

UNADOPTED

POLEGATE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Monday 14th December 2009 in the Council Chamber, 49 High Street Polegate at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Cllr S Barber (Chair), Cllr Mrs J Bigsby, Cllr J Harmer, G Carter, Cllr Mrs J Voyce, Cllr T Voyce, M Cunningham A Watkins, R Martin and Cllr Mrs Joy, Cllr Mrs M Piper, T Wright, J Rogers and Mrs C Berry.

8 members of the public

8924 Apologies for absence

Cllr S Shing

8925 Declarations of interest

Cllr Mrs J Voyce, T Voyce, J Harmer, S Barber, J Rogers and Mrs M Piper – Personal and non-prejudicial in Agenda Item 8934

Cllr J Harmer – Personal and Non-prejudicial in 8944 Confidential Items

Cllr R Martin was asked if he needed to declare an interest in Agenda item 8934. He declined.

8926 Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 9th November 2009

The minutes were approved, after a lengthy discussion, as a true record and the Mayor was authorised to sign them. Cllr Shing had sent a written request Regarding amendments to the previous minutes. This was declined.

8927 Town Clerks Report including Health and Safety

Cllr T Voyce asked the clerk if she had looked at the Risk assessment sent from the Polegate and District Model Engineering Club regarding the construction of the new roof to the station. The Clerk informed Cllr Voyce that she had not looked at this in depth as yet. Cllr Voyce also stated that the action plan needed to have more detail. The Clerk informed him that it was a working document and this would be looked at.

8928 Notification of any items to be dealt with as urgent

None

8929 Opportunity for Public Comment

Standing orders Suspended

A resident spoke on behalf of KORGI regarding the Polegate War Memorial Recreation Ground. He stated that there had been no advertising of the Wannock Offices when they had become available. The Football, Cricket and Stoolball Club are in the process of forming an alliance to have a Sports and Recreational Club, And they would like the opportunity of running this from the vacant part of the Pavilion. The resident went on to say that the Pre-school is a business and if they Rent the rooms exclusively then it must cease to be for "Recreational Purpose", But if they rent on a session basis then other people or groups could use the Premises.

The resident then went on to say that KORGI has applied to the United Kingdom

National Inventory of War Memorials to have the Recreation Ground registered. They are a department of the Imperial War Museum. KORGI has also made an Application to register Polegate War Memorial Recreation Ground as a Village Green. He informed the Council that they should be hearing from ESCC Legal Services in the near future.

A second resident spoke regarding the street lighting in Polegate. He stated that previous Clerks had completed surveys of all street lighting in Polegate and found That some needed to be replaced as they had become in need of repair. The Resident stated that various parts of Polegate had 5 different colours of lights and There did not seem to be a clear policy and this was now a very serious matter.

Reinstate Standing Orders

8930 PCSO report

This was circulated and noted by all members. It was reported that the newsletter "Patrol" does not come out on a monthly basis anymore and the Clerk would Speak to the PCSO's to find out when the office would receive their next copy. Cllr Mrs J Bigsby informed Council that she had been given an Anti-Theft device Which the Police had a number of for vulnerable residents. If anyone knows of Anyone then please let the Clerk know and she will put the names forward for Consideration.

8931 District/County Councillors' Reports

Reports from Cllrs D Broadbent and R Martin had been received prior to the meeting. A Report had been received from Cllr D Shing. No report had been received from Cllr Mrs Oi Lin Shing and Cllr S Shing. Cllr M Cunningham stated that he took great exception to the fact the after discussion at last Full council no reports had been received yet again. Reports should be received one week in advance of any Council Meeting in order for them to go out with all papers to Councillors. It was also stated by Council that Cllr D Shing was unable to comment on Honey Farm, Polegate on a planning issue as he did not feel it was appropriate but is willing to comment on Tower Mill.

Cllr Watkins explained to Council that there seems to have been misunderstandings from Wealden District Council regarding Tower Mill in connection with Polegate Town Council.

It was resolved that a letter should be sent to Cllr D Angel regarding this misunderstanding and the apparent inaccuracies that have been spoken about. It was resolved that a copy of Polegate Town Council's Standing Orders should be sent to Cllrs D and S Shing and Cllr Mrs Oi Lin Shing to clarify the position.

8932 Adoption of minutes from Standing Committees

General Purposes – 18th November 2009

Personnel – 25th November 2009

Planning – 2nd December 2009

Finance 8th December 2009

It was resolved that the minutes from these meetings were adopted.

8933 Budget Proposals 2010/2011

The chair of Finance gave an update of the Budget meeting held on 8th December and presented the proposed budget for 2010/2011 and the precept figure for the corresponding period.

