



# Polegate Town Council

## CONTACTS

### COUNCILLORS

STEVE BARBER  
(TOWN MAYOR) 486211  
CHRISTINE BERRY 486705

JAYNE BIGSBY 487543

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MALCOLM  
CUNNINGHAM 486260  
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STEPHEN SHING 489265

JILL VOYCE 486429

TIM VOYCE 486429

ANDY WATKINS 485795

TERRY WRIGHT 487630

### TOWN CLERK

CAROL GATRILL 488114

ADMIN ASSISTANT  
JO OGNJANOVIC 488696

**COUNCIL OFFICES  
OPEN DAILY  
9.00—13.00**

**WEALDEN CITIZENS  
ADVICE BUREAU**

**TUESDAYS 9.30-12.00**

This Newsletter is published by  
Polegate Town Council,  
Council Office, 49, High Street,  
Polegate, BN26 6AL.

For more information about  
Polegate Council visit our website at  
[www.polegate-tc.co.uk](http://www.polegate-tc.co.uk)  
e-mail:  
[townclerk@polegate-tc.co.uk](mailto:townclerk@polegate-tc.co.uk)

**Annual Report & Newsletter Number 18**

**July 2009**

## Annual Report 2008—2009

Polegate Town Council has had many changes over the last year. The long standing deputy Town Clerk, Mrs Rochelle McGlave left at the end of March after 17 years in her post and the Town Clerk Lin Baxter retired at the end of May.

The new town clerk Carol Gatrill has taken up her post from the 1st April 2009 and her admin assistant Jo Ognjanovic (formerly Tricker) started her new post from 1st May 2009.

The Town Mayor Steve Barber was unanimously re-elected in May having over the last year achieved his goal of obtaining Quality Council Status for Polegate Town Council. The presentation ceremony was held at the community centre on 29th January 2009. The award was not easy to obtain and is a testament to the hard work of all Town Councillors, officers and employees of the council. This award has only been gained by approximately 600 out of over 3500 in the country.

The mayor has also been looking at providing services and recreational facilities for our elderly residents. He has held a Christmas party which is likely to be an annual event as it was such a great success. He has also held a Summer garden party which was oversubscribed and enjoyed by all. Plans are being made for the over 60's information day which is to be held in September.

There have been many contentious issues put before the council over the past year, not least of which was a proposal from local Doctors to develop part of the recreation ground at Wannock Road as a new surgery. This was not approved by the council. The Council has agreed the wording of a memorial plaque to honour the war dead and quotes are being obtained for memorials in stone, brick and wood.

A general purposes committee was formed when the council decided it would be more beneficial to have a committee that the previous working groups. The committee combines the working groups of buildings, leisure, allotments and general purposes, gardens, Christmas lights, youth, transport and the retired. The first meeting was held in January 2009 and as always members of the public are welcome to attend. The committee meetings are advised on the notice boards in the area. (The Dinkum, Wannock Road, Town Council office and Stud Farm). The committee have agreed that one working group be set up which is the Recreation Grounds Working Group which has already met to discuss the way forward for all the grounds in Polegate.

The allotments at Cophall and Gosford Way are fully occupied with waiting lists—Polegate residents are given the priority on these lists. The allotments are regularly inspected and holders are contacted if they are found not to be cultivated. Members of the Council meet 4 times a year with East Sussex County Council to discuss any matters of mutual interest—mainly traffic matters.

The summer planting at the Council offices has been completed along with the Jubilee Tree and planters around the town.

A new piece of equipment "Time Out Trail" has been installed in the Oakleaf play area and there are hopes to improve facilities there in keeping with the rest of the play area. Members have been considering improvements to the play equipment at Polegate War Memorial Recreation Ground with further discussions to take place at future meetings. Improvements to the general repair of the pavilion are also planned including external doors and internal fire doors.

The Cricket Club and Stoolball Club will be using the Polegate War Memorial Recreation Ground this summer with matches taking place week days as well as weekends. The Victorian lamp standard has also been replaced in the High Street .  
 More bat boxes which were made by Willingdon Community School will be erected at the Brightling Meadow in the near future.  
 Polegate Town Council has had 80 planning applications 62 of which were approved by Wealden District Council and 9 of which were refused.  
 Polegate Town Council is still monitoring the progress of the Local Development Framework and has reviewed the master plan for the town.

**Polegate Town Council**  
**Income and Expenditure Account for Year Ended : 31st March 2009**

**Operating Income**

Administration	241
General Administration	228,199
Council Offices	648
51 High street	0
The Pavilion	15,011
Recreation Grounds	1,268
Highways	8,960
Allotments	924
The Polegate Partnership	963
<b>Total Income</b>	<b><u>256,213</u></b>

**Running Costs**

Employee Costs	70,139
Administration	17,590
Town Councillors	4,836
General Administration	4,675
Council Offices	20,178
51 High Street	1,882
The Pavilion	4,383
Town Centre and Community Safe	16,568
Recreation Grounds	17,264
Highways	23,577
Allotments	439
Street Lighting	42,591
Prize and Prize giving	106
The Polegate Partnership	696
The Planning Committee	48
Youth	4,741
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b><u>229,712</u></b>

**General Fund Analysis**

Opening Balance	66,496
Plus: Income for Year	256,213
	<b><u>322,709</u></b>
Less: Expenditure for the Year	229,712
Transfers TO/FROM reserves	10,500
<b>Closing Balance</b>	<b><u>82,497</u></b>

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## Mayors Garden Party

Since being unanimously re-elected Mayor of Polegate Councillor Steve Barber has attended a number of local functions including his own Mayor's Garden Party on 22nd June 2009. Awards were made for the Best Ladies hat and Best Gentleman's hat and the most novel hat. The weather was kind and the garden



Mayor shown above with winner of best ladies hat award (from left to right Mrs S Barber, Best ladies hat winner,

party was over subscribed. Thank you to everyone who helped organise the event with special thanks to the children at Polegate School who sang beautifully at the event, and children from Willingdon Community school who waited on those who attended. Details of the annual Christmas Party will be announced later in the year.

