

CONTACTS

COUNCILLORS

STEVE BARBER (TOWN MAYOR)	486211
CHRISTINE BERRY	486705
JAYNE BIGSBY	487543
GERALD CARTER	483773
MALCOLM CUNNINGHAM	486260
JOHN HARMER	485801
DOREEN JOY	487928
ROY MARTIN	485330
MAGGIE PIPER (DEPUTY MAYOR)	485611
JOHN ROGERS	484631
STEPHEN SHING	489265
JILL VOYCE	486429
TIM VOYCE	486429
ANDY WATKINS	485795
TERRY WRIGHT	487630
TOWN CLERK	
CAROL GATRILL	488114
ADMIN ASSISTANT	
JO OGNJANOVIC	488114

**COUNCIL OFFICES
OPEN DAILY
9.00—13.00**

**WEALDEN CITIZENS
ADVICE BUREAU**

REG SHINGLETON ROOM

**TOWN COUNCIL OFFICE
TUESDAY
9.30 TO 12 (Approx)**

COUNCIL MEETINGS 2010

4th May 2010
10th May 2010
17th May 2010
14th June 2010
22 June 2010
28 June 2010
5 July 2010
12 July 2010
26 July 2010

Annual Statutory Meeting Monday 10th May 2010

The annual statutory meeting of Polegate Town Council will be held on Monday 10th May 2010 in the town council chambers at 7.30pm. Members of the public are welcome to attend this meeting where the new mayor of Polegate is elected.

OVER 60'S INFORMATION DAY

Wealden District Council in partnership with Polegate Town Council, East Sussex Downs and Weald (NHS) and East Sussex Fire & Rescue Service held an information day aiming to advise local residents over 60 about local services provided by a number of larger organisations and local shops.



Youth Worker

Polegate Town Council fund two youth workers at the Wannock Road War Memorial Recreation Ground, the club called the Polegate Project and operates term time only 7pm - 9pm on Tuesday's and Wednesday and is for year 7's and above. Also Polegate Town Council fund one youth worker at Willingdon Community School on Monday evenings 6pm - 8pm, this club is called Y Zone and is available to all the community from year 7 and above, except those excluded from the school, and up to 25 years old if disabled or special needs.

We have been asked by Sussex Police to remind residents that it is an offence to cycle on a footway and a fine of £30 can be incurred.



New Maintenance Person

Polegate Town Council is pleased to welcome a new member of staff Mr Richard Lewis who has taken on the new position of maintenance person from 1st March 2010.

Please cut out and keep as a reminder ✂

Polegate Town Assembly Tuesday 18th May 2010 7.00pm

You are invited to the Polegate Town Assembly which will be held on Tuesday 18th May 2010 7.00 pm at Polegate Community Centre, Henry Twine Hall, Windsor Way, Polegate BN26 6QF. This your opportunity to ask councillors questions about issues that concern Polegate Town. There will be guest speakers. Teas and coffees will be served. Representatives from outside agencies will be in attendance. You will have the opportunity to meet the new Mayor.

THREE MAJOR PLANNING APPLICATIONS FOR POLEGATE - The Town Council held a Planning Committee meeting on 24 February 2010 at St John's Church Hall to discuss, amongst others, three major planning applications, of which the proposed new Community Medical Centre was the most talked about.

NEW MEDICAL CENTRE: WD/2010/0142/MAJ is an application to redevelop the site of the old sheltered housing development at Tower Mill, Park Croft, to provide a new community Medical Centre with pharmacy, car parking and cycle parking spaces and the erection of a two storey apartment building which will provide 6 self-contained flats. The healthcare teams from both Downland Medical Centre and Manor Park Medical Centre will relocate to the new health centre and the existing GP practices in the High Street will close.

There was a general consensus that the application should be welcomed, as it will provide improved GP care services for patients, within modern facilities. However, the proposed move will not be "win win" for all residents, not least of all those from the north of Polegate who will have furthest to travel and for whom access by public transport will be difficult. Planning Committee members were reluctant to oppose the application but, due to the impact of the closure of the High Street surgeries on our residents, felt they had a responsibility to object. Other concerns were mostly with regard to vehicular access via The Thatchings. Wealden District Council Planning Sub-Committee South will determine this application on 1 April 2010 and it is likely it will be approved.

