

# NAYLAND-with-WISSINGTON COMMUNITY COUNCIL

## Minutes of the General Meeting held on 20 September 2004

**Apologies:** Lindsay Nieuwenhuis, Pat Bray, Women's Institute, Kit Gray, Annette White, Mark Stephens-Row.

There were 21 Members present under the Chairmanship of Andrew Gowen.

- 1. Minutes of Meeting held on 16 June 2004.** These were approved by members and signed by the Chairman. A letter from Annette White explaining the situation with the Youth Club was read to the meeting. Suffolk County Council had postponed its withdrawal of support until March 2005 and the Parish Council had expressed strong support but was unable to help in this financial year. The club was actively recruiting members. The meeting agreed that it would look favourable on providing help if asked but hoped that other organisations would also chip in if extra money was required.
- 2. Street Fayre Wash Up.** Andrew Gowen expressed his thanks to all those societies and individuals who had worked so hard to make it successful. The general consensus was that it was a success; made some £2000 for the Council Funds and an unknown amount for the village societies; the community atmosphere was good; there was probably too many activities; we need more helpers to stay on at the end; and we need more chairs. There was some discussion about running some field activities near Court Knoll but there was some concern this might detract from the event in the village centre. A hog roast was suggested and a French theme was proposed for 2006.
- 3. Bonfire Night.** It would be run as previously. If it rains the fireworks would be moved forward and the spectators will shelter in the front of the Village Hall.
- 4. Christmas Bazaar on 4 December.** Similar to previous years running from 2 – 4pm with the Hall open for setting up from 9am. Societies were asked to get their bids in early. A bidding form was in the Community Times. We would be grateful for raffle prizes.
- 5. Community Times.** The Chairman emphasised the importance of getting contributions to Lorraine as soon as possible and not wait for the deadline. She was doing a fantastic job and we must all help her. There was a shortage of space as its size was being limited and in future entries “will be first come first served”. And there may not be sufficient space for later entries particularly those advertising society events. Lorraine Brooks thanked members for their support of the Community Times and was pleased with the variety of entries. Advertising was increasing and it may be necessary to increase cost of full page adverts next February because of the pressure on the size of the newsletter. **Please note that the final date for the December edition is 20 November.**
- 6. Village Hall.** Iain Wright reported that the cost of maintenance of the Hall over the next 4-5 years was likely to be £30,000 -£40,000 and his committee was in the process of working out how to cover this. Hall charges will be going up but they will never be sufficient to cover the full maintenance costs as village societies could not afford to pay full commercial rates. The constitution of his management committee did not allow it to raise funds on its own although there was nothing to stop members of the committee working together as individuals to raise money for the Hall. Ken Willingale outlined the history of the Hall and its committees and confirmed that the Management Committee was established by the Parish Council to specifically manage the hall without a fund raising mandate. Therefore its income was from hall fees and any grants and support it could obtain. The Community Council and the Village Societies had some responsibility for supporting the hall. After considerable discussion it was agreed that the village cannot let the fabric of the hall deteriorate and the meeting agreed the following:
  - For the Community Council to provide a grant of £1000 to the Village Hall specifically for maintenance. This was in addition to a previous agreement to match fund up to £500 for the purchase of chairs.
  - Members to go back to their societies and ask them to fund raise specifically for the Village Hall Maintenance Fund.

Chris Hunt explained that the Country and Western Group who used the Hall could not be expected to contribute to its maintenance as few of its members came from Nayland and Wiston. However exceptionally they were having a special fund raising event to purchase tables for the Hall.

#### 7. **Society Reports.**

- **The Royal British Legion** were organising a trip to Woolwich Artillery Museum on Thursday 4 November and to Bletchley Park on 20 or 27 November and would welcome others to join them.
- **Choir** were having a concert in the Church at 6.30pm on Sunday 28 November and hoped for good support.
- **Village Players** pantomime called the 3 Musketeers was to take place 8 – 11 December and was very funny and they hoped for strong support.
- **Conservation** open meeting was 12 October and its joint meeting with the Hort Soc was on 9 November.
- **Horticultural Society** was having a meeting tomorrow entitled the “the Magic and Mystery of Herbs”. It wanted to know what had happened the Village Hall garden trophy. Iain Wright said that his committee had yet to provide and award one.
- **Nayland Web Site.** Graham Griffiths introduced himself and said that there had already been over 10,000 “hits” on the site. He offered the societies the opportunity to have their own Web Page. Already the WI and Royal British Legion were there and he hoped others would join them. Andrew Gowen thanked Graham for setting up the Web site for the village and that he hoped that more and more people would come to use it regularly.

#### 8. **Grant Applications. ( in addition the grant to the Village hall above)**

- A grant of £300 was agreed to be awarded to Paula Taylor towards her expenses to climb a mountain in Ethiopia as part of her money raising for St Helena Hospice. Her hard work in supporting this cause was much appreciated and the Council wanted to help.
- A request from Nayland Eagles Football Team for a grant to help to buy a new strip was discussed but it was felt that the team needs to participate more in village activities such as the Street Fayre and attending meetings of the Village Hall and Community Council before such a grant could be considered.

9. **Treasurers’s Report.** Al Machin reported that the Community Council had almost £11,000 on deposit and £900 in the bank and that total assets were worth £12,742 and that the accounts were in a healthy state.

#### 10. **Chairman’s Report.**

- Andrew Gowen a Village Hall working party to work on the Community Council garden and 9am Saturday 9 October was agreed. He hoped that the Societies might join them on that day to work on their gardens.
- It was agreed to set up the Christmas tree on 14 December at 9am .

11. **Next meetings.** The next meetings are as follows:

Tuesday 14 December at 8pm (preceded by the Executive meeting at 7.30pm) followed by wine and mince pies – hope that members would help in the provision of these!

Monday 7 February

Tuesday 15 March – the AGM.