

First of all I would like to thank all the members of the Community Council for all their efforts over the last year in organizing and helping with the running of various events and attending meetings. These events make a significant contribution to our finances which enable us to provide grants to various village organizations and groups.

Once again thanks to Lorraine for all her work in producing agendas and minutes, but especially for putting together and publishing the Community Times, which miraculously drops on people's mats bi-monthly. The CT also makes a huge financial contribution as you will see from our accounts. The Calendar team also deserve special thanks for producing this 'must have' part of Nayland life.

On the subject of accounts, I would like to thank Iain Wright for stepping forward at last year's AGM to fill the Treasurer's role.

Last year we organized our usual events – the Quiz, Bonfire night and Christmas Fayre and in addition the Picnic in the Park in July complete with duck race. Thanks to everyone who helped with those; Rachel Hitchcock and helpers for the Quiz, Iain Wright and Mandy Cook for the PIP with some good performances from local groups and individuals. I must also mention the Duck Race team who eventually overcame the fact that the ducks were travelling faster than the waders in the stream but a last ditch interception by someone jumping in at the finish line and catching the winning duck saved the day.

The rain that started during the afternoon of November 5th and continued throughout our Bonfire night had considerable impact on our evening. It not only caused problems for the firework team but also meant our food and drink stalls were set up inside the hall rather than outside. Numbers were down as was the profit made but we still had a good evening. Thanks to everyone involved in Bonfire Night and to Fred Bugg for organizing the bonfire.

The final event was the Christmas Fayre when we eventually attracted a few more stalls than normal, and had a good musical performance from Nayland Primary School.

The Christmas tree once again took pride of place in the centre of the Village and looked good, despite a car being in the way when we arrived to put it up.

Further thanks are due to the CT distributors and those who put up notices.

The following grants were awarded: £1000 Village Hall Endowment Fund, £250 Table Tennis Group for a new table, £250 Amy Napper, for a charity trip to Malawi, £400 First Response for a new defibrillator, £150 towards holding a local history exhibition.

In January, we agreed to give £3,500 to the VHMC towards the cost of their kitchen upgrade works. This was a large amount and followed an earlier refusal and extensive ongoing dialogue between various parties.

Moving forward into 2016 it is an important year for the Community Council and we're all looking forward to the Street Fayre on Sunday July 17th.



The future of Nayland Post Office was on the agenda and a 'Save Our Post Office' campaign was launched in an endeavour to safeguard it's future. A public meeting was held on 22nd March to kick start the campaign.

The options appeared to be: someone purchases the PO as a commercial venture; the postmistress closes the PO on her retirement; it is taken on in some form by the Community.

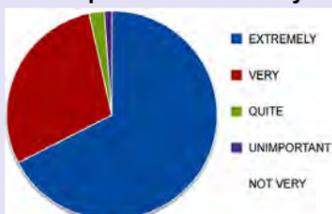
Members of the CC Exec were joined on a committee and they were in dialogue with the Post Office Authorities to ascertain what the future possibilities are regarding community involvement.

The various options were discussed at the public meeting on 20th July, including forming a Community Benefit Society and raising funds by issuing share capital. There appeared to be genuine support and enthusiasm so villagers are urged to complete a questionnaire. An appeal made for volunteers to set up and run the community company or to help out in the Post Office shop - the response was overwhelmingly positive.

An Executive Management Committee of eight members was in place. In September they had an exploratory meeting on site with the Post Office Field Agent to examine the implications of taking on the Post Office; to identify the potential costs of transfer and make an initial assessment of the work needed to ensure the Post Office can continue to operate from its current base.

The next steps are: by the end of this year were to establish and register the Community Benefit Society; to complete due diligence on and engage in more formal talks with the Post Office and the Postmistress to agree how we can take on the Post Office business; to determine exactly what works need to be undertaken to the premises and how they will be funded; to agree the business plan.

How important is the PO to you



COMMUNITY FINGERPRINT ART PROJECT

The Community Fingerprint Art Project was created by Anna Boon and Jayne Kennedy as part of the Street Fayre 50th anniversary of the Community Council. The committee came up with the idea that we could create a picture depicting Nayland that everyone who attended the Street Fayre could be part of - everyone attending added a fingerprint or two to create the picture. It is amazing what can be created from lots of fingerprints. It is now framed and hanging in the village hall bar.



NAYLAND FUN QUIZ

Competition was keen when nineteen teams took part in the Community Council's annual fun quiz at the village hall on 7th October 2016. Winners were Fancy Bears - Mel Skeet, Teresa Moriarty, Gill Boardman and Emma Bishton pictured - with The Millstones second and Clangers third.

It was a really enjoyable social event and we raised over £300 for council funds. A big thank you to everyone who came along and helped to make it a fun evening.

The Community Council are very grateful to Rachel Hichcock and her team of helpers for leading on the organisation of the quiz evening.

NAYLAND BONFIRE & FIREWORKS NIGHT



Nayland's traditional bonfire and firework display on 5th November drew a record attendance.

It was fun for all the family. Barbecued hot dogs with sausages from our local butcher, warming hot chocolate and mulled wine, children's drinks, sparklers and luminous necklaces all sold well.

The event made about £1,720 for Community Council funds.



CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Seasonal festivities began at Nayland on December 3rd with a successful Christmas Family Fayre. Ten local societies and five traders from outside the village took part in the annual event, displaying all kinds of tempting festive goods in the village hall. Mulled wine, mince pies and sausage rolls all sold well.

Musical entertainment was provided by a ukulele band and songs by children from Nayland Primary School. Father Christmas was also there with his Elf.

It was a really enjoyable community event with lots of different age groups attending and more than 50 children came to see Santa.



VILLAGE CHRISTMAS TREE

The Christmas tree in the High Street looked splendid again this year.

Our thanks go to Claire Buller and her team of helpers who organised and erected the tree into its underground fixings on 11th December for the enjoyment of the whole village.

This year all things went to plan with lights and decorations all in place within the hour.

The tree was greatly enjoyed by many especially for the Carols around the tree with the Boxted Silver Band on 21st December.

NAYLAND STREET FAYRE : 17th JULY 2016
CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF
NAYLAND WITH WINGSTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL
(Registered Charity No. 304926)

PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES

TIME	STAGE OUTSIDE THE DENTAL SURGERY
11.00	Official opening by Ken Willingale Children's choir
11.30	Village Players
12.00	Caversham 1960s music
12.30	Nayland Choir (Adult)
1.00	Fancy Dress parade from Church porch
1.30	Caversham 1960s music
2.00	Village Players
2.30	Caversham 1960s music
3.00	Judging of dress the doll in Church
3.30	Prize giving - Fancy dress/Dress doll
3.45	Community singing led by Caversham <small>(Yellow Submarine/Let's help from our friends/You'll never walk alone)</small>

Punch and Judy Shows
in Court Street at 11.45 / 12.45 / 13.45 / 14.45

Art Exhibition and Community Council History Display
in St James' Church 11-4pm

2016



FAYRE THANKS

A big thank you to everyone involved in the Street Fayre on 17th July 2016 celebrating 50 years of the Community Council. It was a wonderful event with a fabulous atmosphere and reflected the spirit of the Community Council in true Nayland with Wissington style. Whether you moved your car from the High Street, sung in the choir, attended a society stall, compèred the event, entered the fancy dress parade, served a Pimms, dressed a doll, manned the car park, were a member of the set up committee or just attended the event you were part of a day to remember.

The praise for the event has been coming in from far and wide and I can honestly say it would not have happened without everyone's cooperation and support.

Claire Buller, CC Street Fayre Team

FUN AT THE FAYRE

Sights and sounds of the 1960s were highlighted when Nayland with Wissington Community Council held its Street Fayre on July 17.

The event celebrated the Council's 50th anniversary and the gaily decorated village centre was packed with stalls.

The Fayre was opened by council president Ken Willingale who served on the original committee and recalled how the first chairman, the late General Fairbanks, had led a project to have a village hall built in six years. Chris Hunt was the Fayre's MC.

The ceremony was followed by Nayland School Choir singing a medley of 60s songs and during the day performances were staged by Nayland Choir, the Village Players and the Caverners 60s band.

There were two art exhibitions in St James' Church and a display illustrating the council's history and current activities.

Other features included vintage car rides, a shooting range, a community art project, photo booth and a children's roundabout.

Apart from local people the Fayre attracted hundreds of visitors from further afield and was rated "a huge success" by organising committee chairman Claire Buller.

She said: "It was a great team effort and there was a wonderful atmosphere throughout the day. A big thank you to Lorraine Brooks for compiling the council's history display."

First prizewinners in the fancy dress competition were: under 7 Alex Heaven, 8-11 Honey Castles-Brown, adults Sharon Pentney, group winners The Hippies, Mig and Peter Drew and Mandy Cook.

Dressing the doll competition: under 7 Sophia Anta-Cannings, 8-11 Honey Castles-Brown, adults Rebecca Gladwell. Winner of the Community Council's 1960 Quiz was Linda Butcher.

Photos: [top L-R] the bustle of the Fayre, dancin' in the street to The Caverners band, [middle L-R] MC Chris Hunt with Ken Willingale, president of the Community Council, opening the fayre, youngsters enjoying the photo booth and Punch 'n' Judy, [bottom L-R] Claire Buller and Will Hitchcock with winners of the Dress the Doll competition, MC Chris Hunt announcing winners of the Fancy Dress.



COMMUNITY COUNCIL REPORT

AGM: 6th March 2017
Chairman: Rachel Hitchcock

www.naylandcommunitycouncil.org.uk

I took on the role of Chair in January this year in unhappy circumstances. Very sadly, Neil Barbrook, our Chairman, passed away in September last year. He did a sterling job of leading this committee from when he took over the role in 2014 and this report has to open with recognition and thanks for all that Neil did for the Community Council and the village as well as thanks to Jane, for all her support. Neil is very much missed by us all.

Thanks are due to all members of the Community Council for their valuable contribution throughout the year and to the Officers and Executive Committee in particular – Ken Willingale, Bryan Smith, Julie Clark, Maggie Ryan, Lorraine Brooks, Claire Buller, Tricia Hall, Vicki Sargent, Colin Ramsell, John Parsonson, Colin Moule, and Iain Wright as well as Parish Council Rep, Martin Booth and Legal Advisor, Katie Wright.

I am not sure that everyone realises what an important part the Community Council plays in village life: supporting and bringing together all the village societies; fundraising so as to be able to support many village activities and endeavours; providing essential communication through the Community Times; and organising events throughout the year that are a focal point of the village calendar. Thank you to all of you who have kept up this hard work over the past year.

Lorraine Brooks deserves a mention for her tireless efforts co-ordinating us all – her organisational skills are legendary and much appreciated. The bi-monthly publication of the excellent Community Times is also down to Lorraine's tenaciousness as editor.

Thank you to Colin Ramsell who stepped into the role of Acting Chair on behalf of Neil, Maggie Ryan who took on the role of Treasurer last year and Iain Wright, our previous Treasurer for all their hard work.

Huge thanks to Claire Buller who spearheaded this special event to celebrate 50 years of the Community Council. It really was a great success and a prime example of a true community event. So many societies and organisations were involved and it was a real testament to what the Community Council is all about. The village turned out in great numbers to provide entertainment, stalls and community spirit. Thank you one and all.

Quiz, October 2016 was a fun night with – hopefully – something for everyone and the right mix of entertainment and competition – thanks to all who came along.

Bonfire Night, November 2016 was a great success. We were a little unsure about what to expect this year after the weather was so unkind to us in 2015 and with the fact that Bonfire Night fell on a Saturday so competition in the local area was tough! We needn't have worried, local residents came out in force and it was great to have such a well supported and fun event with a fantastic display of fireworks.

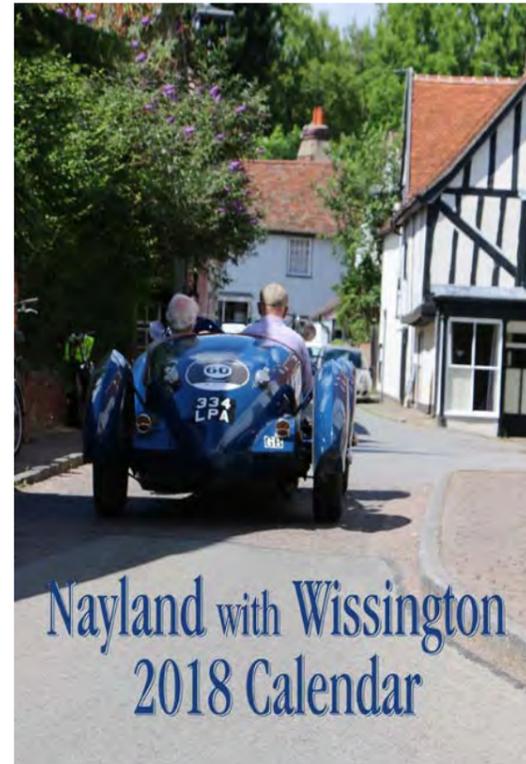
Christmas Fayre, December 2016 was again a well supported event. Father Christmas was in attendance as always, along with a good number of village societies (who were able to raise funds for their organisation) and external stallholders. The school choir and ukulele group also performed as they do at many Community Council events – a big thank you for helping to get the Christmas festivities off to a good start.

Village Christmas Tree. Christmas in Nayland wouldn't be the same in the village without the sparkling display in the Post Office window and the village Christmas tree twinkling across the road. Thank you to Fred Smith for supplying an excellent tree and to Nayland Dental Surgery for supplying the electricity – as well, of course, to the team who put it up and took it down!

