

Nayland with Wissington Parish Council

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Newsletter of The Year 2013,
SALC,
11A Hill View Business Park,
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Category - Larger Village

Nayland with Wissington Community Times

Please find enclosed two editions of our bi-monthly parish newsletter. The current edition, at the time of writing, is August 2013. The October edition will not appear before the deadline of the competition. Judges will appreciate this is not the first time that this publication has been entered. However, the Parish Council believes that this publication, edited by Lorraine Brooks, on behalf of the Nayland with Wissington Community Council espouses all the qualities identified by SALC and truly reflects and inspires our thriving community spirit.

The sheer comprehensive quality and breadth of the items reflect the fulsome range of activities in our Parish for residents of all ages. Every two months, the Community Times is delivered free through every resident's door, in our rural parish, by a team of volunteers. This typifies our village.

Briefly, Nayland with Wissington consists of the centre of the village and the outlying hamlet of Wissington or Wiston. I think it has 1100 odd souls on the Electoral Roll, not counting children. Whilst the heart of the village has a substantial Conservation Area, there is also a mid 60s estate - Nayland Heights with 250 houses and an earlier former Council estate, Harpers Estate. There are a large number of Listed Buildings and we have, in partnership with Babergh, drawn up an Inventory of Heritage features. Through tremendous efforts from many volunteers Millenium Fund grants were obtained for the extension of our Village Hall in 2000. It is now run by a volunteer management committee. We also have a thriving Church Hall as well as St. James' Church. Despite our size, the village has an amazing 27 organisations providing a wide variety of activities - e.g. Youth Club - Nayland Choir. Village based amenity/pressure groups include the Nayland with Wissington Conservation Society and Nayland Transition Group - both have websites and are influential in the village. The regular 44 pages of the Community Times bears testament to the myriad of events, meetings and networks operating In Nayland and Wiston.

After much discussion over the years, the edition remains in monochrome in order to balance costs with achieving maximum circulation in a very wide rural area. However, the Community Times website at:

www.naylandandwiston.net

provides all readers and residents with a two monthly colour version of the Times. The addition of this website, some years ago, reflects the verve, passion and vision of the editor and the Community Council, the umbrella charity organisation that has representatives of each of the village organisations. Improved printing arrangements mean that a greater number of colour photographs can be included in the online version. Residents are being encouraged to submit their own photos.

Whilst outsourced for printing, the newsletter is 'home-grown' and not edited or designed by a company or outside specialist. The editor spends hundreds of hours each year producing something which is organic and visually appealing. The use of a team of volunteers for organising items, obtaining sponsorship and local advertising as well as distributing the newsletter to hundreds of homes-many of them isolated down farm tracks- is a continuing mammoth community feat.

The Parish council commends this publication to the judges. It represents the heart-beat of our community. It informs, encourages and inspires us all to participate and involve ourselves in the Community.

Whatever, the results of the Awards, the editor would welcome feedback at naylandcc@yahoo.co.uk.

Thanks for your time and we hope that you enjoy learning about our lively community.

Yours sincerely,

Gerry Battye
Chairman