

**UNADOPTED
POLEGATE TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Monday 25th March 2013 in the Council Chamber, 49 High Street Polegate at 7.30pm

Present: J Harmer **JH**, G Gibbs MBE **GG**, E Board **EB**, D Broadbent **DB**, S Shing **SS**
H Parker **HP**, Mrs M Piper **MP**, D Shing **DS**, (**late arrival**), M Clewett **MCI**, Mrs C Berry **CB** J O’Riordan **JOR**, (**11**)

Not Present: Cllrs M Cunningham **MC**(Chair), M Pybus **MP**, Mrs J Voyce **JV**, T Voyce **TV** (**4**)

7 members of the public

Minute No.	Subject/Resolution	Action
10536	Apologies for absence Cllr M Pybus (illness – late notification), T Voyce (work), Mrs J Voyce (illness), M Cunningham (bereavement)	-
10537	Declarations of Interest in any items on the agenda Minute 10555 Cllr J Harmer, J O’Riordan Non prejudicial Minute 10545 Cllr J O’Riordan non prejudicial Minute 10544 Cllrs D Shing S Shing non prejudicial Minute 10546 Cllrs D Shing S Shing non prejudicial Minute 10548 Cllrs D Shing S Shing non prejudicial Minute 10544 Cllr D Broadbent non prejudicial	
10538	Opportunity for Public comment Standing orders suspended Mr Smith spoke on the desperate need to keep the public toilets in Polegate, he had previously submitted a copy of a petition with 1083 signatures. He commented that many residents would not be able to visit town and could be housebound should the toilets close. He was aware of a number of people who may wish to lock/unlock the toilets and possibly clean them. Ms Pierce stated that cuckoo trail users also use the toilets and other people from out of town visiting Polegate. Public toilets are essential for tourists and other visiting. Mrs Payne thanked the council on behalf of the community association for the £1000 towards the hearing loop and asked for a letter of support for the work being done at the community centre, as part of the lottery bid community consultation. Standing order reinstated Council resolved to move item 9 (minute 10544) and 10 (minute 10545) forward in the agenda. <i>See details under each respective minute number.</i>	
10539	Minutes of Full Council held on 25th February 2013 and minutes of the Special Full Council meeting of 11th March 2013 The minutes had been circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting. The minutes of Full Council of 25th February 2013 were taken and read, accurate and signed by the Deputy Mayor. The minutes of the Special Full Council of 11th March 2013 had an amendment to add Cllr D Broadbent’s apologies as these were given prior to the meeting and omitted from the minutes in error. The clerk amended the minutes and they were taken as read, accurate and signed by the Deputy Mayor. VOTE All in favour	

10540	<p>Polegate Town Council Mayors report The Mayor was unable to attend the meeting and gave no report. The deputy mayor stated that the Mayor had attended a Scouts function and had donated £250 to the scouts and matched the £250 round table donation. He stated the Mayor had not attended the Neighbourhood watch coffee morning on the previous Saturday due to a bereavement, Cllr Clewett, also vice chairman of the Neighbourhood Watch represented the Council.</p>	
10541	<p>District/County Councillors Reports The reports had been circulated prior to the meeting and noted by all present. Cllr D Broadbent stated that he had nothing further to report.</p>	
10542	<p>Representatives from Other Bodies</p> <p>a) Citizens Advice - A letter had been circulated prior to the meeting and noted by all present. Cllr Harmer stated that CAB was very grateful for the donation of £1000 and that CAB planned to alter the phone systems and the hours of the volunteers to enable them to help more people.</p> <p>b) Civil Protection – no further reports</p> <p>c) Community Association – Cllr Mrs Berry stated that the associations groups had picked their coffee mornings. Cllr J O’Riordan stated that the Association was trying to raise grant funding for refurbishment and doing fundraising.</p> <p>d) Cuckmere Community Bus – Cllr Gibbs MBE stated that the organisation was very well run, they did have a few problems if drivers were unable to work. He stated that they were trying to advertise more as there was a Sunday bus service from Polegate to Eastbourne not many people were aware of.</p> <p>e) Crime Prevention/ Neighbourhood Watch Cllr Mrs Berry stated that the committee meeting had not been very well attended. Bells had been given out for prevention of theft of purses. Dummy CCTV cameras were available for some shops and commercial premises.</p> <p>f) Eastbourne Area Transport Forum – no report</p> <p>g) Bus Alliance – Cllr G Gibbs MBE stated that there were many changes going on and it had been proving difficult for the whole group to meet. Once he had more details he would pass that on.</p> <p>h) Polegate Twinning – the report had been circulated prior to the meeting and noted by all present.</p> <p>i) Polegate Windmill – Cllr Harmer stated that the AGM had taken place on 18th March, 30 people had attended. There had been a talk by a wheelwright. He stated that the Windmill had been bequeathed a large sum of money (£22000) and was going from strength to strength. They needed more guides and people to run the tills. Cllr Parker stated that he had attended 2 meetings and that they were now marketing themselves more positively. He stated that the windmill was of significant historical value.</p> <p>j) South Wealden Association of Local Councils – a report had been circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting and noted by all present.</p> <p>k) Wealden Planning Panel - a report had been circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting and noted by all present.</p> <p>l) Youth/Elderly - nothing further to report at this stage</p> <p>m) Clarification of memberships</p>	

