

## Minutes of the virtual meeting (*due to Covid-19*) held on 28<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Rachel Hitchcock welcomed members to this meeting and was pleased to 'see' everyone present.

- ♦ **There were 11 members present:** Rachel Hitchcock, Claire Buller, Julie Clark, Iain Wright, Luke Rumbelow, Vicki Sargent, Lesley Jameson, Sophie Williams, Lorraine Brooks, Mike Hunter, Ned Cartwright.
- ♦ **Contributions from:** Wendy Sparrow, Mike Hunter, David Slater, Trevor Smy.
- ♦ **Apologies were received from:** Bryan Smith, Jo Metson, Maggie Ryan, David Slater.
- ♦ **Minutes of the last meeting** held on 2nd September 2020 were approved (*proposed Julie Clark, seconded Claire Buller*).

### MATTERS ARISING:

- ♦ **Executive Committee:** Action by:  
We have a good Exec committee but as always we welcome new members to join the team.
- ♦ **Fundraising Activities & Events:** Ideas for fund raising projects to benefit the CC are always welcome – for when life returns to normal.
- ♦ **Community Defibrillator & Training:** Defibrillators are located at the Village Hall and at the Fire Station; the defibrillator at the Village Hall was provided as a Community Council project and is monitored by them. As previously discussed another training event will be arranged by Rachel Hitchcock and Tracy Le Gryns once the C-19 issues are over. This could introduce other aspects of First Aid. Rachel Hitchcock & Tracy Le Gryns
- ♦ **Nayland 10k Fun Run:** [nayland10k.co.uk](http://nayland10k.co.uk) Luke is looking forward to next year's event on Sunday 4th July 2021. Luke Rumbelow
- ♦ **River Stour Water Level Gauge:** Members previously agreed provision of a water level gauge located on the river would be a point of interest for residents and to consider funding the cost. The NwW Land Company, as riparian landowners, are willing to have the gauge sited on the Meadow bank opposite Caley Green; installation will not require a permit from the EA. A gauge supplier has been found; an installer experienced at this and quote will be sought. Mike Hunter who was taking a practical lead on this project has advised that he has taken a step back from the Land Co board of trustees due to other commitments but another member will take up the reins. We are grateful for Mike's work on this project. Lorraine Brooks & NwW Land Co
- ♦ **Online Ticketing Facility:** A new website - [NaylandEvents.org](http://NaylandEvents.org) has been prepared by Justin Dowding which will enable any village society have a page to use to sell tickets to their events – once events can be held again it will be finalised and societies guided on its use.
- ♦ **Village Hall Garden Morning:** Due to Covid-19 restrictions numbers attending on 10th October were reduced. The garden still needs attention so if you have time please pop along and undertake a little weeding/tidying to society plots.
- ♦ **Recent Activities:** There had been no activities since the last meeting.
- ♦ **Village Christmas Tree:** At our January meeting "it was noted a 17 foot tree should be ordered next year; new lights and baubles will also be bought." This improvement is very timely as with Covid restrictions it will be even more important this year to have a cheerful display! The special offer cost will be £460 for decorations and lights (£200 for baubles and £260 for led lights that connect together). This was agreed (*proposed Rachel Hitchcock, seconded Lesley Jameson*) Claire Buller  
The tree will be erected a week earlier than usual on Sunday 6th December at 9.30am; it will bring some cheer to a difficult year. If you can assist with this, taking Covid precautions please contact Claire Buller on 263344 or [clairejbuller@gmail.com](mailto:clairejbuller@gmail.com) so safe working can be organised. The tree will be taken down on Sunday 3rd January.  
Claire was thanked for organising this – for the last 20+ years. (The tree first went up in 1997 without lights; lights were included the following year when Claire was Chair of the CC)

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Lesley Jameson gave her report on finances to 28th October.

- ♦ **Breakdown of profits:** Quiz £402, Community Times £1,139, Village Calendar -£123.49 (loss).
- ♦ **Grants paid 2020:** Nayland School Music Group £400, NwW Land Co, £550 & NwW Conservation Soc. £649.
- ♦ **Expenses:** Zurich insurance £435.97, Calendar print £636, Christmas tree lights and decorations £435.44.
- ♦ **Zurich Insurance:** Lesley obtained a reduction in the premium due as events have been cancelled but cover for the defibrillator is high.

- **Current Position:** This year is currently running at a deficit. The accounts show reserves of £26,202.65, represented by Deposit a/c monies £10,727.71, Current a/c monies £15,379.66 Paypal Account £19.50, Cash in Hand £75.78. We hold £268.50 for the Services Fund and grants are pending for: VH roof £10,000, Lizzie's Fund Walk £195. **Therefore, unencumbered assets are £15,739.15.**
- **Changeover of Treasurer:** Changes to mandates the CCLA Fund are complete and NatWest Online Banking has finally been achieved. Many thanks to my fellow signatories for their perseverance in this regard!
- Lesley was thanked for her perseverance and additional work setting up a Paypal account for calendar sales.

♦ **GRANTS & DONATIONS:** There had been no new grant applications

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

♦ **Community Times & Websites:** Lorraine Brooks thanked all involved for enabling issues to continue during Covid-19 and be distributed to all residents. She was grateful also for the interesting photos, information and copy sent in to keep readers informed and amused in the absence of usual village activity – please keep them coming.

