

MINUTES OF THE NAYLAND WITH WISSINGTON PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 11<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2025, AT 7.30 PM AT NAYLAND VILLAGE HALL AND BY VIDEO CONFERENCING.

Present: Cllr L Erith (Chair), Cllrs G Battye, O Brown, P Fuller, D Harris, K Sheath, S Treharne and County Cllr J Finch attended in person. D Hattrell (Clerk), L Brooks and 2 others attended by Video link.

Before Commencement of the Meeting

a. **Public Forum:** L Brooks enquired about the appointment of a Vice Chair and Committees. She was advised that this forms item 4 on the agenda to be discussed during the Meeting. M Hunter referred to his email updates regarding the footpath he is pursuing and the Parish Council (PC) confirmed safe receipt of the information circulated.

b. **District Council Report**

District Cllr Isabelle Reece had sent apologies, and the general District Council (DC) report issued in advance covered:

**Annual Meeting of Babergh District Council - 14<sup>th</sup> May**

Cllr John Ward will lead the Green, Independent and Liberal Democrat coalition administration for the next year - replacing Cllr Deborah Saw, who had been leader for the last year. The rotation in leadership is a part of the coalition agreement, and Cllr Ward was elected at the Annual Council Meeting.

Leader – Cllr John Ward

Joint Deputy Leaders – Cllrs Dave Busby and Deborah Saw

Chair – Cllr Ruth Hendry

Deputy Chair – Cllr Liz Malvesi

Cllr Michael Holt's was elected as Chairman of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee. The purposes of this committee are:

- to review and/or scrutinise decisions made, or actions taken in connection with the discharge of any of the Councils functions
- to make reports and/or recommendations to Full Council or the Strategy Committee in connection with the discharge of any function
- to make reports or recommendations to the Full Council or the Strategy Committee with respect to matters affecting the area or its inhabitants

District Cllr I Reece was appointed to the Planning Committee and continue the Dedham Vale National Landscape & Stour Valley Joint Advisory Committee & Partnership. Her Group colleague Cllr Brian Riley replaces her on the Joint Audit & Standards Committee.

**Devolution & Local Government Reform**

The Government plans, for all district, borough and county councils to be replaced in 2028 by new unitary councils delivering their services, continue to be a priority across the district and indeed across the whole County. The district and borough councils have just launched a survey asking people for their views on local government reorganisation in Suffolk.

The Government Consultation of Devolution (The Combined Mayoral Authority) has now closed, and feedback is awaited.

**80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of VE Day**

Ahead of the Anniversary, Cllr Elizabeth Malvisi (Chair 2023-25) issued a message to mark the occasion: *“Few of those who fought in World War II are still with us today – but we still remember those who gave their lives, and the years of action, adversity and hardship endured by their generation. As well as celebrating the anniversary of the end of the war in Europe, we also remember the dangers of authoritarianism and fascism and the sacrifices made in order for democracy to prevail.”* In addition to the national celebrations, local events took place at schools, nursing homes, churches and village halls across our region.

**Waste Collection**

In recent weeks Cllr Reece has received several complaints about erratic bin collection. She took these up with the Waste Management Department: *Unfortunately, the delays have been the result of Babergh contractor Serco experiencing a period of unforeseen crew absences, along with a lack of available drivers to fill temporary and permanent vacancies.*

Also, at its meeting on 6<sup>th</sup> May, Babergh Cabinet abandoned its ambitions for a new Joint Waste Collection Depot and instead decided to effect much needed renovation of the existing Sudbury Depot, which had been allowed to fall into disrepair.

c. **County Council Report**

County Cllr J Finch attended, and his report issued in advance covered :

1. **Solar Farm Objection:** Suffolk County Council (SCC) formally objects to a proposed 250-megawatt solar farm spanning 1,500 acres across multiple parishes due to concerns about loss of Grade 2 agricultural land, impacts on communities, sensitive habitats, archaeological sites, and cable corridor damage. SCC recommends EcoPower publish an interim design report by June 2025 for further clarity.
2. **SEND Places Expansion:** SCC plans to create 200 new specialist SEND places costing £18.6 million, with 100 places opening in autumn 2025 and another 100 by September 2026. The initiative aims to meet growing demand and keep pupils closer to home.
3. **Dementia Marketplace:** A free event on June 25, 2025, at Trinity Park, Ipswich, offering advice, support, and information for those affected by dementia. Features include expert talks, an innovation room showcasing care technology, and a supervised activities room for people with dementia.
4. **Suffolk Community Awards:** The 2025 awards will celebrate individuals and groups improving community life in Suffolk, with 18 categories, including a new award for climate change response. The event highlights the contributions of volunteers and community leaders.
5. **Foster Care Fortnight:** Focuses on the transformative power of relationships in fostering. Suffolk's Emergency Foster Care Hub, launched in March, provides short-term stable homes for children while professionals plan long-term solutions. The pilot program aims to reduce multiple moves and improve outcomes for children in care.

