** Lorraine Brooks said the calendar project is currently £195 in profit, although £185 of that is income from the 2004 calendar, so the 2025 calendar is £10 in profit. All sponsorship has been paid. The 2025 calendar is now on sale at Forget Me Not, Mill Street Deli, Studio B Hair Salon, 17 Court Street and online. Wendy Sparrow is managing these sales outlets.

Lorraine Brooks

Wendy Sparrow

Claire Buller

Jo Metson

Claire Buller will be holding calendar supplies and liaising with those helping with sales at events and other venues. Assistance with sales would be very much appreciated as would ideas to maximise sales, so if you are holding an event or run a group please let Claire know if you could have a few on sale; 07971 065856 or clairejbuller@gmail.com

• Forthcoming Activities:

- **Bonfire & Fireworks: Tuesday 5th November.** Rachel Hitchcock, Jo Metson & Claire Buller leading. Many thanks to everyone who is helping with this event.

Firework Crazy is booked. The usual arrangements are in hand. Fred Bugg will manage the bonfire; the Guy will be paraded after the fireworks. Woodland Corner are doing the children's sales & hot chocolate. Ice Cream Van and Fish and Chip Van are confirmed. Individuals from the First Responders will be first aiders. Claire has in hand: Hot dogs and

Rachel H.

Jo Metson

Claire Buller

Mulled wine and Matt has the beer. A few more volunteers would be much appreciated for marshalling from 6pm-7pm. Also for a litterpick the following morning at 9am.

Promotion is out; as usual in widely local village magazines and Facebook groups, the Gazette, Suffolk Trail, etc and a banner on Caley Green. On 26 October 237 tickets sold with income at £1,054.

Sales of tickets: Thursday 31st October 6-8pm with Nayland Bear (Rachel & Claire). They are available as usual online at www.naylandevents.org and locally at Forget Me Not and Mill Street Deli.

- **Christmas Fayre: Saturday 30th November at 10am-12.30pm.** The date change has enabled key organisers to be available. Rachel Hitchcock is leading. Setting up will begin on Friday evening. There are sufficient external stallholders booked. Father Christmas will be attending, the School will provide entertainment and the Christmas Trail will be launched. The Baby & Toddler group and Family@Nayland will provide activities for children. The CC will have £50 first prize on their raffle; other prizes can be given to Claire in advance or brought along on the day.

Rachel H.
Vicki Sargent
Claire Buller

External stalls include: Trish Hale gifts; Daisy Maine crafts and small furniture; Sarah Bugg personalised gifts; Lily Lindsay jewellery, hair accessories, etc; Sylvia Laws crafts; Marion crafts; Suzy C beads & jewellery; Lizzie's Fund charity stall.

- **Other Christmas activities:**

- **Christmas Trail (Windows, Trees & Wreath Competition):** Lorraine & Rachel will lead.

Promotion for participation is in hand. Windows to open 1st-24th December and Christmas trees and the wreath completion to be displayed from 9th December. Maps will be ready for the Christmas Fayre. There are currently only 6 dates for windows still available. More Christmas trees and wreaths are needed.

Rachel H.
Lorraine Brooks

- **Village Christmas tree:** up on 8th December. Claire has in hand, helpers will be welcome, it's a fun occasion. It will be taken down on 5th January at 9.30pm.

Claire Buller

- **Father Christmas' Tour of Nayland:** from 2pm on 24th December. Claire has in this hand

Claire Buller

- **Fun Village Quiz:** The Village Hall is booked for 7th February

Rachel H.

SOCIETY REPORTS

- **HortSoc:** Trevor Smy said they decided not to go ahead with their proposed coach outing to Polhill Garden Centre as there had not been sufficient interest to make it viable. He thanked the CC for their offer of support. They will have a stall at the CC's Christmas Fayre. They are planning 2025 activities which will include the Spring Show on 23rd March and the Summer Party will be reintroduced.
- **Friends of Caley Green:** Sally Dalton reported there have been two pairs of swans; the old pair and a new unringed pair alternating near the Green and 16 ducks were counted, although a high proportion were drakes. There have been a number of people fishing from the Green and rivercraft users coming and going. The A134 by-pass has at last been treated with weedkiller.
- **First Responders:** Adam Lunn said Tracy Le Grys has now moved so no longer responding from the Nayland group; we thank her for the dedication she's given over the last 9 years. Adam Lunn, who lives in Wiston and has 11 years experience, is now team leader. They are benefiting from a generous grant from the Bures Music Festival which will enable them to replace their two oldest defibrillators. EAST have instructed them to replace their Go Fund Me account with the Trust's Just Giving account which allows Gift Aid on any donations. They are liaising with the RBL about laying a wreath at the Nayland Remembrance service. The defibrillator outside Nayland Fire Station is public access 24/7; Suffolk Fire and Rescue Service are making attempts to register the defibrillator with the NHS control room. As a group they volunteered 227 hours 20 minutes and attended 9 calls in September. Tickets for the Christmas fundraiser, a reading of Dickens's Christmas Carol on 9th December are available on Eventbrite. There will be a raffle; donations from local businesses would be gratefully received.
- **Parish Council:** Laura Erith reported unfortunately permission was granted at Appeal for a dwelling to be built on land behind Fairfield recreation ground (in front of the Old Scout Hut). Laura has met with the PC's grass cutting contractors about the open spaces; councillors are concerned at the condition of a riverside PROW; they hope a new councillor will be joining them to take them back to full compliment.
- **St James Church:** Kathy Hunt reported they are still maintaining regular services. They are always grateful for any help to keep the Church looking cared for so if there is anyone out there who would like to help please get in touch. The coffee mornings are still popular. During September two school classes came to the Church and were shown the organ by James Finch the bell tower by Chris Hunt and the Vestments worn by the clergy at Services these were shown by Rev Stephane. We are now getting ready for our Remembrance Service and the Christmas Carol concerts by LittleGarth and Nayland Primary and our 9 lessons and carols service on the 22nd December. We are repeating the Light Stop held in St James last year on 31st October which was quite successful; the Church is lit only by candle light and after the 'excitement of treat or treating' it was a peaceful place to calm down and have some refreshments.