Village Calendar is always popular and a great reminder of all that Nayland has to offer, along with an opportunity to compare Nayland past with Nayland present. Many thanks to the team who put the calendar together.

This year, amongst others, grants were awarded to: Nayland Baby and Toddler Group; the Conversation Society Court Knoll Project; the Village Hall and the Nayland Community Post Office Company.

Going forward, I am looking forward to another positive year for the Community Council. Please do feel free to get involved. This year we are supporting a charity running event – the Nayland 10k (plus 5k and 3k fun run) - organised by local resident Luke Rumbelow. Profits will go to support the Colchester Hospitals Charity and Community Council projects.



CALENDAR PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION 2017

The photographic competition to generate images for the 2018 Nayland with Wissington Calendar took place on 1st May. There were 130 beautiful scenes submitted, making selection of just twelve scenes and a cover very difficult indeed. The judge, Geoff Meadowcroft, was impressed by the marvellous variety of village activities and picturesque views that had been represented and the interesting compositions captured. The photographs selected were submitted by Graham Wiles, Maggie Ryan, Julie Clark, John Dalton, Hazel Gardiner, Mike Hunter, Justin Dowding, Lorraine Brooks, Mandy Cook and Wendy Sparrow.

As hoped entries represented the different seasons. Locations ranged from village activities and events such as the Street Fayre and Court Knoll Archaeological Dig to parish landmarks. There were a variety of street scenes, views of the meandering river Stour, the countryside and farming and some interesting architectural and natural features. Several people managed to capture interesting spur of the moment scenes.



NAYLAND 10K FUN RUN

The Community Council were delighted to support this exciting new event in Nayland.

There were plenty of local runners of all abilities taking part on 2nd July – with 10k, 5k and 3k runs there was something for everybody. And if running wasn't for you joining the team of volunteers and marshalls was enjoyable too.

Financially the CC benefited, including from refreshment sales, by £479. There were some start up costs this year so there is potential for a higher profit in future.

Rachel Hitchcock said: "It was a super event that went really well and had such a buzz on the day. Luke Rumbelow had done a marvellous job organising the event and was to be congratulated. Feedback from runners has been very positive and provided some constructive comments. There was rather more work involved at a local level than anticipated, but we now know what is needed and have the goodwill of helpers for taking the event forward to 2018."

SAVE OUR POST OFFICE CAMPAIGN



There was an encouraging attendance at a public meeting on 6th March to discuss progress in the campaign to save Nayland Post Office.

We have now registered our Community Benefit Society as a trading concern under the title of Nayland Community Store Limited to move the campaign forward.

Raising funds by share issue is considered the best way for communities to raise capital. Pledges from the community to buy shares in NCS (@ £25 each) are now being sought as having a sense of how much might be invested helps scale and scope fundraising. The money raised will be used for required building and electrical works, stock, shop fittings and short term lease and salary accruals, estimated at £60,000.

The survey and specification for the premises has been completed and tenders for the refurbishment work have been received. A grant application through Suffolk County Council was submitted and a grant to the Rural Development Agency will be submitted.

The public meeting on 15th June 2017 was well attended. Following confirmation from HMRC that our shares will be eligible for Social Investment Tax Relief at 30% further pledges were received. Launch costs of £79,418 were identified. Funding from Share Pledges, the Community Council and Transition Nayland amounts to £46,966. LEADER (Rural Development Agency) grant funding of £24,098 is being sought. A fully costed business application to Post Office Ltd has been submitted. Application for Listed Building Consent has been submitted for the refurbishment.

In August, we were granted Listed Buildings Consent by Babergh District Council to make the alterations

By October the LEADER Grant Application recommended us for a grant award, which may be up to the value of £21,000.

Our financial pledge total continues to inch forward and we have now received 219 pledges totalling £47,650. That combined with our funding from the Community Council and Transition Nayland means our funding total has now reached £51,566 which is getting ever closer to our pledge target.

By October 31st: NCS Ltd directors have been in dialogue with Area Field Transformation team who have gained permission from the Post Office's central Finance unit to allow our Community Benefit Society submission to go to final stages. We expect PO Ltd to take two or three weeks to respond to our re-application. Our timeline has been recalibrated into early part 2018 when we can expect to take on the lease and undertake the refurbishment works.

Meanwhile we are planning our next steps including the preparation of the share prospectus; resourcing and training volunteers; and thinking through our non-Post Office retail offering mindful of the recent closure of Hatten's Village Store.

We are delighted to say that combined with our funding from the Community Council and Transition Nayland has now reached £53,166.



FUNDING TARGET
£60,000
CURRENTLY £56,341



NAYLAND & WISTON COMMUNITY WEBSITE



In July 2017 Graham Griffiths stood down from managing the village website; because it is now out of date technology there is an urgent need to replace the website with something that is easier to maintain and better suits the current needs of the village. Justin Dowding had look at this at the request of the Village Hall Committee - obviously the booking systems for the village hall and church hall were of key importance but the site also has a much wider purpose as a village amenity.

There were however one off costs involved in this work and it was proposed that the Village Hall Committee, the Community Council and Parish Council contribute a third each to these costs - £635 per organisation.

Members appreciated Justin's willingness and feel the cost is competitive; with his local knowledge Justin would be ideal as webmaster. The Community Council agreed to support one-third of the cost.

The new website has been designed to work on mobile devices - tablets and phones - as well as regular computers.

On the front page, you'll find the latest news about the village, as well as a list of upcoming events.

On naylandandwiston.net, you can:

- Book your event at the Village Hall or Church Hall
- Check out our What's On calendar
- Add events to the calendar
- Ensure your future event don't clash with another village activity
- Check the latest village news
- Search for upcoming events
- Link to the Parish Council website
- Find links to village societies
- Update your society's page [pre-registration needed]
- Read up on village history
- View our photo gallery

The site incorporates bookings for the Village Hall and the Church Hall.

If you have any comments or suggestions, please get in touch with Justin at jpdowding@gmail.com



2017

BONFIRE & FIREWORKS

Nayland Community Council's bonfire and fireworks night broke all previous records, attracting hundreds of spectators to the playing field on 5th November.

Chairman Rachel Hitchcock said: "It was a huge success with people coming from far and wide. Many thanks to everyone involved in making it such an enjoyable and successful village event."

Council funds will benefit by nearly £3,000.

Photo: L-R preparing refreshments for Bonfire Night in the village hall kitchen were Jayne Kennedy Anna Boon, Jenny Napper and Vicki Sargent



COMMUNITY DEFIBRILLATOR

There was a proposal for a community defibrillator sited at the Fire Station, which has been given approval by the Fire Service. Rachel Hitchcock liaised with the Community Heartbeat Trust (CHT) for advice. The cost of a complete package (defibrillator, installation, maintenance, training, ongoing support, etc) was estimated to be £2,200. An application for Awards For All Lottery Funding was explored.

It was recommended that two community defibrillators would be better to serve the village as the recommend time for attendance is 5 minutes. The idea of a second defibrillator, perhaps located at the Village Hall, was to be considered further.

VILLAGE CHRISTMAS TREE

Sunday morning 10th December 2017 was a first - dressing the tree in a snow blizzard! Volunteers woke that morning to freezing conditions and rain; some conversations between the team of helpers, it was agreed to go ahead with the original plan of mounting the tree into its fixings.

The team of helpers started to prepare the tree regardless of a few snowflakes, little did they know a rather heavy snow blizzard was about to descend on them. As fast as they placed a decoration or string of lights onto the tree they became hidden by snow. Despite the appalling weather conditions the team of helpers continued until the task was complete.

They perhaps looked like snowmen, but the tree looked rather magical covered in snow as the photo shows.

The tree was much admired as always with comments such as "It looked fabulous once again despite having a blizzard to cope with when putting it up". Throughout the festive period it was greatly enjoyed by many in the village including for the Carols Around the Christmas Tree with the Boxted Silver Band on 20th December which was very well attended once again.

The Community Council is grateful to Luke Rumbelow, Bryan Smith, Peter Cotton, Colin Moule, Anna and Tony Boon, Wayne Buller, Iain Wright, Sean Norfolk who helped put it up in such difficult conditions and to our dental surgery for servicing the tree with its electricity, Fred Smith of Straight Road Boxted for delivering and supplying the tree at a very competitive rate and Sean Norfolk with his chain saw who expertly shaped the tree stump to fit its holder.



CHRISTMAS FAYRE

A gaily decorated village hall was full of festive cheer when Nayland with Wissington Community Council held its Christmas Family Fayre on 2nd December.

Various village organisations ran traditional stalls as well as others from further afield. Primary school pupils sang carols and played ukuleles. Santa Claus was a popular attraction and other features included mulled wine, food and refreshments.

Council chairman Rachel Hitchcock said: "The Fayre had a lovely festive atmosphere and lots of people turned out to enjoy it."

The school choir and ukulele band gave a fantastic performance and it was a good start to the Christmas season. Thank you to all involved."

← L-R: Wayne & Claire Buller, David George, Colin Ramsell & John Parsonson



I am pleased to be able to mark another year of successful community activities and events all of which contribute to the rich tapestry that is Nayland life! I am delighted to be part of an organisation that brings together so many different people. The fact that we represent over 22 village societies just demonstrates what a vibrant village Nayland is – and long may it stay that way.

Thanks, as always, are due to all members of the Community Council for their valuable contribution throughout the year and to the Officers and Executive Committee in particular – Ken Willingale, Bryan Smith, Julie Clark, Maggie Ryan, Lorraine Brooks, Claire Buller, Tricia Hall, Vicki Sargent, Colin Ramsell, John Parsonson, Colin Moule, Luke Rumbelow and Iain Wright as well as Parish Council Rep, Martin Booth and Legal Advisor, Katie Wright. Special thanks to Lorraine Brooks who continues in her tireless efforts to co-ordinate us all; drawing on her legendary organisational skills – and no doubt her reserves of patience at times as well!

I will risk repeating myself from last year's report to emphasise the important part I believe the Community Council plays in village life: supporting and bringing together all the village societies; fundraising so as to be able to support many village activities and endeavours; providing essential communication through the Community Times; and organising events throughout the year that are a focal point of the village calendar. Thank you to all of you who have kept up this hard work over the past year. And thank you to all the village organisations and societies that provide activities and events that bring us all together (I think there really is something for everyone!) and maintain that community spirit.

Thank you to everybody who turns out to help with the events and activities and to our stalwart committee who always step in to take charge and make sure they can take place successfully.

Nayland 10k Fun Run: A brilliant new event in the Nayland Calendar. Thanks to Luke Rumbelow for setting it up (and for joining the Community Council Exec!) and to everyone who turned out to help and participate. It was a glorious day and there was a great atmosphere with 600 runners taking part across the three distances – from club runners to families. Please put 1st July 2018 in your diary and come and join us again this year!

Bonfire Night: An unprecedented Bonfire Night. People came from far and wide and Nayland nearly came to a standstill! Thanks to Iain Wright and the firework team for the fabulous display as well as everybody who helped on stalls and refreshments – a real team effort and a record breaking fundraiser.

Christmas Fayre: Thanks to Father Christmas who supported this event as always. We also had a fine array of stalls provided by village societies (who were able to raise funds for their organisation) and external stallholders all of which added to the festive atmosphere. Nayland Primary School choirs and ukulele group also performed as they do at many Community Council events and we were delighted that they helped us get the Christmas festivities off to such a good start. Thank you everybody for your support.

Village Christmas Tree: Thank you as always to Fred Smith for supplying an excellent tree which provided a lovely, twinkly Christmas centerpiece and to Nayland Dental Surgery for supplying the electricity that kept it twinkling throughout Christmas. A big thank you too to the team who put it up in a full scale blizzard – a definite case of above and beyond the call of duty!

Village Quiz: Another record breaker with 23 teams in attendance. Thanks to all who came along for an evening of fun and friendly competition!

Village Calendar: Well done to the team for putting together another fantastic Village Calendar – a great memento of Nayland past and present and extremely thoughtfully put together. Many thanks to the Calendar Team.

Grants: This year, amongst others, we were extremely pleased to be able to support the revamp of the Nayland & Wiston Community Website (naylandandwiston.net), ably taken on by Justin Dowding when Graham Griffiths stepped down. Thank you to Graham for his dedication over 14 years and to Tony Price and Terence Wilson for their contributions too. The website contains (almost!) everything you need to know about Nayland as well as the booking systems for the village and church halls. Thank you Justin for all your efforts.

Further grants included the Luncheon Club for Over 60s Christmas Party, Nayland Baby & Toddler Group and Nayland Community Store Ltd

Going forward: I am looking forward to another positive year for the Community Council. We are really well supported from around the village but we always welcome new input and ideas and of course, many hands make light work when it comes to putting together our calendar of events. Please get in touch and get involved in any way you can.

PUBLIC ACCESS DEFIBRILLATORS IN NAYLAND

COMMUNITY DEFIBRILLATOR

As the Fire Service was awarded funding to install a defibrillator at Nayland Fire Station the Community Council took forward a *Lottery Awards For All* grant application to provide a second community defibrillator for the village. Both will be accessible 24/7.

The second public access defibrillator (financed with a grant of £3,474 from the National Lottery) was installed at the village hall by the Community Heartbeat Trust (CHT). It is registered with the CHT for their Webnos Governance System which allows full and complete records to be maintained about the use and management of the defibrillator. We make simple but regular checks of the equipment - ideally once a week - and then update the Webnos system online.

TRAINING

There was a well attended defibrillator training session on 18th October session, supported by the Community Heartbeat Trust and our local First Responders, which reassured the defibrillators are easy to use. Participants were given practical demonstrations and had the chance to practise CPR using a resuscitation dummy.

