

## Minutes from the meeting held on 5th May 2021 via Zoom

Rachel Hitchcock welcomed members to the meeting.

- ♦ **There were 14 members present:** Rachel Hitchcock, Lesley Jameson, Lorraine Brooks, Julie Clark, Bryan Smith, Vicki Sargent, Sophie Williams, Iain Wright, Luke Rumbelow, Kate Bevan, Laura Erith, Mike Hunter, Sally and John Dalton, Martin Wright, Mary George.
- ♦ **Contributions from:** Wendy Sparrow, Trevor Smy, David Slater.
- ♦ **Apologies:** Claire Buller, Maggie Ryan, Jo Metson.
- ♦ **Minutes of the last meeting** on 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021 were approved (*proposed Bryan Smith, seconded Julie Clark*).

### MATTERS ARISING:

#### ♦ **Executive Committee:**

Rachel Hitchcock welcomed Kate Bevan as a new member of the Executive Committee (*proposed Julie Clark, seconded Sophie Williams*) adding it is an enjoyable friendly village committee that provides positive events and facilities for the community.

Action by:

- ♦ **Fundraising Activities/Events:** 2022 will be the **Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee** year with a 4 day Bank holiday weekend on Thursday 2nd-Sunday 5th June – details on: <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/extra-bank-holiday-to-mark-the-queens-platinum-jubilee-in-2022> The CC will as usual facilitate a celebration. Rachel asked the Exec to look at what happened for the Diamond Jubilee – details and photo album at <http://naylandcommunitycouncil.org.uk/Files/2012DiamondJubileePhotoAlbum.pdf> (on the History page of the CC website, with other special events) – with a view to putting together ideas and an initial programme for the 2022 event.

Rachel  
Hitchcock  
& All

Last time the CC and Parish Council jointly provided commemorative mugs for all the children in the village. There was a Street Party (re-located to the village hall and marquees due to the weather), Duck Olympics, various games and competitions for youngsters and adults, official medal presentations, tree planting, peel of church bells, exhibition of 1950s memorabilia, church service, a Jubilee Church Fete and more...

It's hoped the Parish Council and other village groups will wish to participate again. The PC and village societies will be contacted after the next meeting once we had come up with some suggestions for the basic format.

- ♦ **Community Defibrillator:** Defibrillators are located at the Village Hall and at the Fire Station. Rachel Hitchcock will liaise with Tracy Le Gry about organising a further training session, once Covid-19 restrictions allow, hopefully this summer. It had been suggested that this could introduce other aspects of First Aid.
- ♦ **River Stour Water Level Gauge:** Rachel had a positive meeting on site with Dale Leeks, the installer, and Martin Wright of the Land Company. A licence agreement with the Land Co may be necessary; the Environment Agency confirmed previously a permit was not required. The position for the gauge has been agreed in the Meadow side of the river; there will be a gauge on each side of the post to enable measurement to be seen from Caley Green side too. James Taylor has kindly offered to survey the site to enable the above sea level marker to be installed (for official recording) as well as a river bed depth marker (useful for the school projects and locals). James and Dale are arranging the survey and then Rachel will organise the signage in consultation with Dale (proof to be shown to Land Company before final sign off).  
The final costs will be: Installation including oak post £450 + VAT, Gauge Boards £450 + VAT, backing boards £250 + VAT, totalling £1,380 inc. VAT. This expenditure was agreed (*proposed Iain Wright, seconded Lesley Jameson*).

Rachel  
Hitchcock &  
Tracy Le Gry

Rachel  
Hitchcock

- ♦ **Nayland 10k Fun Run:** [nayland10k.co.uk](http://nayland10k.co.uk) Luke said this year's 10k – on **Sunday 11th July** - will be held at Littlegarth School; they have ample car parking and other facilities.

The website is now taking bookings. Woodland Corner and Nayland School's HSA will be asked if they would like to be involved again. The provision of professional marshalls to ensure safe road crossing for runners will be increased.

It is hoped to attract about 30 volunteers from the Nayland community to help with marshalling from about 9.30-11.30am; there is a feel-good vibe and volunteers as well as runners enjoy the event. Please contact Luke 07598 821663 [rumbelow\\_2000@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:rumbelow_2000@yahoo.co.uk) or Rachel 263169 [rachel\\_hitchcock@hotmail.com](mailto:rachel_hitchcock@hotmail.com) if you can help..

Luke Rumbelow

- ♦ **Online Ticketing Facility:** *NaylandEvents.org* – This facility was created at the CC's request by Justin Dowding to enable village groups to sell tickets to their events. This will be useful for the Fun Food & Festivities event planned for August and Bonfire Night.

