

UNADOPTED

POLEGATE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Monday 19 March 2007 in the Council Chamber, 49 High Street, Polegate at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Cllrs. G Carter (Mayor), M. Fitzgerald, J. Harmer, Mrs D Joy, R. Martin, Mrs M Piper, Mrs I Scarborough, Mrs J Voyce and T. Voyce.
2 members of the public; 1 members of the press

7471 Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Mrs Berry, Mrs Coleman, G. Gibbs and Mrs Morson.

7472 Declarations of interest

There were none

7473 Minutes of the meeting held on 26 February 2007

The minutes of the meeting were agreed as correct and signed by the Mayor.

7474 Matters arising from the meeting held on 26 February 2007

Minute 7416(a) request for pool table - having discussed the report of the meeting between the Youth Working Group and a representative from the Youth Development Service, it was unanimously resolved to grant permission for the youth club to provide a pool table with wooden lid in the away changing room.

It was noted with some disappointment that it was not always possible to provide a service during the school holidays due to staffing levels within the youth service.

7475 Financial matters

a) Accounts for payment - a query was raised regarding electrical rewiring work undertaken in the Pavilion roof space and whether regular checks were carried out to ensure the wiring in Council premises was up to standard.

Some discussion then ensued and it was resolved to obtain three quotes for carrying out electrical inspections at the Pavilion and Council Offices.

A further query regarding mileage was referred to confidential section.

b) Street lighting maintenance charges 2007/2008 - the increase in maintenance costs was noted.

However, before acceptance of the contract it was resolved to ask EDF for a schedule of the proposed works for monitoring purposes and also a copy of last year's schedule of works. It was further resolved to request a refund should any work have been charged for but not carried out.

7476 Adoption of minutes of Standing Committees

Planning of 6 March 2007 - the Chair of Planning presented the minutes and there being no matters raised, proposed that they be adopted. This was resolved unanimously.

7477 Communications from the Town Mayor

Members were advised that the provisional dates for electric blanket testing were 15 - 19 October and that the County Fire Stations were being considered as venues. This would mean that residents would have to travel to Hailsham to get their blankets tested and would probably result in a marked reduction in the number of people able to take advantage of the scheme.

It was therefore resolved to write to Wealden requesting that they reconsider the current proposals and provide a testing facility in Polegate; St. John's Church having proved a very successful venue in the past.

The Mayor also advised that the cheque presentation to the Polegate Responder Scheme had been arranged for Friday 30 March at 10.00 a.m. in the Council Chamber.

7478 Notification of matters dealt with as 'urgent'

It had been necessary to call in a roofer as another leak had occurred due to moss saturation at the Pavilion - noted.

It was therefore resolved to obtain three quotes for removing the moss from the rest of the roof including spraying the roof with moss killer on completion.

7479 Towermill Place update

There are eight tenants still remaining. Five tenants are waiting to move to Joan Hughes Court, one tenant has indicated a willingness to accept non sheltered accommodation and two tenants wish to move to Hailsham.

7480 Town Clerk's report

a) **Vandalism** - an attempt to bolt crop the Wm. Daly gates was reported. A new chain and padlock are now in place - noted.

b) **Police update** - as the PCSO had only just returned from leave no figures were available but Council was asked to clarify its top two priority policing items. It was generally agreed that the priorities of anti-social behaviour and vandalism had not changed. This information to be fed back to the PCSO.

It was also resolved to write to Government with a copy to the local MP and ESCC regarding the lack of funding for and provision of youth facilities.

7481 Grounds Maintenance Contract

Having received confirmation from the contractor that the proposed three year contract would be subject to an annual break clause if the standard of work fell below an acceptable level, it was resolved to accept the contract for the next three years.

7482 Summer Planting Contract

It was noted that a reduction in price had been negotiated with the contractor and accepted by members and that the plants to be used would comprise geranium, petunia surfinia and silver leafed cineraria maritima in purple, deep pink, light pink and blue.

7483 Watermill Ward

Conveyance of Twitten - it was noted that Willingdon & Jevington PC had declined to accept Council's proposal that the cost of the transfer of the twitten should be borne wholly by Willingdon & Jevington and considered that the ownership and maintenance of the path could remain with Polegate.

It was therefore resolved to request a meeting with representatives from Willingdon & Jevington to discuss the issue, the Chair and Vice-Chair of Planning to represent Polegate TC.

It was further resolved to obtain legal advice from Wealden regarding this issue prior to the meeting.

7484 Wannock Road and Oakleaf play areas

Signage - it was agreed in principle to provide 3no. updated signs for the play areas, two to be sited back to back on the fence at Oakleaf and one to replace the existing on the wall of the Pavilion at Wannock Road. Whilst the suggested wording was agreed, it was also considered that the new signs could be more visual and eye-catching. It was therefore agreed to produce some designs for consideration by members before a final decision is made.

7485 Street lighting RCD's and Timers

Having considered the quotations obtained for the supply and installation of RCDs (residual current device) and timers, it was resolved to accept Ultralite's quotation and for the work to be carried in the financial year 2007-2008.

7486 Street lighting annual maintenance inspection

Remedial works - the schedule of remedial works supplied by EDF was discussed. However as no inspection tour had taken place to ascertain that the schedule was correct and to confirm the works listed, it was resolved to give this task to the new Town Clerk.

7487 Model Engineering Club licence

It was proposed, seconded and agreed by all to issue a licence for the continued use of the site at Brightling Road by the Model Engineering Club, subject to the following amendments to the licence. It was also resolved not to increase the rent at this time.

Clause 1.1 delete the words 'together with the access road and gate'.

Clause 3.4 alter wording to read 'to make good and repair any damage caused by the agreed use of the premises and to reinstate site to pre-licence conditions on termination including removal of the track and any permanent or temporary structures.

Clause 3.7 increase public liability cover to £5m.

7488 Correspondence

a) **Anchor Staying Put** - acknowledgement of grant - noted.

b) **ESCC Rethink Rubbish Bus** - it was proposed, seconded and agreed by all to request ESCC to display the bus in the Shoppers' car park on a Saturday.

c) **Temporary road closure** - it was noted that the level crossing would be closed from 01.00 to 05.15 on Friday 13 April 2007.

7489 Dates of the next cycle of meetings

Full Council 16 April 2007

Electors' Meeting 23 April 2007

7490 Resolution

It was proposed, seconded and agreed by all that owing to the confidential nature of the next business to be transacted the press and public be excluded from the rest of the meeting.

Post meeting note: Following clarification of the account query referred to confidential section, all accounts were approved for payment.