The Mayor also recently opened the Bernard Baron Summer Fete and attended the ESCC sports development Awards at the Winter Garden in Eastbourne.

## New Town Clerk for Polegate

Carol Gatrill took over as the new Town Clerk for Polegate Town Council on 1st April 2009

Lin Baxter retired at the end of May and will be missed by all councillors and staff at the council.

Carol is happy to assist members of the public and she plans to expand the services already provided by the council. Carol has also recently been joined by a new Admin Assistant Jo Ognjanovic (formerly Tricker) who will be helping her in the office.

The council offices are open from 9am until 1pm and are located at 49, High street, Polegate, BN26 6AL. If you wish to contact either Carol or Jo you can do so on 01323 488114 or via email on [townclerk@polegate-tc.co.uk](mailto:townclerk@polegate-tc.co.uk). You can also find out what is going on at the council via the internet at [www.polegate-tc.co.uk](http://www.polegate-tc.co.uk) various events are listed here, links to community groups and minutes of council meetings are on the site for all to read with agendas for upcoming meetings.

## PCSO Surgery

The PCSOs (Police Community Support Officers) recently held their surgery in the council chambers and many items were discussed including the hazards of **cyclists on footpaths**.

Notices have been posted reminding residents that it is **illegal** to ride on the footpaths and they can be fined if they do not adhere to these rules.

There have been complaints about older children riding on the pavements causing problems for some elderly residents who may not either hear them coming or be able to quickly move to avoid any accidents.

Also in the same vein, there have been complaints about anti social cycling along the cuckoo trail. Cyclists have been cycling too fast and not considering that some residents may be hard of hearing or have children or pets to consider.

Other items that were discussed are Heron Ridge parking problems, the junction at Western Avenue, parking on verges in Station Road all of which are being looked into by the PCSOs.

**OVER 60'S INFORMATION DAY**  
POLEGATE TOWN COUNCIL ARE SPONSORING AN INFORMATION DAY ON MONDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2009 AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE 2PM – 5PM.  
LOCAL SHOPS AND OTHER AGENCIES HAVE BEEN INVITED TO INFORM RESIDENTS ABOUT SERVICES AND PRODUCTS AVAILABLE FOR RETIRED PEOPLE IN THEIR OWN HOMES AND IN THE COMMUNITY.  
**THIS IS A FREE EVENT. NO NEED TO BOOK.**  
FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT THE TOWN COUNCIL OFFICES ON 01323 488114  
**REFRESHMENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE AND FREE!**

**COUNCIL MEETINGS  
2009**

**14th Sept**

**12th October**

**9th November**

**14th December**

**TIME ON YOUR  
HANDS?**

Have you ever thought about doing voluntary work in the local area. There are numerous groups within the Polegate and surrounding area which are in need of your help. You don't need any special skills, just a willingness to give a little of your time. For information on how you can help contact :

Eastbourne Avs Volunteer Bureau

8 Saffrons Road  
EASTBOURNE  
East Sussex  
BN21 1DG  
Tel: 01323 639 373  
Fax: 01323 410 977

Email: [info@eavs.org.uk](mailto:info@eavs.org.uk)

Website: [www.eavs.org](http://www.eavs.org)

Opening Hours: M-Tu: 9.30-3.00 W-F: 9.00-2.00 Alternatively visit [www.do-it.org.uk](http://www.do-it.org.uk)

**HIRE OF COUNCIL  
CHAMBER**

If you are looking for a venue to hold a meeting or informal gathering, the Council Chamber is available to hire at reasonable rates. For further information on rates and availability please contact the office on 01323 488114

**Garden Party Awards List**

**Congratulations to the garden party winners**

**THE BEST HAT 2009**

(gentlemen)

**Mike Hutchinson**

**THE BEST HAT 2009**

(ladies)

**Joan Hesling**

**THE MOST NOVEL HAT 2009**

**Ellen McIlroy**



**USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS**

Emergency Services (Police, Fire and Ambulance) (From mobile phones use 112)	999
Sussex Police (For non-emergency calls)	0845 60 70 999
Local Fire and Rescue (For advice on Fire Safety)	0845 130 8855
Trading Standards Doorstoppers hotline	01323 418228
For Consumer Advice call Consumer Direct	0845 40 40 506
Buy With Confidence	01323 418215
Transco (in case of gas leak)	0800 111 999



**Anyone who would like to join the Polegate Neighbourhood Watch Association can ring the Chairman - Andy Watkins 01323 485795 or the secretary - Jayne Bigsby on 01323 487543.**

**Any queries you may have will be answered and joining does not incur any expense whatsoever. All callers will be welcome.**