	It was resolved to amend the representative list to include Cllr H Parker as Windmill representative and to remove Cllr J Harmer from the Twinning Association. VOTE All in favour.	
10543	<p>Adoption of Minutes and recommendations from Committees and Standing Committees</p> <p>a) Personnel Committee Minutes of 11th March 2013 It was resolved to adopt the minutes and recommendations of the Personnel Committee meeting of 11th March 2013. VOTE All in favour</p> <p>b) Planning Committee minutes of 14th March 2013 and 18th March 2013 It was resolved to adopt the minutes and recommendations of the Planning Committee meeting of 14th March 2013. It was resolved to adopt the minutes and recommendations of the Planning Committee meeting of 18th March 2013. VOTE All in favour</p>	
10544	<p>Closure of High Street toilets by Wealden District Council <i>(This item had been brought forward to the beginning of the meeting following the public comment from two residents.)</i></p> <p>Council discussed the possibility that the High Street toilets may be closed by Wealden District Council. The Council deferred its decision on the toilets, pending a consultation with shop keepers over their willingness to join the Wealden run Community Toilet Scheme. Council discussed the ways forward should no shop keepers be willing to take part and should that be the case, to submit evidence alongside the petition with 1083 signatures against the closure, to the District Council. Councillors agreed that everything possible should be done to keep the public toilets open. Councillors commented that the response through the petition was a large percentage of the population of Polegate. Cllrs Mrs C Berry and S Shing stated they would be able to deliver the letters to the shops if necessary.</p> <p>It was resolved to send a formal letter out to all of the High Street shops asking if they are willing to be part of the Community Toilet Scheme run by Wealden District Council and bring the decision back to council once the responses from the shops had been received. VOTE All in favour</p>	JO
10545	<p>Motion to support Polegate Community Association's application for refurbishment of their catering area</p> <p>A discussion took place on the grants being applied for by the Community association and as part of their public consultation the requirement for public consultation and support.</p> <p>It was resolved to send a letter to Polegate Community Association in support of their grant application. VOTE All in favour</p>	JO
10546	<p>Motion to contract weed killer company for two supplementary sprays per year.</p> <p>It was resolved to contract SRL Rail to carry out two weed killing applications on footpaths and roads in Polegate as per quotation, these to compliment the ESCC</p>	JO

