

**UNADOPTED
POLEGATE TOWN COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Monday 11th December 2017
Council Chambers, 49 High Street, Polegate BN26 6AL at 7.30pm**

Present: Cllrs Ms A Snell, D Watts, D Murray, Mrs S Dobson, R Shing, Mrs M Phillips (co-opted), M Falkner, B Goodwin, Mrs C Berry, D Dunbar, S Shing, Mrs M Piper, D Shing (13)

Not Present: Cllrs Mrs W Alexander, T Bennett (2)
2 members of the public

Minute No.	Subject/Resolution
12250	<p>Opportunity for public comment A resident commented on not having seen the five year plan, which councillors had already been provided at earlier meetings (details had not changed). He also commented on the large projected increase in the precept and his concerns over larger projects being funded by the budget. He queried the business plan. (NB this had been adopted with amendments at the last meeting and the changes not yet on the website). The resident also commented on the grounds maintenance contract and asked for additional cuts for the Wannock hedge next to his house.</p>
12251	<p>Apologies for absence Cllrs Mrs W Alexander, T Bennett</p>
12252	<p>Declarations of interest in any items on the agenda (dispensation for some items on the budget incl councillors' allowances)</p>
12253	<p>To approve the minutes of full council 27th November 2017 <i>Withdrawn not yet available.</i></p>
12254	<p>To adopt the minutes and recommendations of the personnel Committee meeting of 23rd November 2017 It was resolved to adopt the minutes and recommendations of the Personnel Committee minutes of 23rd November 2017 VOTE All in favour Cllrs Ms A Snell, D Watts, D Murray, Mrs S Dobson, R Shing, Mrs M Phillips (co-opted), M Falkner, B Goodwin, Mrs C Berry, D Dunbar, S Shing, Mrs M Piper, D Shing</p>
12255	<p>Financial Update a) Approval of payments as presented It was resolved to approve the accounts for payments as presented to the value of £3149.52 VOTE All in favour Cllrs Ms A Snell, D Watts, D Murray, Mrs S Dobson, R Shing, Mrs M Phillips (co-opted), M Falkner, B Goodwin, Mrs C Berry, D Dunbar, S Shing, Mrs M Piper, D Shing</p>
12256	<p>2018/19 preliminary budget discussions – second draft The draft budgets were noted as presented. A councillor commented on the contracts some that were still being agreed due to delays outside the councils control. He also stated that the street lighting increases were pending some more information from ESCC which had been delayed as they had not been quick to respond due to the</p>

	<p>new regime. He mentioned that investigations into solar panels on the street light columns were also being looked at with a view to energy saving methods. This may require upfront investments. The councillor stated that the business plan had been considered when drafting the budget but was not online as two amendments had been requested with regards to the dog order and removing staff names.</p> <p>A comment was made on the impact of the loss of the library on the town and the costs involved. Also, that the decision by East Sussex County Council to close the library would not be known until March 2018, well after the budget was set.</p> <p>A councillor expressed his concern over the large increase and asked if the neighbourhood Plan could be excluded as it was a lot of money and potentially a waste.</p> <p>A councillor commented on the online banking charges (code 4056) A councillor asked for a list of the subscriptions (code 4037) for the next meeting.</p> <p>A councillor commented on the umbrella body being set up with regards to the council tax charges for the Wannock Office.</p> <p>A councillor commented on the £9000 saved with the new CCTV contract and the possibility of further upgrades.</p> <p>The grass cutting contract was discussed and it was mentioned that east Sussex Highways may no longer allow the town councils to carry out the grass cutting and it was expected that they would also reduce the number of cuts over the coming years.</p> <p>The neighbourhood plan was discussed under extras and the group were meeting on Thursday to discuss whether to continue. A councillor commented that it should continue and that now the district council was obliged to pay for the referendum. The consultant fees were the most expensive and the group would be looking at how this could be reduced and ways to see if the residents were on board. He stated that the neighbourhood plan was the way that council could direct development within the area. (local materials, street scene etc). A councillor asked what happened if the CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) was abolished, then there would be no return on the money spent.</p> <p>It was commented that the budget before the council was one that reflected the business plan, and that some things may have to be removed from that. A discussion took place on items in the local plan which were coming forward.</p> <p>Notes for amended budget to carry forward for January 8th 2018: adjust local plan figures after the Neighbourhood Plan group meet; Subscriptions list (most required highlight those that could be dropped); adjust the street lighting figure based on information as it came forward; adjust for any capping. Aim at the lower figure to stay under 2% if possible.</p>
<p>12257</p>	<p>Dates of the next scheduled meetings Full Council 8th January 2018 precept and budget 2018/19 final Full Council 29th January 2018 Full Council 26th February 2018 Full Council 26th March 2018 Annual Town Assembly 16th April 2018</p>

<p>Full Council 30th April 2018 Annual Statutory Meeting 21st May 2019 (Election of Mayor) Full Council 25th June 2018 Full Council 30th July 2018 Full Council 24th September 2018 Full Council 29th October 2018 Full Council 26th November 2018 Full Council 10th December 2018</p>
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The meeting closed at 8.21 pm

Signed Mayor of Polegate _____

Date _____