

UNADOPTED
POLEGATE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Monday 25th July 2011 in the Council Chamber, 49 High Street Polegate at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Cllrs T Voyce, M Clewett, G Carter, Mrs M Piper, Mrs J Voyce, J O'Riordan, J Harmer, G Gibbs, E Board, R Martin, M Cunningham, D Shing, S Shing (13)

Not Present: Cllrs Mrs C Berry, M Pybus (2)

Also present

Mrs J Ognjanovic Town Clerk

3 members of the public

9830 Apologies for absence

Cllrs Mrs C Berry (bereavement), M Pybus (voluntary work)

It was resolved to accept the above reasons for absence VOTE All in favour

9831 Declarations of interest

None

9832 Opportunity for public comment

No members of the public wished to speak

9833 Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 27th June 2011 & 25th May 2011

It was resolved that the minutes of the Meeting held on 25th May 2011 were signed by the chairman as a true and accurate record of the meeting VOTE All in favour

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9834 Mayor's Report

The report was circulated prior to the meeting and noted by all present. The mayor commented that he had received a large number of thank you letters and thanked those present who had helped from the Council and public. The Mayor had had a request from Dan Dunbar to allow him to sell the calendars through the office and entries through the office. Council asked the clerk if she was happy to do this, the clerk agreed.

**Council resolved that they would offer their support with the help of the office and allow the entries to be collected in the office and the calendars to be sold from the office and collected by Mr Dunbar.
VOTE All in favour**

9835 PCSO report

The report had been circulated prior to the meeting and noted by those present. A councillor commented that it was good to see other priorities in the report besides parking.

9836 District/County Councillors' Reports

Written reports had been received from Cllr R Martin prior to the meeting and circulated. The reports were noted as read by all members present. A verbal report was given by Town, District and County Councillor D Shing regarding the update on the LDF call in which was going to a special call in meeting on 25th July 2011 and will go onto full council on 27th July 2011. Cllr D Shing commented on behalf of OL Shing regarding Lynholm Road, which had been passed by Wealden District Council despite Polegate Town Council's objections.

Cllr S Shing gave his verbal report including an update on Towermill which Wealden District Council had now decided would be used to build Wealden District Council's own affordable housing. He commented that Wealden had known the outcome since before the elections and chosen not to divulge the report until recently. A brief discussion took place on the lack of funding for a Drs surgery and that Gilda Crescent had been allocated to other uses and was not big enough to house the proposed new surgery. The County councillors commented that they had made representations to the committees but there was no funding to go ahead with any works of that nature. Although the clerk was aware of the outcome of Towermill she had not been informed officially.

The clerk was asked to write a letter of complaint to Wealden on their lack of communication regarding the outcome.

Cllr O'Riordan commented that with the increase in houses in Polegate and the inevitable rise in population there would be a greater need for a larger local surgery.

County Councillor D Shing commented on Filching Quarry, which had recently been withdrawn. Councillors present agreed that although this had been withdrawn it did not mean that the applicant would not reapply.

Cllr S Shing & D Shing left the meeting at 8pm. Cllr E Board arrived at 8pm.

9837 Town Clerk's Report

The Town Clerk report had been circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting and had been read and noted by those present.

The clerk asked if anyone else had wanted to attend the Wealden conference with Cllr O'Riordan and herself. Cllr Mrs Piper requested to attend. The clerk explained that the extra charge was for the venue and would have this clarified for the council.

It was agreed that the clerk and the two councillors would attend the meeting and make the appropriate reports back to council.

