

Minutes from the meeting held on 5th July 2021 via Zoom

Rachel Hitchcock welcomed members to the meeting.

- ◆ **There were 13 members present:** Rachel Hitchcock, Lesley Jameson, Lorraine Brooks, Julie Clark, Bryan Smith, Claire Buller, Vicki Sargent, Maggie Ryan, Iain Wright, Luke Rumbelow, Ned Cartwright, Chris Hunt, Mike Hunter.
- ◆ **Contributions from:** Trevor Smy, David Slater, Wendy Sparrow, Sophie Williams, Jo Metson.
- ◆ **Apologies:** Trevor Smy, David Slater, Wendy Sparrow, Kate Bevan.
- ◆ **Minutes of the last meeting** on 5th May 2021 were approved (*proposed Vicki Sargent, seconded Lesley Jameson*).

MATTERS ARISING:

- ◆ **Executive Committee:** Rachel Hitchcock said we have a good team now and it will be nice to meet in person at the next meeting (hopefully). However, as always we welcome new members to join our enjoyable friendly committee. **Action by:**
- ◆ **Fundraising Activities/Events:** We have sufficient planned currently but as always future ideas and support are welcome.
- ◆ **Community Defibrillator:** Defibrillators are located at the Village Hall and at the Fire Station. Now that Covid-19 restrictions are easing Rachel Hitchcock will liaise with Tracy Le Gryns about organising a further training session. It had been suggested that this could introduce other aspects of First Aid. **Rachel Hitchcock & Tracy Le Gryns**
- ◆ **River Stour Water Level Gauge:** Rachel said that James Taylor has now kindly surveyed 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). This information has been passed to Dale Leeks so he can confirm levels for the gauge to be ordered and installed. **Rachel Hitchcock**
- ◆ **Nayland 10k Fun Run:** nayland10k.co.uk Luke said this year's 10k – on **Sunday 11th July** at Littlegarth School – has taken longer to organise and costs had increased due to Covid-19. There are 670 runners booked (against 1000 last time). He is grateful to have 20-25 volunteers and thanks Claire Buller and Rachel Hitchcock for their help. Maggie Ryan volunteered her son to manage the cloakroom tickets. Luke will be strimming the route on Thursday and Friday, ahead of setting up on Saturday ahead of the event on Sunday. **Luke Rumbelow**
- ◆ **Online Ticketing Facility:** NaylandEvents.org – The Fun, Food & Festivities event on August Bank Holiday will be trialling this facility, created by Justin Dowding, which enables village groups to sell tickets to their events online. It will be used for Bonfire Night. **Justin Dowding**
- ◆ **Fun, Food & Festivities:** on 28th-29th August. Iain Wright said plans were progressing; the Saturday programme will begin with a Best Dressed Bicycle/Scooter parade and competition, there will be Spanish theme food, two showings of the Conservation Society's film about Nayland, an art exhibition, face painting and children's activities and a variety of musical and other performances. The History of the CC will be on display. On the Sunday the programme begins with a church service, there will be Sunday roast theme food (roast beef sandwiches), a vintage car display, and music. Rachel and Maggie agreed to help with the bar. Volunteers will be needed to help with setting up and clearing up afterwards. **Iain Wright**
- ◆ **Queen Elizabeth II's Platinum Jubilee** Thursday 2nd-Sunday 5th June.
Rachel Hitchcock advised that the annual Fete was probably going to be held on the early May bank holiday in 2022. With that in mind it was agreed Friday 3rd June would be the best day and a Street Party/Fayre was proposed. The village hall is booked as a back-up in case of bad weather (and for use of the toilets, borrowing tables, etc) but holding it in the High Street would be more atmospheric. Claire Buller will apply for a road closure permit. **Rachel Hitchcock & Claire Buller**
The Parish Council have been asked if they wish to contribute towards a commemorative mug/ gift for children as they have done previously for such occasions and if a representative from the PC would join the Jubilee planning committee.
Most of the Exec agreed to be on the Jubilee planning committee; Rachel will organise a meeting for the Jubilee celebrations before the next CC meeting.