CHP PLANT RIGHT FOR POLEGATE? WD/621/CM(EIA) Planning permission is being sought for a Biomass Combined Heat and Power Plant (CHP plant) at land adjoining Cophall Wood Transfer Station, Polegate. It is proposed that the facility will operate 24 hours a day, 7 days a week to utilize waste wood as raw material to produce electricity with a process known as gasification.

Concerns were raised by Town Councillors that this application is for a "power station by any other name". The CHP plant will be a huge building with numerous silos which will store hazardous chemicals and a massive 44m chimney, which will be visible from the Downs and other vantage points. The main benefit of CHP plants is that electrical energy and thermal energy are produced as part of a single process. Location is vital as there should be a local need for the thermal energy recovered as well as for the electricity that is produced. Optimum sites for a CHP plant are said to be business parks, leisure centres, hospitals, etc where both the heat and power can be utilized and this site at Cophall Wood does not remotely meet this criterion. The existing access off the A22 gave cause for concern and together with the emissions and greater noise levels, the committee agreed the CHP plant would have a detrimental effect on residential amenity.

109 NEW HOUSES AT DITTONS: Details of appearance, landscaping, layout and scale of a previously granted planning application (WD/2010/0200/MRM) for a new housing/business park development to the north of Dittons Road have been presented to Wealden District Council for consideration. Gladedale obtained outline consent at Appeal on 09.07.09 to build on land south of the by-pass. Phase 1 will include 109 residential units out of a total of a possible 180. Polegate Town Council Planning Committee members expressed concerns over access to the site via a mini roundabout on Dittons Road. Councillors also commented that proposed house styles are not in keeping with the street scene in the remainder of the Town.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENT SITES?

A Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) has just been published by Wealden District Council (WDC). This provides a technical assessment of land which may or may not be suitable for housing development. The Assessment is part of the evidence base needed to inform future plan making but is not a statement of WDC planning policy. Only the most suitable, sustainable and deliverable sites will be taken forward by the Council in its plans. Polegate Town Council has fought hard to oppose any major development at Honey Farm/Cophall Farm and is delighted to note this area is now considered unsuitable.

Listed below are sites within Polegate that WDC considered as potentially suitable for development and those considered unsuitable. Further information is available on the WDC website.

SHLAA Potentially Suitable Sites Summary	SHLAA Unsuitable Sites Summary
Hindsland Fields, Eastbourne Road, Polegate Land at Greenleaf Gardens, Polegate North of field and adjoining land South of the Polegate Bypass and North of Dittons Road Hindsland, Eastbourne Road, Polegate Land bounded in part by A27(T) and Levett Road Land at Shepham Lane, Polegate Hindsland Fields, Eastbourne Road, Polegate Little Shepham, Shepham Lane, Polegate Mornings Mill Farm, Eastbourne Road, Polegate (Willingdon & Jevington Parish)	Paddock to front of Dittons Park Industrial Estate, Dittons Road Paddock to rear of Dittons Park Industrial Estate Land opposite Wannock Place, Jevington Road Land North of Elsinore, Dittons Road, Polegate Cophall Farm, Baytree Lane Land at and adjoining Bramley Farm, Baytree Lane Land at and adjoining Honey Farm, Eastbourne Road Land adjacent to Cophall Farm, Eastbourne Road Land South of Aberdale Road, Polegate Dittons Farmland, Dittons Road, Polegate

For further details please contact Councillor Mr Tim Voyce, Chair of Planning Committee on Tel: 01323 486429

ALLOTMENT COMPETITION AND GARDEN COMPETITION 2010

Polegate Town Council will be holding their annual allotment and garden competition. The gardens and allotments will be judged between June and July. Prizes will be awarded for the best kept garden and for the best kept allotment.