	weed killing visits. VOTE 9 for 2 abstentions (D Shing S Shing)	
10547	<p>Motion to purchase and display signs at the War Memorial recreation ground car park</p> <p>The wording of the signage was queried. A discussion took place on the legality of wheel clamping.</p> <p>It was agreed that the decision be postponed for a further meeting pending further information.</p>	
10548	<p>20 MPH speed limit in High Street – for information only</p> <p>The papers had been circulated to all Cllrs prior to the meeting and it was noted that ESCC were now taking this matter further. A discussion took place on whether this would be supported by the public and traffic flow regarding the railway crossing. It was suggested that further information be put forward to other areas of town that may need speed limit reductions. It was agreed to leave the matter for ESCC to deal with and discuss further should a public consultation arise from the matter.</p>	
10549	<p>Internal Audit report</p> <p>The report had been circulated to all councillors prior to the meeting.</p> <p>It was resolved to accept the report and the contents noted by all present and the clerk and office team were thanked for their effort. VOTE All in favour</p>	
10550	<p>Financial update</p> <p>a) Approval of accounts for payment It was resolved to approve the accounts for payment totalling £17237.49 VOTE All in favour</p> <p>b) Copy of Barclaycard Statements The statements were noted by all present.</p> <p>c) Copy of Bank reconciliation The bank reconciliation and accounts budgets were circulated prior to the meeting and noted by all present.</p> <p>d) Budgets for approval It was resolved to accept the budget changes as submitted and presented VOTE All in favour</p> <p>e) Parish/Town Remuneration rates for councillors allowances 2013/14 A motion was put to accept the new remuneration rates as presented. Vote 3 for 4 against 2 abstentions (D Shing, S Shing). Motion lost It was resolved that in the economic climate the remuneration rate would remain as 2012/13 and not increase as per the presented rates for 2013/14. VOTE 3 for 3 against 3 abstentions G Gibbs MBE, D Shing, S Shing casting vote to chair of meeting Cllr J Harmer, vote for totalling 4 for 3 against 3 abstentions motion carried. The remuneration rates for 2013/14 would remain at the same level and not increase.</p> <p>f) Motion to add Cllr T Voyce as signatory for cheques. It was resolved to add Cllr T Voyce as a signatory for the bank VOTE All in favour</p>	<p>JO</p> <p>JO</p> <p>JO</p> <p>JO</p>
10551	<p>Garage Roof repairs Wannock</p> <p>The full report was circulated to all Cllrs prior to the meeting and noted by all present.</p> <p>It was resolved to accept the quotation from company A</p>	

	(Clarke roofing Southern Limited) name not disclosed at meeting) for £1848.60 including VAT for the roofing of metal box profile for the whole roof to be laid over the top of the current roofing, subject to checks on their guarantees and working with asbestos procedures VOTE 10 for 1 abstention.	JO CH
10552	Correspondence for Action a) Request for a no dog fouling sign to be placed on the lamp post outside 26 Brookside Avenue. The clerk confirmed that Wealden District Council had approved the placement of their sign and that licences would be able to be obtained from ESCC. It was resolved that the Wealden District Council no dog fouling sign would be erected on the lamp column (E) outside 26 Brookside Avenue. VOTE 10 for 1 abstention	CH NH
10553	Emergency Plan Committee It was resolved to accept the Terms of reference as presented and that membership would be Cllrs S Shing, Mrs C Berry, J O’Riordan, G Gibbs MBE VOTE All in favour	JO
10554	Newsletters A discussion took place on the value that the newsletters had to residents and the large elderly population. The clerk was asked to check that the distributor was delivering to locations such as Guardian court. A councillor stated that if it became a choice between the public toilets and the newsletters the newsletters should not be printed. A motion was put to cease printing newsletters and to use the website, twitter and notice boards, with a few newsletters produced for the reception desk and to use the excess funds to make provision for the running of the public toilets. Motion not seconded. Second motion to continue printing newsletters. Seconded. It was resolved to continue producing newsletters VOTE 7 for 1 against 3 abstentions	
10555	Request for Twinning to use the Wannock Office for a Civic Twinning Function free of charge It was resolved that Twinning would be able to use the Wannock Office/Chambers to hold a civic reception free of charge. VOTE All in favour	
10556	Proposed Dates of next cycle of meetings The following dates were set: Annual Town Assembly 8th April 2013 7pm United Reform Church Hall Victoria Road Full Council 29th April 2013 Annual Meeting of the council – election of Mayor 20th May 2013 Full Council 24th June 2013 Full council 29th July 2013 Full Council 30th September 2013 Full Council 28th October 2013 Budget Planning 4th November 2013 Budget Personnel 4th November 2013 Budget Finance & Policy 11th November 2013 Full Council 25th November 2013 Full Council 9th December 2013 Full Council precept setting 13th January 2014	

	<p>Full Council 24th February 2014 Full Council 31st March 2014</p>	
10557	<p>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.</p> <p>It was resolved to take the following agenda matters into confidential session. VOTE All in favour</p>	
10558	<p>Wannock Office/High Street Offices</p> <p>Cllr O’Riordan left the meeting at 9.20pm Cllr G Gibbs left the meeting at 9.31pm</p> <p>It was agreed that as many councillors as possible should be in attendance to discuss the matter and a new special full council should be called for Tuesday 9th April 2013 8pm</p> <p>The clerk was requested to arrange the meeting and to prepare additional for the meeting on 9th April.</p> <p>Cllrs S Shing and D Shing left the meeting at 9.32pm</p>	

The meeting closed at 9.35 pm