*Justin Dowding*

- ♦ **Village Hall Garden Morning:** A small but dedicated group of volunteers donned tools for the spring gardening session held on 10th April. Jo Metson (and her daughters) and Rachel represented the CC.

- ♦ **Fun, Food & Festivities:** on 28th-29th August. Iain Wright said plans were progressing and fingers crossed Covid does not prevent it going ahead. Mandy Cook and Emma Bishton are planning the music elements and liaising with Patricia Wilkie to draft a schedule of events. Some of the activities planned will be: a dress a bike/scooter competition, an art exhibition, face painting and bouncy castle. Volunteers will be needed to help with setting up and clearing up afterwards. The next FFF meeting will be on 17<sup>th</sup> May at 7.30pm by Zoom.

*Iain Wright*

- ♦ **Recent Activities:**

- **CC Annual General Meeting on 3rd March:** The draft minutes were distributed and are available on [naylandcommunitycouncil.org.uk/Meetings](http://naylandcommunitycouncil.org.uk/Meetings)

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Lesley Jameson gave her report on finances to 5th May.

- **Breakdown of profits:** Community Times £837.50, Village Calendar 2021 £245.20. **Grants paid:** none to date.
- **Current Position:** The accounts show reserves of £27,308.01, represented by Deposit a/c monies £10,728.37, Current a/c monies £16,504.66, PayPal a/c £6.70, Cash in hand £68.28. We hold £268.50 for the Services Fund and grants are pending for: VH roof £10,000, Lizzie's Fund Walk £201. **Therefore, unencumbered assets are £16,838.51.**
- Expenses since our last meeting: the 25% deposit to Dynamic Fireworks for £625 and £222 to Spingold for the April Community Times print run.
- Lesley pointed out that interest rates on CC monies were very low; the Exec was happy for her to investigate better rates. PayPal have accepted the CC as charity status resulting in fees per calendar sold being 30p instead of 50p, a drop in interest charged from 7% to 4.3%. Rachel will liaise with Lesley regarding applying to the Village Hall for an alcohol licence.

- ♦ **GRANTS & DONATIONS:** There had been no grant applications or donations.

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

- ♦ **Community Times & Websites:** Lorraine Brooks thanked all involved for contributing to recent issues. She asked that people let her know if they have any events to promote or news to include as times and village life are not as predictable as they once were.

*Lorraine Brooks*

The Nayland & Wiston website continues to be useful for including updates and useful information for residents.

- ♦ **Village Calendar:** Lorraine Brooks reminded members that the deadline for the photographic competition will be 26th May. Residents will vote for their favourite photos via the internet on 4th-6th June. Some entries have been received. It was promoted in the April CT, by posters and local Facebook.

*Lorraine Brooks*  
*Wendy Sparrow*

- ♦ **Forthcoming CC Activities:**

- **Bonfire Night on 5th November:** It is hoped this will go head. Dynamic Fireworks have been helpful offering flexibility for their loyal customers. Maggie Ryan's break even model will be used to help with setting pricing so that we can plan for different scenarios, especially if visitor numbers have to be restricted.

*Rachel*  
*Hitchcock*

The Anchor Inn has not responded yet regarding car parking. Ticket prices and further planning for the new format Bonfire Night will be on the agenda for our next meeting in July.

- **Christmas Fayre on 7th December:** Rachel Hitchcock said it is hoped this will go ahead..
- ♦ **Forthcoming Village Activities:** The future is looking brighter with established village activities hopefully resuming and some new events being considered.
  - **Calendar Photographic Competition:** entries 26th May/judging 4th-6th June
  - **Nayland 10K Fun Run:** on 11th July
  - **Nayland Flower Show:** on 7th August
  - **Fun, Food & Festivities:** on 28th & 29th August
  - **Bonfire & Fireworks:** 5th November
  - **Christmas Fayre:** on 4th December.
  - **Fun Village Quiz:** in February 2022
  - **Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Event:** June 2022

## SOCIETY REPORTS

- ◆ **HortSoc:** Trevor Smy reported that the Morning Market sale of plants and cakes will take place outside the Church Hall on Saturday 8th May at 9.30am-midday. The June coach outing and Summer Garden Party will not be held but the Annual Flower Show is being planned for 7th August. We have booked an outing to Kew Gardens for 8th September.
- ◆ **Women's Institute:** Wendy Sparrow reported that they are hoping it might be possible for members to meet in the Village Hall in July for an informal reunion but the annual garden party is planned to go ahead in August and a speaker will be arranged for September.
- ◆ **Book Club:** Wendy Sparrow reported that they are still unable to meet but continue to read books chosen by members. We have recently read '*All among the Barley*' by Mellissa Harrison and are currently reading '*The Thistle and the Crown*' by Jean Plaidy.