9838 Reports from Representatives of outside bodies

a) Citizen's Advice Bureau

Cllr Harmer updated that the Crowborough offices were being moved with the town. The new offices have better disabled access.

b) Civil Protection

Cllrs Martin and Gibbs had found more paperwork but the lead officer had not yet been found to obtain further information from.

c) Cuckmere Community Bus

Cllr Martin stated that the meeting had been productive. Extra services were being considered in certain areas and he would update when more information was available.

d) Crime Prevention/Neighbourhood Watch

Cllr Gibbs indicated that through lack of funding it would be useful if the Council could make a grant to Neighbourhood watch. He was advised to prepare a report and accounts for the next Finance Committee meeting for the committee to consider.

e) Eastbourne Area Transport Forum

Cllr Cunningham reported that all was quiet and that he understood many decisions were being carried out at Central Government level and that eventually they would feed down to the forum.

f) Polegate Windmill

Cllrs Harmer & Martin reported on the recent annual fete and stated that there would be a coffee morning on 30th July at the community centre. They were asking for raffle prizes and cakes. They were also holding a bread making competition in September.

g) Press Liaison

A contact had now been made with both local papers and the clerk hoped that more press releases would be published now.

9839 Adoption of minutes and recommendations for committees and standing committees

a) Finance & Policy Minutes 18th July 2011

It was resolved to adopt the minutes and recommendations of the Finance & Policy Committee meeting of 18th July 2011. VOTE All in favour

b) Planning Committee Minutes 21st June 2011

It was resolved to adopt the minutes and recommendations of the Planning Committee meeting of 21st June 2011. VOTE All in favour.

Planning Committee Minutes 18th July 2011

It was resolved to adopt the minutes and recommendations of the Planning Committee meeting of 18th July 2011. VOTE All in favour.

c) Festivities & Town Appearance Advisory Committee 1st July 2011

There were no recommendations from the report. Comments were noted by all present.

Festivities & Town Appearance Advisory Committee 19th July 2011

It was resolved to adopt the recommendations of the Festivities & Town Appearance meeting of 19th July 2011 subject to some recommendations being withdrawn at a later stage if considered unsuitable on investigation by the advisory committee. The recommendations included the details of the winners of the civic award and best garden and allotments which would be kept secret until after the presentation VOTE All in favour.

9840 Councillors question time

There were no questions

9841 Financial update

a) Accounts for payment

A councillor asked the clerk about the gas bill for the pavilion and offices. The clerk informed the Council that in previous years the payments had not been split, but that although the code was the same for clarity and transparency she had shown the two bills separately.

It was resolved to approve the accounts submitted for payment. VOTE All in favour (copy attached)

b) Barclaycard statement

The statement had been circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting and noted by all present.

c) Bank Reconciliation

The Bank reconciliation papers had been circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting and noted by all present.

9842 Correspondence for action

a) Request from chair of community centre for Polegate town Council to affiliate with the community centre at a cost of £25 per annum.

**It was resolved to pay the affiliation fee with a request that the Council are kept informed of the meeting dates and times.
VOTE 12 for 1 abstention (Cllr Cunningham)**

9843 Update on Town & Village Green status

The clerk had prepared a report which had been circulated prior to the meeting (and in background papers for the public) and noted by all present. A question was raised on the solicitor's fees the clerk stated that approximately £5000 had been paid so far in interim fees over the previous years to date.

9844 Update on Brightling road consultation papers

A report had been circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting (and in background papers for the public) and noted by all present.

9845 Update on Brightling road lottery bid

A report had been circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting (and in background papers for the public) and noted by all present.

9846 Proposed dates of next cycle of meetings

Environment & Leisure 12th September 2011
Full Council 26th September 2011
Finance & Policy 10th October 2011
Full Council 24th October 2011
Personnel BUDGET 7th November 2011
Environment & Leisure BUDGET 14th November 2011
Finance & Policy BUDGET 21st November 2011
Full Council BUDGET 28th November 2011
Full Council 12th December 2011
Finance & Policy 23rd January 2012
Full Council 30th January 2012
Environment & Leisure 13th February 2012
Full Council 27th February 2012
Finance & Policy 12th March 2012
Full Council 26th March 2012

9847 Committee to consider pursuant to Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 whether the public and press should be excluded from the meeting on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reasons of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

It was resolved to take matters into confidential session. VOTE All in favour

9848 Staff annual leave & contracts

A brief verbal report was given stating that the request had now been resolved and no resolution was required.

The meeting closed at 8.45pm