Training is not necessary to use a defibrillator as the device explains what to do but a training session would provide confidence and raise awareness. The thing that everyone took away from the training was that quick reactions and the confidence to act can greatly help the outcome when someone is in cardiac arrest.

WHERE ARE THE 2 DEFIBRILLATORS IN NAYLAND?

- **Nayland Fire Station**, Bear Street, Nayland CO6 4HY on the outside wall by the entrance.
- **Nayland Village Hall**, Church Lane, Nayland CO6 4JH on the outside wall to the right of the main entrance.

Please familiarise yourself with these locations and let your friends, family and neighbours know too.



NAYLAND 10K

The Community Council was extremely grateful for the donation of £1,433 from the Nayland 10k Fun Run held on Sunday 1st July. This was a significant contribution to our funds and will help support a wide range of community activities.

Rachel Hitchcock said: *"The event had been very successful and brought the village to life. It was great to see almost 900 runners of all ages taking part in this event – and enjoying the beautiful countryside around Nayland. Big thanks to them and to the volunteers who helped on the day for braving the heat and contributing to the lovely atmosphere."*

Luke Rumbelow of Event Nation, organiser of the event said: *"Once again, it was an absolute pleasure to organise the second Nayland 10k. I would like to thank the volunteers of Nayland and the surrounding villages, my family and everyone who entered and enjoyed the run. We are delighted with the amount raised for Colchester Hospitals and the Community Council."*



NAYLAND COMMUNITY STORE LTD "Save Our Post Office" Campaign



The Nayland Community Store Ltd (NCSL) team continued to work hard overcoming the various hurdles encountered. A huge step forward had been achieved with Post Office Ltd offering NCSL a contract to take over Nayland Post Office.

They were pleased to report that combined with their grant funding from the Community Council and Transition Nayland, their pledge total had increased to £58,491.

The legal work neared completion and they were close to exchanging conditional contracts with the current Postmistress. They had a provisional time line for Nayland Community Store Ltd (NCSL) to take on the Post Office and retail business.

At a public meeting in July it was explained that whilst much has been achieved, the NCSL team have been beset by legal delays. Frustrating as these were, they hoped to get through them all by the end of August and be in a position to launch the NCSL share issue in September. They appealed and filled positions for volunteers to manage and serve in the business. They were on course to open for business on 14th November.

On 9th August it was announced that Nayland Post Office lost its paper round services after receiving notice due to ill-health from a key employee; this was a material change for the business both in terms of revenue and footfall. Secondly, the candidate for the financially-skilled Chair needed to run the NCSL Board, also due to ill-health, was unable to proceed and the sole candidate to be the manager of the in-shop retail business withdrew her candidacy.

It had also become known that a regional retailer was expressing an interest in opening a new retail unit in Nayland; although the situation was at the very earliest stage of investigation.

On 5th September it was sadly announced that... *"It is with great sadness and disappointment that the NCSL Board have decided, in the light of the recent circumstances, it is no longer in a position where it can recommend to the village that there is a working sustainable model for a community-run Post Office and retail business."*

The NCSL Board and wider executive team placed on record their thanks for everyone's support of this cause, and regretted that this transaction could not come to a successful conclusion for the village.



NAYAND FUN QUIZ

A record number of 23 teams took part in the annual Fun Village Quiz organised by the Community Council.

The event, held in the village hall on 2nd February, was won by the Harrow Street Irregulars by a narrow margin of only two points. Five teams tied for second place.

Chair Rachel Hitchcock said: "It was a really enjoyable evening with lots of positive comments at the end. We had a good turnout from Nayland and beyond." The quiz raised more than £350 for council funds.



CALENDAR PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

The photographic competition to generate images for the 2019 Nayland with Wissington Calendar took place on 7th May and many residents called in to view the photographic display and enjoy refreshments. There were 148 beautiful scenes submitted, making selection of just twelve scenes and a cover very difficult indeed. The judge, Geoff Meadowcroft, was impressed by the marvellous variety of picturesque views and village activities that had been represented and the interesting compositions captured.

The photographs selected were submitted by Sue Pilgrim, John Milbank, Graham Wiles, Antony Day, Mandy Cook, Will Hitchcock, Lorraine Brooks, Hazel Gardiner, Diane Leach, Maggie Ryan and Helen Walder.

As hoped entries represented the different seasons with our range of weather conditions, from glorious sunshine to mist and snow. Locations ranged from village activities and events such as the Nayland 10K Fun Run, Church Fete, Open Gardens to parish landmarks, such as St James' and St Mary's churches. There were a variety of street scenes, views of the meandering river Stour, the countryside and farming views and some interesting architectural and natural features including the carvings in St James' and the footbridge at Pop's Piece. Several people managed to capture spur of the moment scenes, and our feathered residents - the ducks, swans and resident goose on Caley Green.

The images selected for inclusion in the calendar were matched up with interesting old images of the village and historic detail was by Wendy Sparrow.



2018



BONFIRE & FIREWORKS

The annual bonfire and fireworks night on 5th November was a dazzling display which attracted several hundred spectators from Nayland and further afield.

This event was hugely successful once again and the display received many compliments.

Rachel Hitchcock said: "There was a fantastic turnout and it was a great evening. The weather was kind and our usual band of helpers made it such a success."

The event raised in the region of £2,200 for council funds.

Photo: L-R Claire & Wayne Buller, Luke Rumbelow & Rachel Hitchcock.



CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Seasonal festivities began on 1st December when Nayland village hall was full of festive cheer for a successful Christmas Family Fayre.

There was fun for all with Father Christmas who was a popular attraction and musical entertainment from pupils of Nayland Primary School. The Fayre also provided an opportunity for village societies and groups to raise funds with their traditional stalls, raffles, tombolas and delicious festive refreshments. The mulled wine was as popular as ever! Shoppers also found a wide variety of tempting gifts and goods from outside stallholders.

Council chair Rachel Hitchcock said: "The Fayre had a lovely festive atmosphere and lots of people came along to enjoy it. The school choir gave a lovely performance and it was a good start to the Christmas season. A big thank you to everyone who came and supported us."

The Fayre raised over £260 for council funds.

VILLAGE CHRISTMAS TREE

On Sunday 9th December the tree was once again mounted into its underground fixings. This year it all went to plan with lights and decorations in place within the hour.

The tree was taller than previous years; as a result the baubles and lights were a little sparse, but despite this the tree was greatly enjoyed by many in the village especially for the Carols round the tree with the Boxted Silver Band.

Many thanks to all those who helped put it up and take it down again this year and to our dental surgery for servicing the tree with its electricity
Photo L-R: Iain Wright, Sean Norfolk, Wayne Buller, Luke Rumbelow, Claire Buller, Tony Boon, Anna Boon, Ruby Stephens



In my third year as Chair of the Community Council I am slightly worried that my Chair's report may become a little repetitive. However, the positive things I said in my previous report about the successful events and projects that the Community Council organises on behalf of the village are as true as they were this time last year!

One of the things that attracted me to Nayland when we moved here years ago is that it is such a vibrant village and it is safe to say that that aspect of Nayland hasn't diminished. The Nayland calendar is as jam-packed as ever. In fact we can sometimes struggle recruiting enough helpers to assist with our different activities because people are involved in so many areas of village life! Please continue to support local events and activities in any way you can.

Thanks, of course, are due to all members of the Community Council for their valuable contribution throughout the year and to the Officers and Executive Committee in particular: Ken Willingale, Bryan Smith, Julie Clark, Maggie Ryan, Lorraine Brooks, Claire Buller, Tricia Hall, Vicki Sargent, Colin Ramsell, John Parsonson, Colin Moule, Luke Rumbelow and Iain Wright as well as Parish Council Rep, Martin Booth. Special thanks to Lorraine Brooks whose organisational efforts know no comparison. And good luck to Colin Moule who left us this year when he moved to Cavendish – we thank him for his participation and support.

What does the Community Council do? It represents and brings together over 22 village societies in one organisation; fundraises so as to be able to support many village activities and endeavours; provides essential communication through the Community Times; funds or co-ordinates projects that are of benefit to the community, such as the public access defibrillator; organises events throughout the year that are a focal point of the village calendar.

Thank you to all of you who have contributed to these efforts over the past year. And thank you to all the village organisations and societies who ensure that there is 'something for everyone' in Nayland and Wiston!

Community Council events and activities: Thank you to everybody who helps with all the Community Council events and activities, especially the committee who lead the way! When I list what we achieve in a year it reinforces what an important organisation the Community Council is.

Public Access Defibrillator: The Community Council was delighted to be able to co-ordinate this project to install a public access defibrillator at the Village Hall supported by funding from the National Lottery. Public Access Defibrillators can save vital time whilst waiting for the emergency services to arrive and can dramatically improve a person's chances of survival. In October we held a Defibrillator Training and Awareness session led by a trainer from the Community Heartbeat Trust. It was well attended and all those who came along had the chance to see how the defibrillator works and were reassured how easy it is to use.

Bonfire Night: After last years' unprecedented turnout we were unsure that we would be able to repeat the success on a chilly Monday evening – but we need not have feared. We had a fantastic number of visitors who enjoyed a brilliant display and the lovely community atmosphere. We instigated a few changes to help things run even more smoothly front of house and raised an impressive sum for the Community Council. Thanks once again to Iain Wright and the firework team for the fabulous display, Fred Bugg for the bonfire and everybody who helped on stalls and refreshments – a real team effort.

Christmas Fayre: Thank you to everybody who supported our festive fayre. Village societies and external stallholders provided a myriad of stalls and we also had entertainment from the children of Nayland Primary School and of course a special visit from Father Christmas. A great start to the festive season.

Village Christmas Tree: Once again Fred Smith did us proud, supplying an excellent tree for the centre of the village which sparkled its way through December. Thank you too to Nayland Dental Surgery for supplying the electricity and of course to Claire Buller and the team who put it up.

Village Quiz: With the emphasis on fun, and an air of good-humoured competition, the quiz has become a regular fixture in the Nayland calendar and each year we are gratified at the number of teams who come along and participate. This year was no exception with 17 teams in attendance.

Village Calendar: The Nayland with Wissington calendar has been enjoyed by local residents and many from further afield over the past 10 years. The Community Council is extremely grateful to the team who have produced it with such success.

Nayland 10k Fun Run: Despite the baking heat hundreds of runners took part in the second Nayland 10k and fun run – organised by Luke Rumbelow and Event Nation. A proportion of the profits from the event – which included a 10k, 5k and 1k run – is donated to local charities including the Community Council for which we are very appreciative.

Grants: This year we were pleased to be able to support the Nayland Cinema (Village Hall) towards improving the sound quality and acoustics to enable its relaunch; further support to the Nayland Community Store Ltd reimbursing funds that members of the team put into the campaign.

Going forward I am looking forward to another year as Chair of the Community Council and to continuing the events and activities that are so well supported. We are always open to new ideas so please don't be shy - do get in touch and get involved in any way you can.

NAYAND FUN QUIZ

Competition was keen when seventeen teams took part in the Community Council's annual fun quiz at the village hall on 8th February.

There were only four points separating the top six teams. Winners were 'Nothing Has Changed' - Nick, Mary and Sean Moriarty and Chris Hunt - with 'The Wordsmiths' second and 'Piano, Pilates and Panic' third.

The event was coordinated by Rachel Hitchcock who said: "It was a really enjoyable social event and we raised about £295 for council funds. A big thank you to everyone who came along and helped to make it a fun evening."

THE ANNUAL CALENDAR PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

The photographic competition to generate images for the 2020 Nayland with Wissington Calendar took place on 8th May. There were 128 beautiful scenes submitted, making selection of just twelve scenes and a cover very difficult indeed.

This year we asked visitors at the display to select their 12 favourite photographs and cover image which would be included in the calendar and this seemed very popular. Over 60 people carefully studied all the images before making their choices. It was not an easy task choosing just 12 scenes from so many lovely photographs!

The photographs selected were submitted by Julie Clark, Nicola Thorogood, Joanna Petersen, Graham Wiles, Antony Day, Mandy Cook, Brian Sanders, Lorraine Brooks, Hazel Gardiner, Sally Dalton, Adrian Szabo, Wendy Sparrow and Phil Border.

As hoped entries represented the different seasons with our range of weather conditions, from glorious sunshine to mist and snow. Locations ranged from village activities and events to parish landmarks and there were a variety of street scenes, views of the river Stour, the countryside and some interesting architectural and natural features including the remains of the Mill wheel at Wiston and a vintage tractor parked outside the Surgery.

NAYLAND 10K FUN RUN

The Community Council is extremely grateful for the donation of £1,414.40 from the Nayland 10k Fun Run. This is a significant contribution to our funds and will help support a wide range of community activities.

Rachel Hitchcock, Chair of Nayland with Wissington Community Council said: "The Nayland 10k is fast becoming a firm feature in the local calendar and it is lovely to see so many people enjoying the village and surrounding countryside. The fact that it raises such a significant sum for the Community Council is a bonus and it is fantastic that this money will go back into supporting village organisations and activities. A big thank you to Luke and his team for their efforts in organising such a well-run event."



NAYLAND BONFIRE & FIREWORKS NIGHT

The annual Nayland bonfire and fireworks night held on 5th November was very successful, attracting several hundred spectators.

It was organised by Nayland with Wisington Community Council and chair Rachel Hitchcock said: "There was a great atmosphere and it was a really good evening with people coming from far and wide to enjoy the display."

The event raised just over £3,000 for council funds.

Community Council President, Ken Willingale said: "It seems that our bonfire night has become well supported from many people. The gain for the Community Council is not just in monetary terms but it shows how well Nayland can work together. Well done everybody. You deserve all our thanks."