Lorraine Brooks

♦ **Village Calendar:** Lorraine Brooks said copies of the calendar are on sale at the Post Office, Forget Me Not, Melissa's Hair Salon and from 17 Court Street. They can be ordered by post with cheque payment or ordered online with payment by Paypal. She thanked Justin Dowding and Lesley Jameson for helping organise the Paypal account. Further promotion will take place on social media (Lorraine), via the school parent mail (Rachel) but there are no community events to sell them at this year.

Lorraine Brooks  
Wendy Sparrow

The calendars are not yet in profit; currently there is a deficit of £123.50 with only 44 sold. We usually sell over 200 calendars.

**With no village events being held due to Covid-19 - please consider promoting/selling yourself or making suggestions for increasing sales.** Contact Lorraine for a supply of calendars if you can help.

Lesley Jameson  
Rachel Hitchcock  
& others

It was agreed to have a stall in the High Street selling calendars on Saturday mornings - 5th and 12th December – from 9am- 12 noon. They would be manned on 5th by Sophie, Lesley and Julie and on 12th by Rachel and Vicki. Covid-19 precautions would be taken. In view of this as well as cash the possibility of taking cards payments would be explored.

♦ **Forthcoming Activities:**

- **Bonfire Night on 5th November & Christmas Fayre on 5th December:** Rachel has kept in touch with Dynamic Fireworks and confirmed our event was cancelled. Cancellation was announced in the CT and on local social media. The Christmas Fayre has also been cancelled due to Covid-19.

♦ **Alternative Christmas Activities:**

- **A Christmas Wreath Competition, a Christmas Tree Trail and Advent Windows** were mooted as possible activities for the festive season. Rachel Hitchcock agreed to move this forward via email and draft a plan and publicity.
- **Father Christmas:** The possibility whether Father Christmas might be able to put in an appearance at some point despite the Christmas Fayre being cancelled. Sophie and Claire to investigate possibilities.

Rachel Hitchcock  
Claire Buller  
Sophie  
Williamson

It was noted that the **Carol Singing Around the Christmas Tree** with the Boxted Silver Band is still pencilled in to take place on Wednesday 23rd December. Under the circumstances it was agreed the event would be safer kept low-key and the CC would not consider selling mulled wine. This and any other activities will of course be subject to Covid-19 restrictions imposed.

## SOCIETY REPORTS

- ♦ **Book Club:** Wendy Sparrow reported they have still been unable to meet but continue to read during the pandemic. Everyone unanimously agreed *The Other Boleyn Girl* by Philippa Gregory was a book which they could all recommend. They have just finished reading *The Beachcomber* by Josephine Cox.
- ♦ **HortSoc:** With all activities having been cancelled due to Covid-19, they hope by March 2021 their year will be able to begin with a colourful Spring Flower Show.
- ♦ **Art Group:** Daphne Berry, the organiser of the group sadly passed away recently; she came to live in the village in the 60s when The Heights were first built and was very active in encouraging good community activities. Due to current restrictions regarding attendance at funerals Daphne will take a final journey round the village leaving her home at noon on 30th October. The Art Group has not been able to meet since lockdown in March.
- ♦ **Conservation Society:** Mike Hunter said a letter has been written to NATS re overflying of the DVAONB but in response they are relying upon a government paper issued in 2017 which advises that provided the aircraft pass over at a height of 7,000 feet they are not in breach of the section 85 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act. We are investigating if this approach can be challenged.

They obtained consent from SCC Highways and the PC to plant 500 naturalised narcissi on the northern side of the greensward at the junction of the A134 and Horkesley Road; they will be planted this week. The 45 year old Court Knoll sign has been removed for restoration; we hope to have this back shortly in tip top condition. Our November speaker has had to withdraw as a result of ill health and the Society is still investigating the use of Zoom for a substitute speaker for late November.

The Society has filed a response to the Governments 84 page white paper on the future of the planning system - it is feared if this goes ahead there will be a presumption for development on 70% of the land within England and Wales.

- ◆ **NwW Land Company:** David Slater reported that the sheep have had to be taken elsewhere to better grazing. The newly planted trees in the field and on the river bank were regularly watered during the summer months. The pre Christmas program planned will include extensive hedge management, including coppicing and hedge laying, constructing a dead hedge, clearance of surplus material and improvement to footpath route. Unfortunately this means that part of the permissive footpath will have to be closed for most of November. After Christmas, provisionally mid January, tree planting and installation of CC funded seat will take place. We hope that school pupils and members of the community may like to be involved in the planting and future maintenance. All livestock fencing improvements and maintenance will be completed by end of February and the sheep will return in March.
- ◆ **Parish Council:** Ned Cartwright reported: that the Playground has re-opened with Covid-19 signage; there have been a number of planning applications to consider including a retrospective application at Harpers Hill Farm; unauthorised work has taken place to tidy the Horsecwatering - permission should be obtained prior to any work taking place; flooding has been a problem by the Old Fox in Wiston, the by-pass and in Birch Street – SCC investigations have identified potential solutions to the latter but need the authority of the Environment Agency; the PC are working with James Finch (SCC) towards a solution to parking issues in Court Street/Abell Bridge/Horkesley Road. It was noted that a number of the vehicles parked there belong to members of staff.
- ◆ **AOB:** There was no further business
- ◆ **Date of next meeting:** is scheduled for **Tuesday 5th January** at 8pm (*Exec 7.30pm*). This is likely to be be another Zoom meeting unless the Covid-19 restrictions have been lifted so we can meet in the Church Hall. **Meetings for 2021:** 5th May, 5th July, 1st September and 27th October. March AGM yet to be decided.

*The meeting closed at 9pm*