- ◆ **Conservation Society:** Mike Hunter reported that the online AGM had been successful with an excellent speaker, Jeremy Greenwood, talking on the subject of local artist *John Nash in the Stour Valley*. The Village Hall garden working party was poorly attended save for members of the CC and the Society! The village litter pick held on the 24th April attracted more volunteers than ever before; we ran out of litter pickers! On 17th April founder committee members Wendy Sparrow and Linda Clapham unveiled the Court Knoll information sign, originally been installed in 1978, which the Society had arranged to be restored. We are hopeful that our next speaker meeting on 28th of June may be held at the Village Hall. The speaker is Peter Tatum talking on the topic of the *Stour Valley Path*.

The Society will be holding a virtual Open Gardens with photos going live on our web site on the 13th June, the photos will be taken on the previous weekend. Viewers will be invited to make a voluntary donation Open Gardens is our only fund raising activity and this is the second year we have been unable to hold it.

We wrote to members inviting them to lodge concerns over National Grid's proposals to erect huge power lines next the existing pylons between Bramford and Twinstead.

- ◆ **Nayland Land Co:** Plenty of greenery can be seen on the part of a hedge that was skilfully laid by Neil Catchpole. This continues to receive many plaudits from passers-by. The sheep are back in the field with many lambs, and the birth of some of them was happily witnessed by local residents. The newly planted trees behind the community council seat are doing well. The infield trees have been watered but rain is badly needed.

The pair of swans on the pond had eight cygnets and provision was made to release our swans and cygnets onto the river as they had shown interest in wishing to do this by walking along inside the fence looking for an escape route. They were moved on 6th May. It was of some concern as the cygnets are not yet very old but if we left them on the pond they would be very likely to be lost to predation or eventual starvation because the food available in the pond would be insufficient to sustain them all.

- ◆ **Village Hall:** Iain Wright said the hall will be open for one day on 17<sup>th</sup> May for the elections. Hopefully it will be able to reopen for bookings at the end of June.
- ◆ **Friends of Caley Green:** You may have seen details on Facebook or posters around the village suggesting those with concerns about the proposals for Caley Green could show support for exploring all options to prevent further erosion of the riverbank at Caley Green rather than the Parish Council's preferred option of planting vegetation. The Friends are concerned because this option will over time block views, and prevent villagers from accessing the river at Caley Green. Show your support by adding your name to the petition; you can do this by emailing your name and postcode to: [johnansal@live.co.uk](mailto:johnansal@live.co.uk) or [lorraine.nayland@btinternet.com](mailto:lorraine.nayland@btinternet.com) or drop details to 101 Bear Street.
- ◆ **Parish Council:** Laura Erith said that 20 residents attended the annual Parish Assembly; signage on the A134 deterring HGV lorries entering the village have been installed; a date for installation of the double yellow lines at Caley Green is awaited; the allotment competition will be held; they are considering extending the allotments as there is a waiting list; there is still one vacancy on the PC.

Mary George said on the uncertainty and difficulties around where/how they can hold their May meeting due to current Government policy and the facilities available in Nayland; there is no solution currently.

Following concerns expressed by some residents at the Parish Assembly regarding proposals at Caley Green Mary read a response regarding some of them from James Carr of the Environment Agency (EA):

1. Nicospan is a brand name for geotextile mesh which can be used along river or canal frontage where a permanent revetment is required. It is made out of plastic so is neither natural nor bio-degradable. Coir is a natural material (coconut fibre) which can be used to perform a similar function. We would always prioritise using natural materials where they will do the necessary job.
  2. The portage platforms built by the EA (i.e. those up and down-stream of the Nayland horseshoe weir) are considerably shorter than the revetment here. There is sometimes a short wait for paddlers as people launch but usually people are respectful, courteous and friendly. Our portages are typically around 2.5 metres long.
  3. The EA would consider an application for permitting the construction of a launching platform particularly if it had overwhelming local and landowner support. We are aware that many local people value the local tranquillity and such a feature might encourage more public use of the area as a honey pot site.
  4. Under its founding 1995 Environment Act, the EA has a legal duty '*to Conserve and Enhance the Environment*' in all it does. Extending hard revetment is not something we take lightly as it results in loss of biodiversity and river habitat.
- ◆ **AOB:** There was no further business
  - ◆ **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** will be **Monday 5th July**, hopefully in the Church Hall, but if not by Zoom, at 8pm with Exec at 7.30pm. **Meetings for 2021:** Wednesday 1st September, Wednesday 27th October.

*The meeting closed at 8.45pm*