VILLAGE CHRISTMAS TREE

On Sunday 8th December the tree was once again mounted into its underground fixings. Another year of things once again not quite going to plan. The tree delivered early that morning was much smaller than we had been used to. After much discussion with the tree erection team present that morning it was decided to call Fred Smith to see if it was possible to exchange the tree for a larger one. Fred very kindly offered to bring us a larger tree that very same morning. As we waited for the tree there were many comments about the strength of the wind. By the time the new magnificent 20ft plus tree arrived it was very windy indeed. None the less the team went ahead sculpting the base of the very large tree to fit its bespoke holder and dressing the tree with its baubles, star and four sets of tree lights. With much heaving, lifting, twisting and turning the tree was placed into the ground outside the dentists. The tree was finally up. However a few gusts of winds later the tree had moved within its base and came to rest with a distinct lean towards the dentist. We tried to reduce the lean with chocs of wood within the base but due to the sheer size of the tree it was impossible to correct it fully. Some would say it just added to the charm!

Unfortunately the lean was not the only problem this year. While placing the light switches into their housing under the tree, the lights at the very top of the tree became disconnected from their transformer turning the top of the tree into darkness. Fortunately Gary Napper and Tony Boon knew what to do and soldered the connection back together. Hey presto the whole tree was alight again.

Despite all these hiccups we were glad the tree was greatly enjoyed by many in the village especially for the Carols round the tree with the Boxted Silver Band on 18th December which was very well attended.

Thanks you to all who helped put it up and take it down and to the dental surgery for servicing the tree with its electricity, to Fred Smith of Straight Road, Boxted for (twice) delivering and supplying the tree and Sean Norfolk who expertly shaped the tree stump to fit its holder.
Photo: L-R Tony Boon & Gary Napper



CHRISTMAS FAMILY FAYRE

Seasonal festivities began at Nayland on December 3rd with a successful Christmas Family Fayre.

Local societies and traders from outside the village took part in the annual event, displaying all kinds of tempting festive goods in the village hall. Mulled wine, mince pies and sausage rolls all sold well.

Musical entertainment was provided by a ukulele band and songs by children from Nayland Primary School. Father Christmas was also there with his Elf.

Council chair Rachel Hitchcock said: "The fayre had a lovely festive atmosphere and lots of people came along to enjoy it. The school choir gave a lovely performance and it was a good start to the Christmas season. A big thank you to everyone who came and supported us."



COMMUNITY COUNCIL REPORT

AGM: 2nd March 2020 Chairman: Rachel Hitchcock

www.naylandcommunitycouncil.org.uk

I have had the privilege of being Chair of the Community Council since 2017 and am pleased to be embarking on another year of varied and numerous community activities. There is never a dull moment and once again I am proud of what we have achieved over the past year. I can strongly recommend being part of the Community Council. I may be a little biased but it really is a great organisation! Please consider joining our friendly committee as new ideas and a few extra pairs of hands are always welcome. In return you can be assured that you will be giving something back to your local community as I hope this report shows.

Thanks, as always, to all members of the Community Council for their many contributions throughout the year and to the Officers and Executive Committee in particular: Ken Willingale, Bryan Smith, Julie Clark, Maggie Ryan, Lorraine Brooks, Claire Buller, Tricia Hall, Vicki Sargent, Colin Ramsell, Luke Rumbelow, Jo Metson and Iain Wright as well as our Parish Council representatives. Special thanks as always to Lorraine Brooks whose organisational efforts are legendary and also to Colin Ramsell who has left the Executive Committee this year having moved out of the village. Colin hasn't gone too far though and we are pleased that he will remain involved in village life. We thank him for his many contributions during his tenure, including taking on the job of Acting Chair for a period of time. I am also sad to have to mention the loss of John Parsonson who sadly passed away in 2019. He was a hugely supportive member of our committee and on a personal level I always valued his counsel and advice. We all miss his smile and sense of humour and his willingness, along with wife Jill, to support all of the Community Council activities.

What does the Community Council do? It represents and brings together over 22 village societies in one organisation; fundraises in order to support many village activities and endeavours; provides valuable communication through the Community Times; funds or co-ordinates projects that are of benefit to the community, such as the public access defibrillator; organises events throughout the year that are a focal point of the village calendar.

Thank you to all of you who have contributed to these efforts over the past year. And thank you to all the village organisations and societies who ensure that Nayland and Wiston have such full social calendars!

Community Council events and activities: Thank you to everybody who helps with all the Community Council events, especially the committee who organise them! This year is no exception and our list of achievements is as long as ever.

Public Access Defibrillator: Defibrillators can save vital time whilst waiting for the emergency services to arrive and can dramatically improve a person's chances of survival when administered within a few minutes. We have two public access defibrillators in Nayland, one at the Village Hall and one at the Fire Station. The Community Council continues to monitor and maintain the defibrillator at the Village Hall through the Community Heartbeat Trust and their Webnos service. On 15th May we held another Defibrillator Training and Awareness session led by a trainer from the Community Heartbeat Trust. Those who came along had the chance to see how the defibrillator works and were reassured how easy it is to use. A more general first aid training session is proposed for this year to be held in conjunction with the local First Responders.

Bonfire Night: Another unprecedented turnout in 2019 – we now have visitors coming from far and wide to see our community firework display which always takes place on 5th November. Thanks once again to Iain Wright and the firework team for the fabulous display, Fred Bugg for the bonfire and everybody who helped on stalls and refreshments – a real team effort. Given the growth of the event, in 2020 we will use an external company to do the actual display with the Community Council then able to concentrate on the other areas of the evening. We hope that this will ensure we can continue to provide a successful and entertaining community firework display whilst catering for the increasing number of visitors.

Christmas Fayre: Thank you to everybody who supported our Christmas Fayre. Village societies and external stallholders provided a fantastic range of stalls and we are very grateful to the children and staff of Nayland Primary School who provided some lovely festive entertainment. Thank you too to Father Christmas for paying us a visit again. A great start to the festive season.

Village Christmas Tree: Once again, thanks to Fred Smith for supplying an excellent tree for the centre of the village which sparked its way through December. Thank you too to Nayland Dental Surgery for supplying the electricity and of course to Claire Buller and the team who put it up. This year it was the strong winds that provided the challenge so well done to the team for their perseverance!

Village Quiz: With the emphasis on fun, and an air of good-humoured competition, the quiz has become a regular fixture in the Nayland calendar and each year we are gratified at the number of teams who come along and participate. This year was no exception with 23 teams in attendance. It was lovely to see the hall so full of people putting the old grey matter to the test!

Village Calendar: The Nayland with Wissington calendar has been enjoyed by local residents and many from further afield for over 10 years. Thank you so much for the small but dedicated team who made the continuation of the calendar possible.

Nayland 10k & Fun Run: We were so pleased to once again support this event, organised by Luke Rumbelow and Event Nation. The third Nayland 10k and fun run repeated the success of previous years and continued its tradition of attracting hundreds of local runners of all ages. A proportion of the profits from the event - which included a 10k, 5k and 1k run - is donated to local charities including the Community Council. We were extremely grateful to receive a donation of over £1,400 in 2019.

Grants: This year we were pleased to be able to support Lizzie's Fund, awarding £195 towards the hire of the village hall to enable a 50km charity endurance walk culminating in a fundraising; well done to the team who raised £4,000. We provided further support to the Village Hall by pledging £10,000 towards the new roof as well as grant of £779.99 towards the new cooker. We also contributed a third share towards maintenance of the village website: www.naylandandwiston.net

Going forward I am looking forward to another year as Chair of the Community Council.

NAYLAND FUN QUIZ

Nayland Fun Village Quiz held in the village hall on 8th February 2020 proved pretty popular with twenty-two teams battling it out in friendly rivalry!

The winners were Liz Richards and Karon Symmons and their partners.

Chair Rachel Hitchcock said: "It was a really enjoyable evening with lots of positive comments. It was lovely to see a good turnout of residents from the village and beyond."



THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC INTERRUPTION

On 23rd March 2020 the Government announced the first lockdown in the UK due to the Coronavirus pandemic. For the rest of that year there were lockdowns (second on 5 November), or restrictive contact with others. In Nayland and Wiston, as everywhere, life became different but we were perhaps lucky in a rural community to be able to get out of our homes and enjoy the countryside and observe wildlife. Community activities as we had known them ceased, for eighteen months or so.

Residents turned to the internet for information and for shopping and local shopkeepers were a godsend. Locally the Community Council collated a team of volunteers who could offer help with errands, shopping, collecting prescriptions, etc. The Community Times helped relay this and other useful information, including local shopping options and delivery services. Local Facebook groups were set up which provided news, communication, advice and simply helped raised the spirits of residents. Nayland Bear appeared daily to provide humour and charm and Gordon, the resident graylag goose, kept us company at Caley Green.

It was possible to run the Calendar Photographic Competition online and produce calendars during the Covid years. The Community Council meetings were conducted via Zoom. It was necessary to cancel the Bonfire & Firework Display (never before in its 34 year history) and the Christmas Fayre. However the CC introduced the Christmas Trail and it has remained popular since then; consisting of Advent Windows, a Christmas Wreath Competition, and a Christmas Tree Trail. As the Christmas Fayre had to be cancelled Father Christmas was invited to tour the village in an open top vintage car giving out bags of chocolate coins to young residents of the village - this too was hugely popular and he now returns each year.

THE ANNUAL CALENDAR PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

The photographic competition to generate images for the 2021 Nayland with Wissington Calendar took place despite Covid-19, using online technology. We missed seeing everyone in the church hall for what is usually a very social occasion but the number of entries this year exceeded expectations with almost 200 photos submitted by 41 photographers.

The standard of the photographs was fantastic resulting a wonderful selection of scenes and subjects for viewers to choose from; we really could have produced several calendars!!

This has been an exceptional year, one where our wildlife has played an important part in our lives so the criteria that photos should be 'recognisable as being in Nayland or Wiston' was relaxed a little.

The photos that received the most votes were taken by Mary Batty, Brian Sanders, Adrian Szabo, Carol Spicer, Rebecca Gladwell, Elaine Muskett, Mandy Cook, Suki Cohen, Stuart Howells, Justin Dowding and Sue Pilgrim.

Nayland & Wiston Calendar Photographic Competition

Thank you to everyone who took part...

Here are the images sent in by residents and were voted for by you as your favourites.

We hope you like them.... and will consider buying the 2021 calendar when it's out.

Thank you 😊



NAYLAND & WISTON CHRISTMAS TRAIL

Advent Windows, Christmas Tree Trail & Wreath Competition

Christmas was rather different in December 2020 due to the Covid-19 pandemic but that seemed even more reason for us to get together as a community and bring a little seasonal cheer to the streets of Nayland and Wiston.

As usual residents excelled with an abundance of festive delights displayed around the village. There were 24 beautifully decorated windows, 18 festive Christmas trees and 19 unique wreaths included on the trail map.

Windows around the village were decorated and from 1st to 24th December a new one was 'opened' each day. Christmas trees and wreaths were displayed from 7th December; for a little extra interest there was a question associated with each tree; wreaths had all been decorated by the participants.

The worthy winners of the wreath competitions were: adult, Karen Freeman, Court Street; under 16, Pippa and Isla Metson, Laburnum Way; under 10, Charlie Duncan, Fen Street.

And there was more.... community spirit didn't end there; many residents contributed further with some wonderful festive decorations, bringing much joy and amusement to the village.



THE VILLAGE CHRISTMAS TREE

On 6th December a tree was once again mounted into the underground fixings. This year was of course a little different as we had to adhere to social distancing while erecting the tree. Everything went to plan with the new lights and decorations all in place within an hour and half.

The tree received many wonderful comments this year with its new lights and decorations making it a sight to see. A big thank you to the Community Council for funding the new lights and baubles which helped brighten a difficult Christmas for many.

A huge thanks all those who helped put it up and take it down again this year and to the dental surgery for servicing the tree with its electricity, Fred Smith of Boxted for delivering the tree Sean Norfolk who shaped the tree to fit its holder.

Photos: The team of helpers adhering to social distancing.



FATHER CHRISTMAS

Father Christmas and his Elf visited Nayland on 20th December for a tour of the village in Foster Jones' open-top vintage car, a 1927 Humber.

They were greeted by about 150-200 excited youngsters, big kids and parents out to see the special man. They gave out over 70 bags of chocolate coins to delighted children. The photographs show children enjoying the tour where it started in the High Street; at Caley Green where residents had been waiting patiently for their visit; on their tour of the Heights and in Bear Street.



CHRISTMAS THANKS

The Community Council received many comments of gratitude for encouraging Christmas spirit and bringing some joy during difficult times. In turn they were very grateful to so many in the village for their eager and generous participation to make Christmas special.

Displays such as, left, the Bear Street illuminations and the herd of deer brighten the entrance of the village and for customers of the fish and chop van. And Nayland Bear provide much amusement all through Covid.



AGM: 3rd March 2021 via Zoom
Chairman: Rachel Hitchcock

www.naylandcommunitycouncil.org.uk

I think that it is safe to say that I couldn't have foreseen the year to come as I sat and wrote my Chair's Report this time last year. It feels that it was both five minutes and a lifetime ago! Given the year we have had this report will not be quite the same as usual, but it is to the credit of the whole of the Community Council and the spirit of all of the societies and organisations in Nayland and Wiston that there is still much to celebrate.