- **Royal British Legion:** Chris Hunt said they had an interesting visit to Boxted Airfield Museum on 29th September. The Remembrance Day services will be on Sunday 10th November: at 10am laying of wreaths St Mary's Wiston then at 10.45am at Nayland War Memorial followed by a service in St James. On Armistice Day, 11th November, at 11am we will meet at the Nayland War Memorial in the High Street for 2 minutes silence. Before that, on Friday 2nd November will be the Poppy Appeal Coffee Morning at 10am-12 noon in the Church Hall. With the loss of shops and other opportunities to socialise, coffee mornings help fill that gap.
- **Conservation Society:** Mike Hunter congratulated the CC for taking steps to clear the permissive path on the north side of the Tendring Hall Field adjacent to Court Knoll. The Society has arranged for the same contractor to clear the permissive path on the south side of the field adjacent to the woodland surrounding the old lock pool. These works will take place on 4th November. Our last talk this year will be on 12th November when David Pryor will speak about the reconstruction of an Anglo Saxon Longship by the organisation known as the Sutton Hoo Ship's Company. Three members of the Society attended the Village Hall Garden working party on 26th October. The Society will have a table at the Xmas Fayre.
- **Land Company (Nayland Meadow):** David Slater said footpath improvement work to the final length of footpath along the riverbank was completed recently. We hope the grass seed in the path will continue growing rapidly so we can consider reopening the path as soon as possible although the official footpath closure permit terminates at the end of November. On Monday a portion of the path around the river bend was reseeded as the grass had not taken as well as expected there. This is frustrating but hopefully within a few weeks it will all look good and be enjoyed by all. The slope between the new path and the wildflower meadow has been sown with a wildflower mix.
- **Baby Toddler Group:** Gillian Manser expressed thanks for the CC grant which has enabled them to pay this year's insurance premium and continue running. They are promoting the sessions with posters and on Facebook. They've had a good number of families attending during the first half of the Autumn term and welcomed newcomers, so all is going well. They enjoyed participating at Woodland Corner's Inflatable Day in September but didn't raise much money.
- **Village Hall:** Iain Wright said they are dealing with some justified complaints regarding noise levels from the hall. Their National Lottery grant application process, towards the new roof project continues; it has involved changes in land registration and organisation status and obtaining 4 tenders.
- **Village Players:** Justin Dowding said performances of their panto '*Rapunzel*' will be on 4th-7th December; tickets are available on naylandevents.org. He added tickets sell quickly, particularly for the Saturday matinee.
- **Nayland Choir:** Justin Dowding said their winter concert '*Winter Solstice in Song*' will be held on 15th December in the village hall; tickets are available on naylandevents.org

◆ **AOB:**

- **Remembrance Service: *Wreath Laying by the CC*** - Claire and Wayne Buller will kindly lay a wreath on behalf of the CC at the War Memorial on Sunday 10th November at 10.45am. Chris Hunt will provide a wreath at no cost
- **Village Christmas Displays:** We agreed previously to support John Spooner (with helpers or financially) as the cheer that his long-established display brings to the community is felt to be important. He has helpers this year. It was agreed to contribute £100 towards electricity (*proposed Iain Wright, seconded Lorraine Brooks*)
- **Nayland Bear:** Similarly, we will support Nayland Bear if required; Claire & Rachel will check with them at Halloween.
- **Old Scout Hut:** Tendring Hall Estate asked the PC, who passed onto the CC & CT, if there any suggestions for potential future use for the old scout hut. The hut has some historical significance. The Tendring Estate do not wish to maintain or use it but suggest grants may be available for certain uses, but not from them. There is only footpath access; a dwelling is to be built in front of the hut; it's in need of repair. This appeal will be included in the CT.
- ◆ **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** will on **Monday 6th January** at 7.30pm (Exec 7pm) in the Village Hall
- Meetings for 2025:** Mon 3rd March (AGM), Weds 7th May, Weds 2nd July, Weds 3rd Sept, Weds 29th October.
The meeting closed at 9pm