◆ **Recent Activities:**

- **NwW Calendar Photographic Competition: 4th-6th June:** As usual fabulous photographs were submitted. The competition, conducted again online due to Covid, attracted 153 entries from 29 local residents and 37 people submitted votes for their favourite scenes. This is down on last year's 200 entries by 41 photographers & 56 voters but entries were higher than when printed photos are displayed in the church hall which usually generates about 120 by 25 photographers & 60 voters/visitors.

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

- **Breakdown of profits:** Community Times £1,088.00, Village Calendar 2021 £285.20 plus £100 sponsorship received for 2022. Lesley thanked Lorraine for her hard work with the calendar and CT.
- **Grants paid:** none to date.
- Expenses since our last meeting: Retirement gift to John & Yvonne Spooner £400; alcohol licences applied for Bonfire Night and the Christmas Fayre, £20 each; and £222 to Spingold for the June Community Times print run.
- **Current Position:** The accounts show reserves of £27,258.51 represented by Deposit a/c monies £10,728.37, Current a/c monies £16,390.16, PayPal a/c £6.70, Cash in Hand £133.28. We hold £268.50 for the RBL Services Fund and grants are pending for: VH roof £10,000, Lizzie's Fund Walk £201. **Therefore, unencumbered assets are £16,789.01.**

◆ **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. Village life is beginning to stir and the events diary gradually expanding.

Lorraine Brooks

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

◆ **Village Calendar:** Lorraine Brooks said the calendar had gone to print this morning and it will be available to purchase at the Nayland Flower Show on 7th August, then at the Post Office, Forget Me Knot, Melissa's Hair Salon, 17 Court Street and online. The 12 sponsors from last year have kindly sponsored a page each again, which will generate £300. The Print cost was held the same as last year £636 and payment when invoiced was agreed (*proposed Luke Rumbelow, seconded Rachel Hitchcock*).

Lorraine Brooks
Wendy Sparrow
& Sally Dalton

The cost of the calendar has remained at £5 since 2010 although cost have risen and will rise again; it was agreed to increase the price of the calendars to £7.

Lorraine, Wendy Sparrow and Sally Dalton - the calendar team - were thanked for all their work on another calendar.

◆ **Forthcoming CC Activities:**

- **Bonfire Night on 5th November:** The Exec confirmed they are available to help; further volunteers will be needed. Rachel has not heard back from the Anchor regarding parking; she will contact Dynamic Fireworks about their policy on bad weather cancellations.

For publicity, the cost and availability of entry/tickets is needed. Rachel agreed to investigate the cost of other displays, whether they have entry by ticket, gate, or a combination of both and refund policy. She will use Maggie Ryan's break even model to consider pricing for different scenarios, especially if visitor numbers have to be restricted. The discussion will continue by email to enable a decision to be made before various magazine deadlines.

Rachel
Hitchcock

Tickets will be available using the online ticket facility. If entry is to be by advance ticket only, physical tickets will be needed and available to purchase at convenient locations in the village. A stall selling them outside Kerridges was suggested; calendars could also be sold on that occasion.

- **Christmas Fayre on 4th December:** Rachel Hitchcock said plans will be discussed at the next meeting. Father Christmas is willing to attend the Fayre and tour the village; the possibility of the tour being in a horse and cart would be investigated.
- **Fun Village Quiz on 4th February 2022:** The date was set and the village hall booked.

Rachel
Hitchcock

◆ **Forthcoming Village Activities:** The future is looking brighter with established village activities hopefully resuming and some new events being considered.