Thanks as always to all members of the Community Council for their many contributions throughout the year and to the Officers and Executive Committee in particular – Ken Willingale, Bryan Smith, Julie Clark, Maggie Ryan, Lorraine Brooks, Claire Buller, Tricia Hall, Vicki Sargent, Luke Rumbelow, Jo Metson and Iain Wright as well as our Parish Council Reps. Special thanks as always to Lorraine without whose organisational skills we would not be half as efficient and productive as we are. It is a credit to the Community Council that we rarely have people leave the committee. I am, however, pleased to acknowledge that we gained two lovely new members this year. Lesley Jameson who took on the role of Treasurer from Maggie Ryan and Sophie Williams who joined the committee. Both have hit the ground running and it has been great to welcome them on board, even though it has largely been via Zoom so far! Huge thanks to Maggie for all of her efforts as Treasurer. I have very much appreciated her working alongside me on the committee and we are all very grateful for her commitment, time and expertise. She has resigned the role because of increasing outside commitments but we are delighted that she remains a valued member of the committee.

On a sad note we recently received news that our past Chairman, Alex Badman, has died. Alex, and his wife Jill, were extremely active members of the Community Council when they lived in Nayland. From organising the base for the village Christmas tree (much valued as it replaced a big concrete drum which had to be rolled out each year) to the wonderful Jubilee celebrations in 2012 including a huge lunch in the village hall, Alex made his mark on the Community Council. He will be sadly missed and is remembered with much gratitude and appreciation.

Community Council events and activities: Obviously, because of Covid-19 we have been unable to hold our usual programme of events this year. We unfortunately had to cancel Bonfire Night, the Christmas Fayre and the Village Quiz. The 10k, with which we are involved every year had to be postponed too. We very much hope that these events will be back in the coming year, giving us all something to look forward to. However, we didn't rest on our laurels. The Community Council continued to monitor and maintain the defibrillator at the Village Hall through the Community Heartbeat Trust and their Webnos service. We also initiated a village volunteer list to support village residents during the Coronavirus lockdowns – thank you to all our members and village volunteers who were part of this.

The **Community Times** was an invaluable source of entertainment and information throughout the year and helped to keep the village connected at what has been a difficult time for everybody – thank you to our able editor Lorraine for all her hard work.

We also organised a **Christmas Trail of Trees, Wreaths and Advent Windows** which brightened the village throughout December. We are incredibly grateful to everyone in the village who helped make this such a success – and we hope that it will be back by popular demand next year!

Father Christmas was even able to do a tour of the village too so thank you to him and his chauffeur. Finally, thanks to the Village Calendar (and Lorraine and Wendy Sparrow who produced it) we were even able to achieve some fundraising in a year when fundraising was very difficult – thank you so much to all the photographic competition entrants.

Grants: This year we were pleased to be able to support Lizzie's Fund, awarding a grant of £201 towards the hire of the village hall as part of a 50km endurance walk fundraiser for this charity. As this event had to be cancelled in 2020 this grant has been held over for when it is possible to hold it again. £400 to provide Nayland Primary School recorder and ukulele groups with bespoke t-shirts (as the choir already have). £649 to the Conservation Society, for steps to improve footpath access from A134 down to Nayland Meadow; the steps have made transition down the steep slope safer for walkers along this well used path. £550 to Nayland with Wissington Land Company, for a bench to be installed next to the new permissive path on the Horkesley Road/A134 corner of Nayland Meadow. The village footpaths have been particularly well used this year so both of these grants will be of great benefit to residents.

Going forward: I am looking forward to another year as Chair of the Community Council. I did say that last year would be my last as Chair but, due to a quiet year of activities, I have said that I will hang on for another 12 months! However I would like to hand over the baton in time for next year's AGM so if you fancy taking on the role – please don't be shy – I can strongly recommend it and with our friendly and supportive committee it really is a massively enjoyable and worthwhile role.

CALENDAR PHOTO-GRAPHIC COMPETITION

The photographic competition to generate images for the 2022 Nayland with Wissington Calendar took place using online technology again due to the Coronavirus restrictions.

We missed seeing everyone in the church hall for what is usually a nice social occasion but the number of entries was again high with just over 150 wonderful photos submitted by 29 photographers.

Thank you to everyone who entered; the standard of the photographs was fantastic resulting a delightful eclectic selection of scenes and subjects for viewers to choose from.

Congratulations to those who received the most votes for their fabulous photographs. They were: Brian Sanders, Elaine Muskett, Luke Speakman, Mandy Cook, Antony Day, Rebecca Gladwell, Stuart Howells, Wendy Sparrow and Justin Dowding.

The photographs were split into subject categories for selection. The benefit of conducting the competition this way means the images remain available to view online.

BONFIRE & FIREWORK DISPLAY

The Community Council's annual Nayland Bonfire & Fireworks night was back.... with a bang and a dazzling display.

Held as usual on 5th November the event attracted 1400 spectators which is astounding; an all time record.

Dynamic Fireworks provided the display, Fred Bugg the bonfire, Nayland schoolchildren made a fabulous Guy and our happy band of volunteers served nearly 500 barbecue hot dogs and over 50 litres of mulled wine. The event raised a record breaking £4,500.

Rachel Hitchcock, CC Chair said: "Everything ran smoothly thanks to our wonderful team of volunteers. There has been lots of positive feedback and there was a great atmosphere."

Nayland & Wiston Calendar Photographic Competition

Thank you to everyone who took part...

Here are the images sent in by residents and were voted for by you as your favourites.

We hope you like them.... and will consider buying the 2022 calendar when it's out.

Thank you 🍌





NAYLAND VILLAGE CHRISTMAS TREE

On 5th December 2021 the tree was once again mounted into its underground fixings. This year it was a truly magnificent tree. However once more it was not without its challenges. When we arrived, a car was parked over the underground tree mounting therefore the owner of the vehicle had to be found before work could commence. We started to decorate the tree while it was lying on the ground. Once the top lights and decorations were placed, we then attempted to lift the tree to the upright position into its fixings but this year's tree was much heavier than previous years and extra manpower was required. After a few phone calls calling on a few extra bodies and an ingenious chock of wood made by Sean we managed finally to get the tree in its upright position. The Tree received many wonderful comments this year with its many lights and decorations making it a sight to see. Many said: "It was the best one ever" A big thank you to the Community Council for funding the lights and baubles which helped brighten everyone's Christmas again this year.



NAYLAND CHRISTMAS TRAIL

Christmas has been a little different these last two years and that seemed even more reason for us to get together as a community and bring a little seasonal cheer to the streets of Nayland and Wiston. From 1st to 24th December advent windows around the village were decorated and one 'opened' each day. The Christmas trees and wreaths were displayed from 10th December. For a little extra interest there was a question associated with each tree.



JINGLE BELLS COFFEE MORNING WITH FATHER CHRISTMAS

The Community Council celebrated the start of the festive season with a successful Coffee Morning on 11th December. Due to the Omicron variant of Covid it was felt a quieter, more community minded event should be organised. It had all the ingredients of a jolly festive occasion; the village hall was gaily decorated with bunting and several local societies ran a variety of stalls. Father Christmas was in attendance, Nayland Primary School choir provided musical entertainment and festive food and refreshments were available. Council chairman Rachel Hitchcock said: "It was a lovely start to the festivities and although quieter than our usual Christmas Fayre it was very well received and enjoyed. It was an opportunity for villagers to socialise in a safer environment."



FATHER CHRISTMAS COMES TO NAYLAND

Father Christmas and his Elf once again visited Nayland on Christmas Eve for a tour of the village in Foster Jones' wonderful open-top vintage car, a 1927 Humber. They were greeted on their travels by many excited children, big kids and parents out to see the visit by this special man. Over 85 bags of chocolate coins were handed out to delighted children. The photographs show residents greeting the tour when it arrived in the High Street. It then went via Court Street to Caley Green and then down Bear Street to Stoke Road and then to Fen Street.



COMMUNITY COUNCIL REPORT

AGM: 2nd March 2022 via Zoom
Chairman: Rachel Hitchcock

www.naylandcommunitycouncil.org.uk

2021 has been my fourth year as Chair and once again it has not been a 'normal' year a Covid continued to impact our community and our activities. I am therefore particularly proud of what we have been able to achieve under difficult circumstances. This report is an opportunity to highlight the many and varied activities of the Community Council. New ideas and a few extra pairs of hands are always welcome. In return you can be assured that you will be giving something back to your local community.

Thanks, as always, to all members of the Community Council for their many contributions throughout the year and to the Officers and Executive Committee in particular- many of whom have been a part of the Community Council for many years: Ken Willingale, Bryan Smith, Julie Clark, Lorraine Brooks, Lesley Jameson, Claire Buller, Iain Wright, Tricia Hall, Vicki Sargent, Luke Rumbelow, Jo Metson, Maggie Ryan, Kate Bevan and Sophie Williams as well as our Parish Council Reps. Recognition goes to Lorraine Brooks for her exceptional organisational efforts and also to Lesley Jameson, our Treasurer of nearly two years who is moving on to pastures new. Lesley joined the committee at a difficult time when our meetings were being held on Zoom and our activities were somewhat curtailed. Despite the challenges, she has thrown herself wholeheartedly into the work of the Community Council and quickly become an active and valued member of our committee. We will miss her and wish her well for the future, however, we are pleased to welcome Matt Cable as our new Treasurer at this AGM and thank him for stepping into the role.

Thank you to all the village organisations and societies who ensure that Nayland and Wiston have such full social calendars! And thank you to everybody who helps with all the Community Council events, especially the committee who organise them! This year is no exception and our and it is to the credit of everybody involved that we only had to cancel one of our regular annual events during 2021 despite the challenges posed by Covid.

Public Access Defibrillator: We have two public access defibrillators in Nayland, one at the Village Hall and one at the Fire Station. We continue to monitor and maintain the defibrillator at the Village Hall through the Community Heartbeat Trust and their Webnos service. A more general first aid training session is proposed for 2022 to be held in conjunction with the local First Responders.

Bonfire Night: 1400 people came to our community firework display which took place, as usual, on 5th November. This year, for the first time, we commissioned a professional display which was carried out by Dynamic Fireworks. We took this decision because the display has grown hugely in recent years so this enabled us to focus our efforts and resources on catering for and managing the increasing number of visitors. Huge thanks are due to Iain Wright who has managed the display for many years and has firmly established it as the main fundraiser in the Community Council calendar. We would also like to thank Fred Bugg for the bonfire, the Year 6 class at Nayland Primary School for the very impressive guy and everybody who helped on the gate, stalls and refreshments. Bonfire Night is a real team effort! We were also pleased, this year, to be able to use the new ticketing website, naylandevents.org (ably managed and set up by Justin Dowding) which made both ticket sales and managing the gate far more efficient. Village shops, Kerridge's and Forget-Me-Not, as well as the Post Office were also invaluable in their support, selling tickets (which were in high demand!) on our behalf.

Jingle Bells Coffee Morning: The Jingle Bells Coffee morning replaced our annual Christmas Fayre this year, being a slightly scaled down version of the event, allowing us to run it safely given the ongoing Covid restrictions. Village societies including Woodland Corner, the Women's Institute, the Horticultural Society, the Conservation Society, and Lizzie's Fund provided a fine array of stalls and we are very grateful to the children and staff of Nayland Primary School whose School Choir and Ukelele group provided some lovely festive entertainment. Thank you too to Father Christmas for paying us a visit again. Despite masks and slightly chilly ventilation everyone who came along agreed it was great start to the festive season.

Father Christmas, Christmas Eve Village Tour: Following the success of last year's tour around the village, Father Christmas once again put in an appearance kindly chauffeured by Foster Jones in his wonderful vintage Humber. Huge thanks to Father Christmas for this very special visit.

Christmas Trail: A new event in 2020, we were delighted to bring back the Christmas Trail of Trees, Wreaths and Advent Windows this year. It certainly achieved the aim of, once again, bringing Christmas cheer to the village throughout December and we are incredibly grateful to everyone who participated and helped make this such a success.

Village Christmas Tree: Once again, thanks to Fred Smith for supplying an excellent tree which provided a lovely, sparkly centrepiece for the village throughout December. Thank you to Claire Buller and the team who put it up. Being bigger and better than ever meant the tree did provide its challenges!

Village Quiz: With the emphasis on fun, and an air of good-humoured competition, the quiz has become a regular fixture in the Nayland calendar - although cancelled in 2021 I am pleased to say it made a happy return in 2022 with a fantastic turnout.

Nayland 10k and Fun Run: We were again pleased to support this event organised by Luke Rumbelow and Event Nation. It was fantastic that it was able to go ahead after the trials of lockdown. A proportion of the profits from the event is donated to local charities including the Community Council. We were extremely grateful to receive a donation of over £1,000 in 2021 which helps us in our efforts to support a wide range of community activities.

GRANTS: There were no grant applications during 2021 as the activities of most of our village societies were severely hampered by Covid.

FUN VILLAGE QUIZ

Nineteen teams of four took part in the annual fun quiz organised by the Community Council at the village hall on 4th February 2022.

The winners were *Levelling Down* (Teresa and Sean Moriarty and Elspeth and Declan Leahey), with *Quizzly McQuiz Face* second and *Always the Bridesmaid* third.

It was another wonderfully masterminded quiz by Rachel Hitchcock with great questions, well paced and most of all great fun.

Community Council Chair, Rachel Hitchcock said: "It was a very successful evening and everyone had a great time."

The event raised just over £400 for council funds.



PLATINUM JUBILEE STREET PARTY

The Community Council set out to organise a Street Party in the High Street on 5th June 2022 to celebrate 70 years of the Queen's reign, but the British weather was not kind for this once in a lifetime Jubilee celebration. The team have dealt with such dilemmas before and as usual pulled off the mammoth task of setting everything up to accommodate 470 people in the village hall and marquee instead of in the gaily decorated High Street.