On local matters, Cllr J Finch confirmed that Matthew Lee, SCC Property, doesn't need Environment Agency permission in relation to the reed cutting. This should take place as soon as possible after 1<sup>st</sup> September. Cllr K Sheath and Cllr J Finch were both congratulated for all their efforts to get this moving forward. Cllr Finch has reported the poor surface of Bear Street. Cllr D Harris raised the further resurfacing of the A134 as one side was left.

### **Parish Council Meeting**

Before the start of the Meeting, the Chair had signed her Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Chairman. She was unable to attend the Annual Parish Council Meeting where the election took place.

1. **Apologies:** were received from District Cllr I Reece. D Hattrell, Clerk, who attended by Zoom.
2. **Approval of Minutes of 14<sup>th</sup> May Meeting:** These were accepted as a true record.
3. **Declarations of Interest by Councillors:** Nothing was declared.
4. **Vice Chair, Representatives and Committees:**  
*An Extract from the 2024 Annual Meeting was used as a template to update: -*  
 The Sub Committees were resolved as follows: -  
***Finance:*** Cllrs Erith, Fuller, Treharne and the Clerk/RFO.  
***Recreation:*** Cllrs Battye and Harris.  
***Caley Green:*** Cllrs Brown, Harris and Sheath. Joined by resident Sally Dalton.  
***Allotments:*** Cllrs Erith and Treharne together with Allotment holders Jo Reed and Ruth Beverley.  
***Burial Ground:*** Cllrs Erith and Brown.  
***Planning:*** All Cllrs  
***Trees:*** All Cllrs with Cllr Sheath as the main contact point  
***Village Hall:*** Cllr Harris  
***Community Council:*** Cllrs Erith and Treharne  
***Parish Tree Warden:*** Terry Bannister  
***Parish Footpath Warden:*** We no longer have a Footpath Warden. There have been a couple of enquiries which could result in a volunteer, however, not to date. Cllr Brown will organise a thank you letter to Sally Bartrum as she has carried out the role with great skill and professionalism over many years.  
**Cllr Dawn Harris was elected to continue as Vice Chair** and other Councillors will take turns chairing meetings when our Chair is absent to build valuable experience and resilience for the future.
5. **Highways:** Various matters had already been discussed under the County Council Report. It was agreed to see if a Highways Representative could come to a future PC Meeting in view of on-going strict prioritisation and therefore slow response times to issues.

## **6. Finance Report:**

i) The Chair read from the bank balances as of 29<sup>th</sup> May 2025 as £1000 in the Current Account, £39,346.99 in the linked Account and £79,549.04 in the Capital Investment Account, £4,444.86 in the National Savings Account making a total of **£124,340.89**.

### **ii) List of pre-agreed payments for the May period paid on 30<sup>th</sup> May 2025: -**

Funds Transfer	Employment Costs totalled	£1634.89	Salary, NI and Pension
Funds Transfer	Mortimer Contracts Ltd	£1240.20	Litter, Grass, Rec & Open Sp
Funds Transfer	Community Heartbeat Trust	£3234.00	Asset – Defibrillator
Funds Transfer	Suffolk County Council	£1978.46	Str Light power & maintenance
Funds Transfer	Nayland Village Hall	£70.00	Hall hire
	<b>Total</b>	<b>£8157.55</b>	

### **Further payment on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2025**

Funds Transfer Nayland WW Recr. & VH **£60,000.00** VH Roof including PC CIL

Formal Approval of all the above payments was resolved.