- **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:** 4th February 2022
- **Queen Elizabeth II Jubilee Street Party/Fayre:** 3rd June 2022

SOCIETY REPORTS

- ◆ **HortSoc:** Trevor Smy reported the annual Garden Party in July will not be able to take place this year but the Flower Show is being planned for 7th August – do consider entering, the rivalry is friendly and fun. Some spaces remain for the coach outing to Kew Gardens on 8th September. The next speaker will be Andrew Sankey on 'Funny Garden Features' on 19th October.
- ◆ **Women's Institute:** Wendy Sparrow reported that the meeting scheduled for July in the Village Hall cannot go ahead because of the restrictions. It is hoped that the annual garden party will take place in August and that normal service will be resumed for the September meeting which will be held at the new time of 2.30pm-4.30pm on the second Thursday in the month.
- ◆ **Book Club:** Wendy Sparrow reported that the '*Thistle and the Crown*' by Jean Plaidy was read and discussed at a garden meeting of one of the members. Currently the group are reading '*What lies between us*' by John Marrs.
- ◆ **Conservation Society:** Mike Hunter said on 31st May Chris Hunt lead 16 members on an excellent walk from Boxford to Groton and back, featuring details on one of the founding fathers of the United States of America whose family used to live at Groton. On 28th June Peter Tatam gave an excellent presentation with stunning photography on the topic of the Stour Valley Path; about 40 people attended. The virtual Open Gardens became available on our web site from 13th June (and remains available). 25 gardens were featured and 113 photos taken. Local BBC camera man Stuart Howells to shoot a film on the theme of the History of Nayland. A number of members sponsored the cost of the film. The premiere will take place during the *Fun, Food & Festivities* event in August. Our next speaker meeting will take place on the 4th October when John Taylor will speak on the subject of '*How to Live Net Zero in Rural Suffolk*'.
- ◆ **Nayland Land Co:** David Slater reported that only rarely do we get similar weather two years running. Last year the sheep were looking for some grass to eat but this year there is so much they can almost hide in it. The unusually high rainfall has also encouraged growth on both the laid and coppiced hedges, as well as invigorating the wildflower meadow, which gave us a grand display of flowers and cow parsley for walkers to enjoy. All the recently planted trees along the riverbank and in the field have benefitted as well. The footpath has all been cut and the Community Council seat is frequently in use, mainly by senior citizens enjoying the view. Hopefully by the time of the meeting most of the field will have been topped but with some parts deliberately left uncut.
- ◆ **St James' Church:** Chris Hunt said in spite of not having a Priest in Charge, services continue at St James with a fairly regular pattern for each Sunday of the month: 8am said Communion; 10am Communion - with hymns; 10am Family Service; 10am Communion - full coral responses. With declining facilities in the village it's difficult to get information out but generally a list of services will be available on notice boards and in the church porch. The Family Service is proving popular and is a good opportunity for younger members of the village to attend church and get to know people. Interviews for a new Priest in Charge will be held in September so, fingers crossed, we just MAY have someone by Christmas - but don't hold your breath!! In an attempt to get socialising back to some sort of normality a Barn Dance and Harvest Supper is being arranged for 24th September starting at 6pm in the village hall. This will feature a band with caller, tickets are £10. We also hold a regular Wednesday morning Coffee/Tea & cakes session at the church and this is proving popular.
- ◆ **Parish Council:** Ned Cartwright said that there had been some technical problems with their hybrid Zoom meetings, anyone wishing to attend future Zoom meetings should contact the Clerk; the Experimental Traffic Order double-yellow lines in Bear Street opposite Caley Green have been installed and a review of their effectiveness will be made in 6 months; SCC's Senior Ecologist will be speaking at a Zoom meeting on 8th July regarding the proposals for Caley Green; Suffolk Wildlife Trust have purchased 5 hectares of ancient woodland at Rowley Grove which will become part of Arger Fen and Spouses Vale nature reserve; a large fallen tree left on Caley Green as wildlife habitat has been subject to a chainsaw raid.
- ◆ **AOB:** Iain Wright advised that John and Yvonne Spooner had been very grateful for their retirement gift following 47 years and 10 months as the village hall caretakers.
- ◆ **DATE OF NEXT MEETING:** will be **Wednesday 1st September**, hopefully in the Church Hall, but if not by Zoom, at 8pm with Exec at 7.30pm. **Meetings for 2021-2:** Wednesday 27th October, Wednesday 5th January 2022.
The meeting closed at 8.45pm