At noon bellringers rang a delightful Jubilee Peal of St James' Church Bells as party goers arrived in 1950s style or red, white and blue jubilee outfits. The Party then began with the entrance of two very special guests; a young Queen Elizabeth and Princess Margaret (aka Esme and Ella Ball) they looked absolutely wonderful in full kings and queens' coronation dresses as they led the 25 plus children who had dressed up as kings and queens for the fancy-dress parade. James Finch officially opened the Party and presented the Platinum Jubilee medals to our long serving Nayland Firefighters. Lucia Fortunato sang beautifully, serenading party goers with 1950's classics before making a toast to Her Majesty and singing God Save the Queen.

The bring your own picnics were truly amazing; some of the cakes and food platters really were a sight to see and some made the trifle. Spot Prizes were awarded for best dressed, best picnic and more..... To entertain children there was magic, balloon modelling and Punch and Judy. Nayland Primary School Choir and Ukulele Band entertained with some hits from the 1950s. The adult choir then joined in allowing us all to enjoy some excellent community singing led by Emma Bishton. This culminated with 'Sweet Caroline' chosen by the BBC as the song for nation to sing at Street Parties.

The afternoon finished with Lucia's wonderful singing accompanied by an array of very talented musicians masterminded by Mandy Cook. Due to the change in location and sheer numbers it was not possible to show the screening of the Jubilee Pageant in the village hall.

1950s Exhibition: Wendy Sparrow and her team of helpers organised a wonderful 1950s exhibition which evoked so many wonderful childhood memories for so many people.

Platinum Jubilee Mugs: bespoke commemorative Platinum Jubilee mugs were given to all the Parish's residents aged 16 and under.

It was a wonderful event with a fabulous atmosphere and



Nayland with Wissingington PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

Street Party on Sunday 5th June

12 noon to 3pm

All Nayland and Wissingington residents and family members are invited to join together to celebrate this historic event

- Bring Your Own Jubilee Picnic & Drinks
- Jubilee Theme or 1950s Dress
- Children's Kings & Queens Parade
- Meet the 'Young Queen Elizabeth & Princess Margaret'
- Live Music, Adult & Children's Entertainment
- Punch 'n' Judy - Balloon Modelling - Magic
- Jubilee Peal of Church Bells
- Official Jubilee Medal Presentations
- Exhibition of 1950s Memorabilia & Photos

To book your table seat please complete the booking form by 5th May

Platinum Jubilee Commemorative Mugs
Free for residents aged 16 and under, or £6 to purchase
Submit orders for mugs by 30th April

reflected the spirit of the Community Council in true Nayland with Wissingington style.

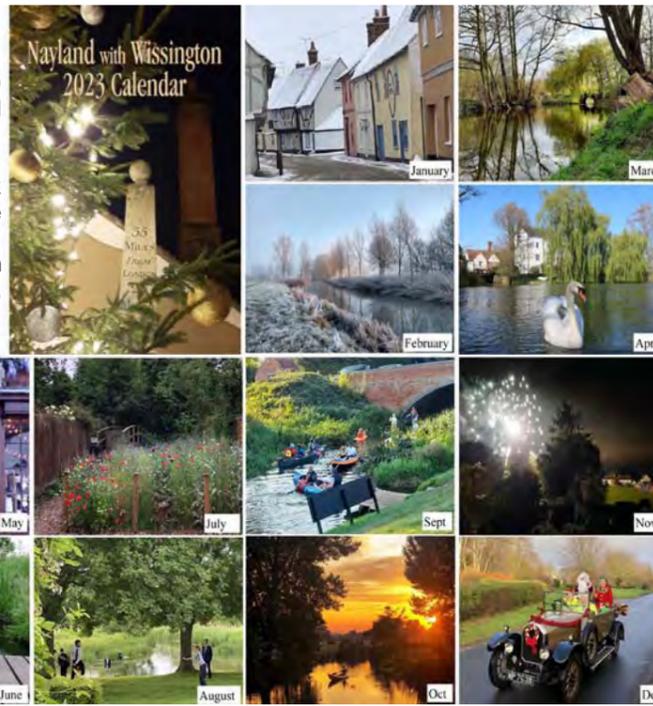
A huge thanks to Claire Buller for leading on this fabulous celebration and overcoming the last minute changes.

CALENDAR PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

The photographic competition to generate images for the 2023 Nayland with Wissington Calendar took place on 14th-15th May. There were 149 beautiful photographs submitted, making selection of just twelve scenes and a cover very difficult indeed; thank goodness the choice is made by residents!

Visitors to the display in the Church Hall on 14th May, and those viewing online over the weekend made their selections. It was not an easy task choosing just 12 scenes from so many lovely photographs but the 50 people that voted came up with a wonderful result.

The photographs selected were submitted by Amelie Palmer (age 8), Kathryn Niven, Rebecca Gladwell, Patsie Ford, Antony Day, Mandy Cook, Sally Dalton, Gareth Bates and Rachel Hitchcock. Congratulations and well done.



NAYLAND 10K

This exciting multi-terrain run was back for the fifth time, proving popular as always. With three distance options, 10k, 5k and 1k, there was something for everyone. Participants included families, beginners and expert runners of all ages.

Thanks to the sponsors, The Royal Hospital School, and to Littlegarth for hosting us again. The event raised over £1,300 for the Community Council and SESAW.

BONFIRE & FIREWORK DISPLAY

Rain showers failed to spoil Bonfire and Fireworks Night held as usual on 5th November. The colourful event attracted 1,500 spectators to the village hall playing field.

Chairman Rachel Hitchcock said: "It was a fabulous display and lovely to see so many people there enjoying themselves."

Firework Crazy provided the display, Fred Bugg the bonfire, Nayland school-children made a fabulous Guy and our happy band of volunteers ensured everyone enjoyed themselves.



NAYLAND CHRISTMAS TRAIL

The Christmas Trail may have begun during the Covid-19 pandemic to get together safely as a community and bring a little seasonal cheer to the streets of Nayland and Wiston but it has become a popular highlight of the festive season. For a third year residents excelled with an abundance of festive delights displayed around the village. There were 24 beautifully decorated windows, festive Christmas trees and unique wreaths included on the trail map. Windows around the village were decorated and from 1st to 24th December a new one was opened each day. Christmas trees and wreaths were displayed from 9th December.

NAYLAND VILLAGE CHRISTMAS TREE

On 4th December the tree was once again mounted into its underground fixings. Based on last years' experience we made sure we had enough manpower to lift the tree into its holder.

The Tree received many wonderful comments with its many lights and decorations it looked delightful in the village centre.



FATHER CHRISTMAS COMES TO NAYLAND

Once again, Father Christmas and his Elf visited Nayland on Christmas Eve for a tour of the village in Foster Jones' wonderful open-top vintage car.

They were greeted on their travels by many excited children, parents and 'big kids' out to see the visit by this special man. Over 75 bags of chocolate coins were handed out to delighted children.

The photographs, below, show residents greeting the tour when it arrived in the High Street and when it then went via Court Street to Caley Green.



NAYLAND CHRISTMAS FAYRE

The Community Council celebrated the start of the festive season with a successful Christmas Fayre on 3rd December. It had all the ingredients of a jolly festive occasion; the village hall was gaily decorated with bunting and several local societies ran a variety of stalls. Father Christmas was in attendance, Nayland Primary School choir provided musical entertainment and festive food and refreshments were available.



It was fantastic to resume 'normal service' in 2022 after the disruptions of the previous two years. We were able to run a full programme of events and this report is an opportunity to highlight our achievements.

Thanks as always to all members of the Community Council for their many contributions throughout the year – we couldn't operate without the support and participation of members from many different village societies – and to the Officers and Executive Committee, many of whom have been a part of the Community Council for many years: Ken Willingale, Bryan Smith, Julie Clark, Lorraine Brooks, Matt Cable, Claire Buller, Iain Wright, Vicki Sargent, Luke Rumbelow, Jo Metson, Maggie Ryan, Kate Bevan, Sophie Williams and Tricia Hall. Special thanks to Lorraine for her continued perseverance in ensuring the smooth running of the Community Council machine! We were sorry to lose Sophie and Kate from the committee this year – both have been active and supportive participants in Community Council activities and we will miss their enthusiasm. I must also take this opportunity to acknowledge Tricia Hall, who sadly passed away in January. Tricia has been a hugely valued member of the Community Council for as long as I can remember. She was such a lovely person and gave so much to the Community Council, not least her tried and tested mulled wine recipe which we continue to use on Bonfire Night. Tricia will be hugely missed by so many in the village

Thank you to everybody who helps with all the Community Council events, especially the committee who organise them and all the village organisations who ensure that Nayland and Wiston have such a full diary.

Platinum Jubilee Celebrations: Huge thanks to everybody who contributed to and helped with this fantastic celebration marking 70 years of the Queen's reign. Special mention, however, to Claire Buller who co-ordinated the wonderful Street Party which had a fabulous atmosphere and reflected the spirit of our community and nearly 500 people in attendance. An event to be proud of, especially given the challenges presented by the very British weather.

Bonfire Night: 1400 people attended our community firework display which took place, as usual, on 5th November. We used professional display company Firework Crazy, who did a fantastic job. A big thank you to our many helpers for this event, in particular Fred Bugg for the bonfire, the Year 2 class at Nayland Primary School for the very impressive guy, Iain Wright for the multitude of 'kit' and everybody who helped on the gate, stalls and refreshments - Bonfire Night is a real team effort!

Christmas Fayre: Huge thanks to the village societies for providing the Christmas stalls and also to the Year 5 children and staff of Nayland Primary School whose singing and ukulele playing provided some lovely festive entertainment and encouraged an impromptu sing-a-long. Thank you too to Father Christmas for paying us a visit again. This event provides a lovely, traditional start to our Christmas activities.

Father Christmas' Village Tour: We were delighted to welcome back Father Christmas for his Christmas Eve tour of the village kindly chauffeured by Foster Jones in his wonderful vintage Humber. Huge thanks to Father Christmas and his willing helpers for this very special visit on what is a very busy day in his calendar!

Christmas Trail: We were delighted to bring back the Christmas Trail of trees, wreaths and advent windows for its third year. Once again it brought sparkle, colour and Christmas cheer to the village throughout December and we are incredibly grateful to everyone who participated and helped make this such a success.

Village Christmas Tree: Once again, thanks to Fred Smith for supplying an excellent tree which provides a lovely, festive centrepiece for the village throughout December. Thank you too to Nayland Dental Surgery for supplying the electricity and to Claire Buller and the team who put it up.

Village Quiz: With the emphasis on fun, and an air of good-humoured competition, the quiz has become a regular fixture in the Nayland calendar – we have already held our 2023 quiz which built on last year's successful return with a sell-out event!

Public Access Defibrillator: The Community Council continues to monitor and maintain the public-access defibrillator at the Village Hall through the Community Heartbeat Trust and their Webnos service. A community first aid training session was held on 29th June 2022 in conjunction with the local First Responders and Gryphon First Aid Unit. This was well received and we will do more of these in the future.

Nayland 10k Fun Run: We were again pleased to support this event – organised by Luke Rumbelow and Event Nation. A proportion of the profits from the event is donated to local charities including the Community Council. We were extremely grateful to receive a donation of over £800 in 2022.

Grants: The following grants were issued in 2022: Nayland Choir (£128) for hall hire to allow continued rehearsals during Covid restrictions; Village Hall (£10,000) for replacement of the glass entrance door and three wooden external doors; Village Hall coffee machine (£280).

Going forward: The committee are looking forward to another busy and successful year and it is a credit to the people involved in the Community Council that we all are keen to continue. That isn't to say that we wouldn't welcome some new members on the Executive Committee to bring a fresh perspective and new ideas and as you will have noticed I haven't yet relinquished my role as Chair, but remain open to offers! So do consider joining us – we guarantee a warm welcome as well as the chance to make a real contribution to your local community.



FUN VILLAGE QUIZ

Twenty three teams of four - our highest number yet and a sellout - took part in the annual fun quiz on 3rd February. The winners were *Dumb & Dumber* (Will Hitchcock, Andrew Ryan and Antonia and Stephen Rowland), with *Vintage*, *Stoke the Bear* and *The Careless Mistakes* in a three-way tie for second place.

It was another excellent quiz and most of all great fun; Well done Rachel for all the great questions and being a perfect question master. A huge thanks to everyone for being very generous when buying raffle tickets.

Community Council Chair, Rachel Hitchcock said: "It was a very successful evening and everyone had a great time." The event raised over £600 for council funds.



KING CHARLES III'S CORONATION PICNIC

Many of us were glued to our televisions to watch the historic occasion of the Coronation of King Charles III on 6th May 2023. It was such a shame that the weather was unkind but the typically British pomp and ceremony went on regardless.

Like many other communities the following day, when thankfully the sun came out, Nayland residents celebrated with a Coronation Picnic on Webb's Meadow at the village hall.

It was a lovely, informal and jolly get together with about 150 gaily dressed villagers turning out to enjoy the sunshine and the lovely community atmosphere.



Come and gather to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III with friends and neighbours at Nayland Village Hall Playing Field as part of the nationwide 'Big Lunch'.
(in the Village Hall if the weather demands)

Sunday 7th May 2023

at 12 noon until 3.30pm

Bring Your Own Coronation Picnic, Drinks & Flags
Royal Theme or Red, White & Blue Dress
Punch & Judy Shows and Children's Workshop
Children's Coronation Dress Parade - prizes for all
Coronation Peal of St James' Church Bells
Tea and Coffee Served
Ice Cream available

Add to the community fun; decorate your houses or windows
Spot prizes for best or stand out: dressed, headwear, picnic, cupcakes, decorated house, and more....