It was resolved to accept the budget for 2010/11 as presented and to set

the precept figure for 2010/2011 at £234,000.

8934 Polegate War Memorial Recreation Ground

a) Letting of Wannock Offices – This was discussed at length as we had now had received two applications to use the vacant office space at Polegate War Memorial Recreation Ground. One from Polegate Pre-School and one from Polegate Town Football Club on behalf of the Polegate Recreational and Sports Partnership (not finalised at the time of the meeting). It was felt by all Council that there needed to be some co-operation from all sides. Ideas needed to be gained of what we would like to use the premises for and what is best value for the Council. All applications should be considered equally.

It was resolved by 9 votes for and 4 against (Cllrs Cunningham, Watkins, Martin and Mrs Berry that the following be completed

- **The Council must decide whether to issue a lease or not, and to whom**
- **The assessment of other applications to rent premises**
- **The confirmation from the Pre-School of all the essential alterations – imposed by Ofsted**
- **A Financial Risk Assessment, including terms and conditions of lease, for example rent, utilities and a break clause.**
- **An agreement from the Pre-School to proceed on the terms and conditions set by the Council.**

Cllr T Voyce informed Council, following a letter received from a resident that the Polegate Masterplan would be up dated to incorporate the Polegate War Memorial Recreation Ground.

b) Solicitors Update – Information had been sent to all Councillors regarding the change of law in regard to the Charities Commission. The Charities Commission would not accept any application that does not have a gross income of less than £5000 per annum. As the Recreation Ground does not have this income this application would not be proceeded with and the Solicitors would be informed by the Clerk.

8935 Litter Campaign

A report had been circulated and noted by the Council. The presentations to the winners had taken place. The winners' poster will be placed in prominent places with the local vicinity.

It was resolved that the Clerk would produce copies of the winners' poster and this would be placed in and around the local vicinity.

8936 Councillors Question Time

There were no questions raised at this time. Cllr R Martin stated that he had been assigned a task of surveying all the Street lighting with the Polegate Boundary and Cllr J Rogers volunteered to help in this task.

8937 Youth

A Report had been circulated and noted by the Council. Cllr Mrs Bigsby also Reported that Pathfinders had finished at St Johns Church. A new group would Be set up in the New Year. They would be meeting as a reading group and not at at the church location. This would mean that the Youth Club at Wannock Road remain on Tuesdays and Wednesday evenings.

8938 Over 60's

The Mayors Christmas Tea Party was a great success. Both Polegate and Willingdon Community Schools did a great job. A vote of thanks was given to Cllrs T Wright and Mrs Bigsby, and also to Mrs Wright and Mrs J Cairns

It was resolved that letters of thanks to be sent to both Schools.

Cllr Mrs Bigsby also stated that a card will be sent to Mr and Mrs Stretton from Strettons Newsagents as they are retiring from their business on Saturday 19th December. Also Mr David Buck will be retiring at the end of January 2010.

8939 Financial Report

a) Approval of accounts for payment

The Accounts were approved

b) Monthly financial update

The financial update was approved

8940 Correspondence for Information/Action

Cuckoo Trail Management – proposed tree management- circulated and Noted.

Local Transport Plan 3 – Copy held in the office

Letter from Wealden Citizens Advice – circulated and noted.

Review of Supported Local Bus Services Wealden, Lewes and Eastbourne Area – Copy held in the office.

The Countryside and Community Research Institute 2009 Briefing – Copy In the office.

Temporary One Way Order – B2247 Hailsham Road Polegate – Notification Corporate Plan – Comments to WDC by 11th January 2010. Council Concluded that not enough time has been given for this documentation.

Waste and Minerals Core Strategy – Reports had been received at previous Meetings. The consultation deadline has been extended to 15th January for Comments to be made by Councils. It was felt by Council that we should Support other Parishes against Landraise sites such as Halland Park, Upper Vert Wood and Broomham Farm.

It was resolved that Polegate Town Council would support other Parishes against landraise sites and that Cllr G Carter be the main contact for this subject.

8941 Communications from the Town Mayor

The Mayor wished all Council members and the members of the public a Very Happy Christmas and a Happy New Year.

8942 Proposed dates of next cycle of meetings

The Clerk presented her proposed cycle of meeting for 2010. Personnel and Finance would meet alternate months (Personnel on 1st Monday of the month and Finance on 3rd Tuesday of the Month) General Purposes would be on 2nd Monday of Of the month and Full Council would be on 4th Monday of the month.

8943 Resolution to take business into confidential session

It was resolved that due to the confidential nature of the next business to be transacted the press and public be excluded from the rest of the meeting.