The Total Funds following these payments is **£56,183.34**.

iii) Old bus stop grass cutting was agreed until October – **Action Clerk to instruct our Grounds Maintenance Contractor.**

iv) The Quotation for the playpark fencing which was circulated ahead of the meeting was approved and some additional work to make the fence secure in the meantime – **Action Clerk to instruct.**

v) Quotation for various tree work following the risk assessment. It was resolved to instruct the work based on the first more environmentally friendly options unless the contractors risk assessments recommended otherwise. It was agreed to plant a replacement tree nearby the one that has died on a grave. The contractor will be asked to recommend a suitable replacement – **Action Clerk to instruct the Tree Surgeon accordingly.**

vi) The Model Publication Scheme with a table tailoring the document for our purposes had been circulated ahead of the meeting and adoption was agreed. The new document will be uploaded to our website – **Action Clerk.**

vii) Any other urgent Finance Matters: - Nothing was raised.

## **7. Planning**

### **1. Decisions from the Planning Authority: -**

- a) Conditions were approved for biodiversity, however, refused for landscaping at site adjacent to Paddocks Grove, Harpers Hill – **DC/25/01467**.
- b) The Appeal against Refusal was dismissed at 11 High Street for retention of bracket without pub sign – **DC/24/04395**.
- c) Conditions were approved for landscaping at Nags Corner, Wiston Road – **DC/25/02421**. Cllr P Fuller would draft a suitable response for the Clerk to send to the Chief Planning Officer – **Action Cllr Fuller**.

**2.** 25 Stoke Road – Householder application for side extension and conversion – **DC/25/01526**. The PC had **No Objections** between Meetings subject to advice from the Heritage Team in view of the heritage streetscape surrounding the application site.

**3.** Blincoes, Newlands Lane – Householder application for extension, solar panels, air source heat pumps and associated landscaping – **DC/25/01814**. The PC had **No Objections** between meetings subject to advice from the Heritage team.

**4.** Sargents Farm, Bures Rd – Erection of Ground Mounted 16 panel Solar Array, to north of existing buildings – **DC/25/02344**. The PC **recommends approval** subject to qualification of the size of the proposal.

**5.** 6 Willow Grove – application to reduce silver birch – **DC/25/02488**. Both the PC and Parish Tree Warden had **No Objections**.

- 6. Any other urgent Planning matters.** It was agreed to discuss an item in the public interest in Committee after the PC Meeting.
- 8. Street Lighting:** There was nothing to report.
- 9. Housing Needs Survey/Neighbourhood Planning:** The new government housing targets were discussed which have been divided into the various parishes. This does not consider flood risks or protected status. However, there is pressure to have some influence by the Parish as to where development will happen. A Housing Needs Survey would help evidence the need and potentially proactively fulfil some of our obligations as a Parish. However, that does create more cost and work. It was agreed for Cllrs Brown and Fuller to form a working group to investigate this further between meetings – **Action Cllrs Brown and Fuller**.
- 10. Recreation and Open Spaces:** Including Caley Green Revetment. Information regarding the wooden revetment at Caley Green has not been forthcoming. It was agreed for Cllr Sheath to discuss further with SCC Property. The Reed cutting had already been discussed following the County Council Report.
- 11. Village Hall:** We have issued our contribution towards the Village Hall Roof. The Minutes of the Village Hall Meeting had been circulated, and no further items were raised.
- 12. Community Council:** The Invoice for the Wiston Defibrillator has been paid in full, and the Community Council have been asked for their contribution.
- 13. Allotments:** update from the sub-committee. The termination letter for neglected plots has been drafted. We do not currently have a waiting list. Allotment tenants have set up a WhatsApp group for general allotment chat. The Allotment judge was approached and were looking at dates. The Chair was authorised to organise removal of the wasp's nest in the shed on plot 8A – **Action Chair**. The Allotment Sub Committee noted the need to review fencing.
- 14. Burial Ground:** There was nothing to report.
- 15. Footpaths:** The PC was thankful to M Hunter for pursuing the footpath issue and keeping us updated.
- 16. Frequency of future PC Meetings – Consideration of 6 meetings each year – July, September, November, January, March and May.** Some comments were made, and further consideration was needed. It was agreed to include on the agenda for the July PC Meeting for a decision – **Action Clerk**. The Clerk explained Leavenheath PC are trialling a similar arrangement for a year. The Clerk was asked whether it would create more work in respect of administration. She confirmed for Leavenheath it is early stages, so the PC were learning as they go. The arrangement is more work in some respects and less in others. The main reason of the change at Leavenheath is that most Councillors work, so less meetings is helpful and may encourage others to put themselves forward to fill vacancies.
- 17. Correspondence:** The correspondence report had been circulated ahead of the meeting. The items had been picked up under the various agenda items. Cllr Sheath agreed to follow up the report of the broken sign on Caley Green.

The meeting closed at **8.56 pm**.