CALENDAR PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

The photographic competition to generate images for the 2024 Nayland with Wissington Calendar took place over the weekend of 29th April-1st May. There were just over 200 beautiful photographs submitted by over 30 residents, making selection of just twelve scenes and a cover very difficult indeed; thank goodness the choice is made by residents!

Those viewing online over the weekend made their choices and the photographs selected were submitted by Amelie Palmer (age 9), Patsie Ford, Mandy Cook, Darius Laws, Di Green, Chris Storey, Stuart Howells, Julie Clarke, Hazel Gardiner and Annabel Hitchcock.

As hoped entries represented the different seasons with our range of weather conditions, from glorious sunshine to mist and light snow. Locations ranged from village activities and events to parish landmarks. There were a variety of street scenes, countryside and farming views and some interesting architectural and natural features. Several people managed to capture spur of the moment scenes and river recreation.



NAYLAND 10K

The Village Hall hosted the sixth Nayland 10k Fun Run sponsored by the Royal Hospital School on 9th July. This exciting multi-terrain run was back proving popular as always with over 400 runners taking part. With three distance options, 10k, 5k and 1k, there was something for everyone. Participants including families, beginners and expert runners of all ages with over 100 kids running the 1k. The event raised over £1,000 for the Community Council, SESAW and the Tom Bowdidge Youth Cancer Foundation which is a fantastic achievement.



BONFIRE & FIREWORK

Bonfire Night was a huge success despite the bad weather and the rising floodwater.

Thanks to Firework Crazy who managed the display and were not daunted by the task in hand... but most of all a huge thank you to all of the volunteers who make this event happen. Special mention to Fred Bugg for his bonfire, Woodland Corner for the fabulous Guy, the Community Council team including Iain who has a piece of kit for every purpose! And everyone who so ably produces and serves the food and drink, no mean feat with the numbers involved.

An amazing £4,500 for the Community Council to put back into village activities and projects.



NAYLAND CHRISTMAS TRAIL

The Christmas Trail may have begun during the Covid-19 pandemic to get together safely as a community and bring a little seasonal cheer to the streets of Nayland and Wiston but it has become a popular highlight of the festive season. For a fourth year residents excelled with an abundance of festive delights displayed around the village. There were 24 beautifully decorated windows, festive Christmas trees and unique wreaths included on the trail map. Windows around the village were decorated and from 1st to 24th December a new one was opened each day. Christmas trees and wreaths were displayed from 9th December.

NAYLAND VILLAGE CHRISTMAS TREE

On 3rd December the Christmas tree was once again mounted into its underground fixings. This year it was again a truly magnificent tree. Based on last year's experience we made sure we had enough manpower to lift the tree into its holder.

A big thank you to the Community Council for funding the lights and baubles and to all those who helped put it up - it was lovely this year to see new faces and families with young children helping. Thanks to our Dental Surgery for servicing the light with electricity, Fred Smith of Boxted for supplying the tree and Will Hitchcock for stepping in with his chainsaw to shape the stump.

Once again the tree looked delightful, bringing festive cheer to the village centre.



CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Nayland celebrated the start of the festive season with a successful Christmas Fayre on 2nd December.

It had all the ingredients of a jolly festive occasion; the village hall was gaily decorated with bunting and several local societies ran a variety of stalls. Father Christmas was in attendance, Nayland Primary School choir provided musical entertainment and festive food and refreshments were available.

Chairman Rachel Hitchcock said: "Once again the Christmas Fayre was a lovely start to the Christmas season. Thanks to all the societies and external stallholders who ran stalls; the ukes and singers from Nayland Primary School who entertained us beautifully and got everyone singing along; and to Father Christmas who had lots of visitors on the day."



FATHER CHRISTMAS COMES TO NAYLAND

Father Christmas and his Elf once again visited Nayland on Christmas Eve for a tour of the village. This year George Pratt and his vintage Massey Ferguson tractor and trailer provided transport. They were greeted by many excited children, parents and 'big kids' in the High Street and virtually mobbed at Caley Green. Over 110 bags of chocolate coins were handed out to the delighted children.



2023 was another positive year for the Community Council and this report is an opportunity to highlight our achievements.

Thanks as always to all members of the Community Council (CC) for their many contributions throughout the year – we couldn't operate without the support and participation of members from many different village societies – and to the Officers and Executive Committee, many of whom have been a part of the CC for many years: Bryan Smith, Julie Clark, Lorraine Brooks, Matt Cable, Claire Buller, Iain Wright, Vicki Sargent, Jo Metson, Luke Rumbelow, Maggie Ryan and Heike Ellwood. Special thanks to Lorraine for her continued perseverance in ensuring the smooth running of the CC machine! We are sorry to lose Luke from the committee – he has been a supportive participant in our activities despite having moved out of the village – and for several years has organised the very successful Nayland 10k, a fabulous event which generously donated to local charities each year, including the CC. I must also take this opportunity to acknowledge Ken Willingale, founder member and long-standing President of the CC, who sadly passed away in January 2024. Ken and his wife Olive contributed a huge amount to the CC (and indeed the village as a whole) over the years. He was there at the start, when he was appointed Treasurer at the inaugural meeting of what was to become the CC on 20th June 1966. Ken remained a valued part of the organisation. He will be missed and remembered fondly.

Thank you to everybody who helps with all the CC events, especially the committee who organise them and all the village organisations who ensure that our community has such a full diary.

Bonfire Night: 1400 people attended our community firework display which took place, as usual, on 5th November. Once again, professional display company Firework Crazy, did a fantastic job, especially in light of the fact that the display end of the field was under water! Everybody rose to the occasion and the event was a huge success with the impressive display beautifully reflected in the large 'puddle'.

Christmas Fayre: Huge thanks to the village societies for providing Christmas stalls as well as the abundance of external stallholders who brought a fine array of goods and wares. Thanks also to the children and staff of Nayland Primary School whose singing and ukulele playing provided some lovely festive entertainment and to Father Christmas for paying us a visit again and to our refreshment team. This event continues to provide a lovely, traditional start to our Christmas activities.

Father Christmas' Village Tour: We were delighted to welcome back Father Christmas for his Christmas Eve tour of the village – this year in a slightly different mode of transport, Foster Jones having retired his wonderful vintage Humber. Huge thanks to George Pratt for providing perfect transport in the form of festively decorated tractor and trailer much to the delight of Nayland and Wiston residents, young and old! Thanks too to Father Christmas and his willing helpers for this very special visit on what is a very busy day in his calendar!

Christmas Trail: We were delighted to bring back the Christmas Trail of trees, wreaths and advent windows for its fourth year. Once again it brought sparkle, colour and Christmas cheer to the village throughout December and we are incredibly grateful to everyone who participated and helped make this such a success.

Village Christmas Tree: Once again, thanks to Fred Smith for supplying an excellent tree which provides a lovely, festive centrepiece for the village throughout December; to Nayland Dental Surgery for supplying the electricity and to Claire Buller and the team who put it up.

Village Quiz: With the emphasis on fun, and an air of good-humoured competition, the quiz has become a regular fixture in the Nayland calendar – we have already held our 2024 quiz which built on last year's success with another sell-out event!

Coronation Picnic: On 7th May we were delighted to mark the King's Coronation with a lovely, informal, celebratory picnic at the Village Hall with traditional entertainment and refreshments. Many villagers turned out to enjoy the celebration and the sunshine!

St James' Flower Festival and Christmas Tree Festival: The CC was delighted to contribute to both of these lovely events which brought together village societies and organisations and allowed them to let their creative juices flow. Both resulted in fine displays that adorned our beautiful church.

Public Access Defibrillator: The CC continues to monitor and maintain the public-access defibrillator at the Village Hall through the Community Heartbeat Trust and their Webnos service. A series of well-received community first aid training sessions were led, at the start of 2024, by our local First Responders who continue to grow in number and provide a valuable service to our community.

Nayland 10k and Fun Run: We were again pleased to support this event – organised by Luke Rumbelow and Event Nation. We were extremely grateful to receive a donation of over £400 in 2023.

Grants: Receiving grants in 2023 were: Nayland First Responders (£2,165.60) to equip a new First Responder kit bag with AED (defibrillator) and mobile application; Parish Council (£1,538.00) towards a royal memorial on Caley Green consisting of a bench to commemorate the reign of Queen Elizabeth II and a tree to honour the coronation of King Charles III; Nayland Bear (£100) to support this popular village activity and its regular appearances throughout the year.

Going forward: The committee are looking forward to another busy and successful year and it is a credit to the people involved in the CC that we all are keen to continue. That isn't to say that we wouldn't welcome some new members on the Executive.

FUN VILLAGE QUIZ

The annual quiz, was, once again, a sellout with 24 teams of four taking part at the event at the village hall on 2nd February. It was another excellent quiz and most of all great fun and raised over £600 for council funds.

The winners were *Quiz Team Aguilera* (Alexandra and Cameron Duncan and Marian and Paul Squire) with *Norfolk 'n Chance* in second place and *Phillip's Pirates* and the *Don't Knows* in a tie for third.

Chair, Rachel Hitchcock said: "Thanks so much to everybody for making this evening such a success, for creating such a jovial atmosphere and taking part so enthusiastically!"



CALENDAR PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

The photographic competition to generate images for the 2025 Nayland with Wissington Calendar took place over the weekend of 26th-28th April. There were just over 180 beautiful photographs submitted by 34 residents, making selection of just twelve scenes and a cover very difficult indeed; thankfully the choice was made by the 50 residents who voted.

Those viewing online over the weekend made their choices and the photographs selected were submitted by Sarah Amos, Amelie Palmer (age 10), Mandy Cook, John Revett, Darius Laws, John Dalton, Elaine Muskett, Jenny Rix, Tony Fryer, Suki Cohen and Julie Clarke.

As hoped entries represented the different seasons with our range of weather conditions, from glorious sunshine to mist and light snow. Locations ranged from village activities and events and river recreation to parish landmarks and there were a variety of street scenes, countryside and farming views and some interesting architectural and natural features.



WATER LEVEL GAUGE

Following fluctuations in the water levels, and occasions when flow virtually ceased, in the river Stour through Nayland the Community Council agreed to supply and install a water level gauge at Caley Green.

Permission was given by the landowners, Suffolk County Council, and the Environment Agency confirmed a permit was not required. A censored gauge was not possible but it was felt a simple gauge would help monitor the water levels and be a point of interest to have a gauge board located where residents can see it.

The gauge provides two water level readings: the river bed depth (useful for the school projects and locals) and the above sea level (for official recording) in line with the EA and river trusts. A local surveyor kindly provided the OS above sea level datum.

The gauge board was purchased from Shelley Signs (£355), the oak post and installation (£648) was carried out by Danny Thurlow Landscapes on 23rd July 2024.



PERMISSIVE FOOTPATH MAINTENANCE

In 2024 the Community Council agreed to support the maintenance of two stretches of permissive path which had become very overgrown - a stretch is along the right hand side of Stoke Road (at a cost of £150) and a second stretch from Court Knoll to the Allotments.

It was agreed to monitor the condition of these paths.





THANK YOU TO OUR RETIRING POSTMISTRESS

Following the closure of Nayland Post Office in August, on 27th September the Community Council presented Patsie Ford with a gift in thanks for 43 years dedication as our postmistress.

Joined by a host of residents, who were spilling out into the High Street, wishing Patsie well in her retirement, Rachel Hitchcock, CC Chair, presented her with a framed original watercolour of the Post Office, painted by the late John Parsonson, and a greeting card signed by many residents. There was a party atmosphere with a toast to Patsie and a celebratory cake baked by Kathy Hunt who had worked alongside Patsie in the Post Office for many years.

Gerry Battye thanked Patsie for her contribution to the village over many years and shared memories of the Post Office (and Postmistress) and their pivotal role in so many aspects of village life.



BONFIRE & FIREWORKS

A big thank you to Firework Crazy who once again provided a fantastic display on 5th November... but most of all a huge thank you to all of the volunteers who make this event happen - we couldn't do it without you. Special mention to Fred Bugg and his bonfire, the whole Community Council team, and everyone who produces and serves the food and drink, no mean feat with the numbers involved - they were amazing.

Quite a team - and the community at its best - which makes it fitting that we raised an amazing £4,800 for the Community Council to put back into village activities and projects.



2024

NAYLAND VILLAGE CHRISTMAS TREE

On 8th December the Christmas tree was mounted into its underground fixings. Once again it was a truly magnificent tree. Based on last year's experience we made sure we had enough manpower to lift the tree into its holder. No easy feat as it was going up during Storm Darragh. The winds were gusting to over 45 knots but the team gallantly persevered and although the tree was a little on the wank it still received many wonderful comments this year with its many lights and decorations.

A big thank you to everyone involved, the wonderful tree provided festive cheer to the village centre - pictured here during the annual 'Carols Around the Christmas Tree'.



NAYLAND CHRISTMAS TRAIL

The Christmas Trail, which began during the Covid-19 pandemic, continues to bring the community together and create a little seasonal cheer along the streets of Nayland and Wiston. It has become a popular highlight of the festive season. For a fifth year residents excelled with an abundance of festive delights displayed around the village. There were 24 beautifully decorated windows opening daily, festive Christmas trees and unique wreaths included on the trail map. Windows around the village were decorated and from 1st to 24th December a new one was opened each day. Christmas trees and wreaths were displayed from 9th December.



FATHER CHRISTMAS COMES TO NAYLAND

Father Christmas and his Elf once again took time out of their busy schedule to visit Nayland on Christmas Eve for a tour of the village. This year the merry elf George Pratt was unable to convey them round the village but his father Jim stepped into the breach with his John Deere tractor and trailer which Claire Buller gave the Santa's grotto touch. They were greeted by many excited children, parents and 'big kids' in the High Street and virtually mobbed at Caley Green.

Over 100 bags of chocolate coins were handed out to the delighted children.



CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Nayland celebrated the start of the festive season with its popular Christmas Fayre a little earlier than usual on 30th November.

It had all the ingredients of a jolly festive occasion; the village hall was gaily decorated with bunting and several local societies ran a variety of stalls. Father Christmas was in attendance, Nayland Primary School choir provided musical entertainment and festive food and refreshments were available.

Chairman Rachel Hitchcock said: "The Christmas Fayre is a lovely community event to start the festive season. We are very grateful for the societies and stallholders who provided an array of Christmassy stalls and to the children from Nayland Primary School who entertained us with a medley of musical numbers from The Polar Express which was much enjoyed. We are also grateful to Father Christmas for putting in an appearance and to all the visitors who came along on the day."



COMMUNITY COUNCIL REPORT

AGM: 3rd March 2025

Chairman: Rachel Hitchcock

www.naylandcommunitycouncil.org.uk

The Community Council enjoyed another worthwhile year in 2024 and this report is a good opportunity to highlight the work that the Council does in Nayland and Wiston.

Thanks as always goes to all those involved in the Community Council and their many contributions. Our membership is drawn from village societies and we are grateful for their ongoing support with our events and activities and for the opportunity to be able to support them in their endeavours too. It all helps to keep Nayland the thriving and active village we know and love! Thanks to the stalwart Executive Committee: Bryan Smith, Lorraine Brooks, Claire Buller, Matt Cable, Jo Metson, Vicki Sargent, Julie Clark, Heike Ellwood and Maggie Ryan. Special thanks to Lorraine who has been keeping us all organised for many years now and who is relinquishing her role as Secretary following this AGM. Lorraine is tireless in all she does for the Community Council and other village organisations and thankfully she will be continuing to produce the excellent Community Times as well as many of her other activities.

Thank you to everybody who helps with Community Council events - it's a credit to everyone that we are able to have such a full diary, raising funds to put back into village activities.

Bonfire Night: Another fabulous sell-out event with over 1400 people coming along to enjoy Firework Crazy's brilliant display. Thank you as always to our many helpers at this event, including Fred Bugg for the bonfire, Iain Wright for the multitude of lighting and sound equipment and general 'kit' and of course everyone who helped on the refreshments, gate and stalls. This is a real team effort, a fabulous community event and the Community Council's biggest fundraiser raising an amazing £4,816 in 2024.

Christmas Fayre: As always, thanks is due to all the village societies for providing Christmas stalls; to St James' Church and Nayland Baby and Toddler group for their children's activities; to the external stallholders who brought a fantastic range of goods; Nayland Primary School children entertained everybody performing a medley of numbers from the Polar Express and of course Father Christmas paid us a visit again for which we were very grateful.

Father Christmas' Village Tour: It has become a tradition that Father Christmas pays the village a visit on Christmas Eve and this year was no exception with lots of families coming out to greet him on his route around the village. His mode of transport was once again George Pratt's tractor and trailer, driven by George's father Jim - thank you to them both and also to Father Christmas and his elf for turning out on such a busy day.

Christmas Trail: Started during Covid to bring some much needed Christmas cheer, our village Christmas Trail has also become a Christmas fixture. Thank you to all who participated in 2024, with the trees, wreaths and advent windows adding some festive fun throughout the village.

Village Christmas Tree: Thanks to Fred Smith for supplying our village tree; to Claire and the team for putting it up despite the, once again, inclement weather conditions! and to Nayland Dental Surgery for supplying the electricity. It looked lovely in its position at the centre of the High Street.

Village Quiz: The Annual Village Quiz continues to be well supported with 26 teams turning out for some good humoured competition in the 2025 quiz which has already taken place.

Public Access Defibrillator: The Community Council continues to monitor the Public Access Defibrillator located at the Village Hall, sending regular reports to the Ambulance Service through the Community Heartbeat Trust and their Webnos application. Funding was agreed in 2024 (from the Community Council and the Parish Council) to provide a further Public Access Defibrillator on Bures Road, Wiston to serve the more rural parts of the village.

Water Level Gauge: After some time on our agenda I am delighted to report that the water level gauge was installed in the river at Caley Green on 23rd July. Thanks to Danny Thurlow Landscapes for installing the gauge which provides two water level readings; local depth and height above sea level.

Permissive Footpath Maintenance: The Community Council were pleased to support the ongoing maintenance of two stretches of permissive footpath in the village; the first along the right-hand side of Stoke Road and a second stretch between Court Knoll and the Allotment Field after it was highlighted that these had become very overgrown but that regular maintenance would mean that they could be easily used year round.

Resident Volunteer List: Thanks to Lorraine Brooks for co-ordinating this list of volunteers prepared to assist residents with errands such as prescription collection.

Grants issued in 2024 were: Nayland First Responders training sessions £157 for hall hire; Nayland Primary School £400 to support re-establishing music projects; Baby and Toddler Group £300 to assist with hall hire; Nayland First Responders £155 for hall hire for a fundraiser 'Dickens' Christmas Carol'; Nayland Village Hall £10,000 towards the replacement roof project.

Going forward: Another full programme of activities is planned for the coming year and, as always, we would be delighted to welcome some new members to help in our efforts to support our vibrant community.



FUN VILLAGE QUIZ

The annual fun village quiz on 7th February was, once again, hugely well supported by the community with a record 26 teams taking part.

There was a three-way tie for first place between *Skinny/spare/cheaters*, *Don't Knows* and *007 Ups* so a huge well done to you all.

It was a great evening of quizzing and fun with everybody entering into the spirit of the event; well done Rachel for putting together all the questions and being our quizmaster.

Community Council Chair, Rachel Hitchcock said: "Thanks so much to everybody for making this evening such a success, for creating a jovial atmosphere and taking part so enthusiastically - despite a few minor technical hitches!"



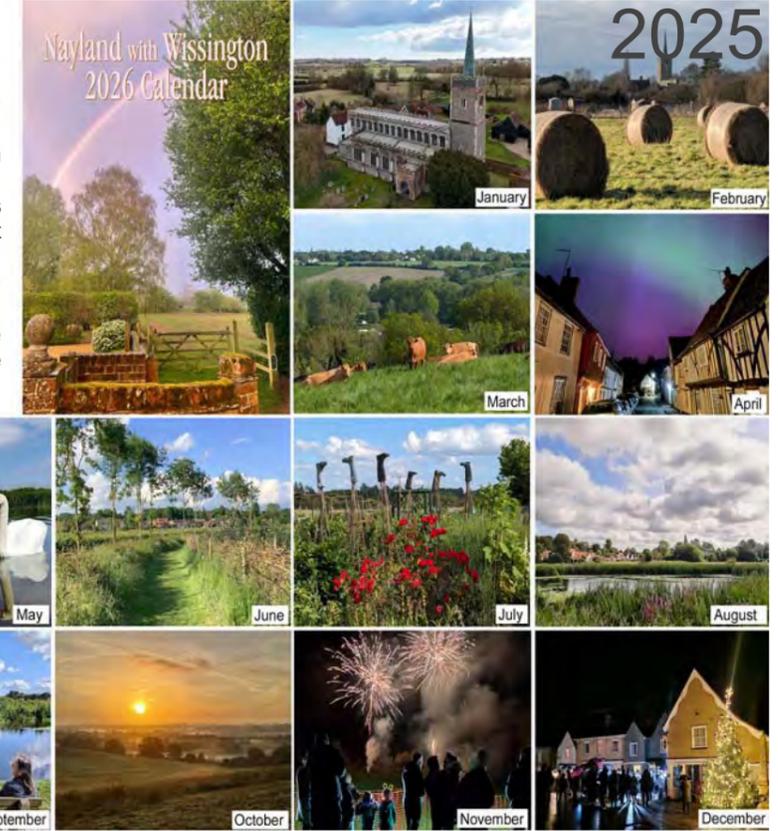
CALENDAR PHOTOGRAPHIC COMPETITION

The photographic competition to generate images for the 2026 Nayland with Wissington Calendar took place over the weekend of 2nd-5th May.

There were just under 200 beautiful photographs submitted by 35 residents, making selection of just twelve scenes and a cover very difficult indeed; thankfully the choice was made by nearly 40 residents who voted.

Those viewing online over the weekend made their choices and the photographs selected were submitted by Matthew Hennings, Darius Laws, Jayne Kennedy, Claire Buller, Sophie Mortlock, Sally Dalton, Nayland House, Mandy Cook, Chellie Tomkins and young photographer Amelie Palmer.

As hoped entries represented the different seasons with our range of weather conditions. Locations ranged from village events and river recreation to parish landmarks and there were a variety of street scenes, countryside and aerial views and some interesting architectural and natural features.



COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUE FOR OUR PRESIDENT

A new memorial plaque was installed in the village hall garden to acknowledge Ken and Olive Willingale's contribution to the village through their involvement in many village organisations.

The slate plaque reads "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". This replaced the plaque for Olive, in front of Olive's tree, an Acer tataricum 'Flame', planted in her honour, by HortSoc.

Ken had been appointed Treasurer of a Steering Group (which became the Community Council) to take forward the project of providing a recreation ground and village hall for the community; this was achieved when the hall opened in 1972.

As founder member and long-standing President Ken remained a valued part of the Community Council until his death in January 2024. Seen here when as a couple they were recipients of a Babergh Achievement Award.



COMMUNITY DEFIBRILLATOR FOR WISTON

A new community defibrillator for Wiston was kindly being installed by Danny Thurlow without charge on 9th September.

It is located on the verge outside the houses, Bures Road, Wiston CO6 4LZ in place of the Parish Council noticeboard which is no longer needed. What 3 Words: ///ahead.replying.repaying.

The defibrillator has been registered with the Circuit and Webnos systems and site checks being reported to both. Adam Lunn will carry out and report the site checks of the Wiston defibrillator.

Like the other community defibrillators it will be registered with the Circuit and Webnos systems with regular site checks reported to both systems.

The new defibrillator in Wiston, installed through a partnership between the Community and Parish Councils and First Responders, can be seen here with Corine Spooner (First Responder), Rachel Hitchcock (CC Chair), Dawn Harris (Parish Council) and Jo Metson (CC).

CHRISTMAS TRAIL

The Christmas Trail continues to bring the community together and create a little seasonal cheer along the streets of Nayland and Wiston. It has become a popular highlight of the festive season.

For a sixth year residents excelled with an abundance of festive delights displayed around the village. There were 24 beautifully decorated windows opening daily and wonderfully adorned Christmas trees included on the trail map.

Windows around the village were decorated and from 1st to 24th December a new one was 'opened' each day. In addition, Christmas trees were displayed from 8th December; for a little extra interest there was a question associated with each tree - see the answers below.

Thank you to everybody involved for your enthusiastic participation. There were some amazing, creative windows and trees which made a fabulous, festive display around the village which were much appreciated by many.



NAYLAND CHRISTMAS TREE

On Sunday 7th December the tree was mounted into its underground fixings. Once again it was a magnificent tree. Based on last year's experience we made sure we had a car strategically placed so there would be no need for knocking on doors to get cars moved!

The Tree received many wonderful comments this year with its many lights and decorations making it a sight to see. Many said "It was one of the best years ever". A big thank you to the Community Council for funding the lights and baubles which helped brighten everyone's Christmas again this year.

Thank you to everyone involved, the wonderful tree provided festive cheer to the village centre.



CHRISTMAS FAYRE

Nayland celebrated the start of the festive season with its successful Christmas Fayre on 6th December. It had a lovely Christmassy atmosphere; the hall was adorned with decorations and bunting and as well as some lovely stalls and activities, there was the opportunity to catch up over hot chocolate and mince pies.

Father Christmas attended and some young ukulele players from Nayland Primary School came along and entertained with some popular Christmas tunes.

Chairman Rachel Hitchcock said: "The Christmas Fayre is a lovely community event and was really well attended by all generations of our village community. We were so pleased to have so many village societies represented as well as our local school children and stalls selling crafts and gifts. We were very grateful that Father Christmas was able to join us too - he certainly had a lot of enthusiastic visitors."



NAYLAND BONFIRE & FIREWORKS

A huge thank you to everybody who helped make Nayland's Bonfire and Fireworks such a fantastic success again this year!

Firework Crazy once again delivered an amazing display to 'oohs' and 'aahs' from the gathered crowd, but this would all be for nothing if it weren't for our brilliant team of volunteers: The Community Council committee (and their friends and families); Fred Bugg and his bonfire team; everyone who supplies, produces and serves the food and drink; those on the gate and naylandevents.org for ticket sales; Iain and his endless supply of 'kit'; and all those who help with setting up, tidying away and picking up litter the next day plus anyone we have failed to mention - a HUGE thank you to you all - we couldn't do it without you.

Lots of people descend on the village for a few hours on 5th November so thank you for being tolerant and for all your support and kind comments. We raised a massive £6,800 (a record by a significant margin!) which will all go back into supporting village activities and projects. A real community effort.



FATHER CHRISTMAS' TOUR OF NAYLAND

Father Christmas and his Elf once again visited Nayland on Christmas Eve for a tour of the village.

This year the merry elf George Pratt was once again able to drive them round the village in his John Deere tractor and trailer which Claire Buller gave the Santa's grotto touch.

Father Christmas brought a Lapland sub-arctic chill with him this year but it didn't put anyone off. They were greeted by many excited children, parents and 'big kids' in the High Street and at Caley Green.

Over 110 bags of chocolate coins were handed out to the delighted children.

