

Polegate Town Council

Newsletter
January 2012



Where should the houses go?

From time to time, Wealden District Council adopts a planning policy document which directs where all major housing developments can be built within the area. It is currently finalising its policy for the period up to the year 2030. If you have a view about where you think new homes should or should not be built, you have the opportunity to comment NOW. For example, Polegate Town Council fought hard against the development of 520 dwellings on land known as Honey Farm. New sites are now being considered for development, including Hindslands, Mornings Mill Farm, Bramley Farm, land off Dittons Road, Stone Cross Nurseries and the possibility of a smaller development at Honey Farm.

The policy document is called the Strategic Sites Development Plan Document. It is available for viewing at both Polegate Town Council offices and Polegate Library, as well as on the internet at:

http://www.wealden.gov.uk/Wealden/Planning_and_Building_Control/Planning_Policy/Local_Development_Framework/StrategicSites/Planning_Policy_Strategic_Sites_Issues_and_Options_Consultation.aspx

There is a simple questionnaire online asking for comments on the proposals Wealden District Council is making and for your own suggestions; comments can also be submitted in writing to Wealden District Council, Planning Department, Pine Grove, Crowborough, TN6 1DH. The closing date for comments is 5pm on the 24 February 2012. You may wish to send a copy to Polegate Town Council for our records.

Wealden District Council is also holding a number of exhibitions in the District to allow local people to give their views on the proposed options. Polegate Community Centre is hosting one of these exhibitions on Saturday the 11th February between 10am and 1pm. Other exhibitions are being held at Pine Grove, Crowborough (4th Feb, 10am-1pm), Diplocks Community Centre, Hailsham (4th Feb, 10am-1pm), Hailsham Town Council (7th Feb, 11am-1pm and 5pm-7pm) and Uckfield Civic Centre (11th Feb, 10am-1pm).

These plans affect YOUR District. Make sure you have your say.

On the move...

Do you recognise this bus shelter? It's in Hailsham Road. The trouble



is, it's nowhere near the bus stop! Following comments from a number of residents, the Town Council has decided to move the shelter closer to the stop. All being well, the move should take place in the first quarter of 2012.

Keeping you informed

You may have noticed the ongoing road works in Station Road, Pevensey Road and Dittons Road. These are due to the installation of a cycleway, and are being carried out by East Sussex Highways on behalf of, and at the expense of, Country and Metropolitan Homes, the developers of the new Bluebells estate. The Government is committed to promoting cycling as an alternative form of transport for local journeys, and the installation of a cycleway supports that policy. If you experience any problems relating to the ongoing work please contact East Sussex Highways on 0345 60 80 193.

Schedule Of Meetings

Special Full Council—13th Feb; Full Council 27th Feb; Finance & Policy—12th Mar; Full Council—26th Mar; Annual Town Assembly (Electors' Meeting) - 23rd April.

Jubilee news

The Council has committed £2000 to Polegate's Diamond Jubilee Celebrations Committee to assist them in realising plans to mark the anniversary with a number of events in and around Polegate. The committee, which is separate from the Council, is looking for donations, however small, and ideas for making the extended weekend a success. For further information, contact Joe O'Riordan on 486021.

Polegate Yard update

Following the receipt of further information from Haulaway Ltd regarding plans to use Polegate Yard in Coldthorn Lane as a recycling plant, East Sussex County Council (ESCC) case officer Mr J Patterson re-consulted Polegate Town Council, which unanimously objected to the application. No date has yet been set for ESCC to consider the application, but indications are that it may be early in February. The application, WD/662/CM, may be viewed in the Planning section of ESCC's website.

Polegate honours its citizens

At September's Civic Awards ceremony at the Town Hall, engraved glass bowls and certificates were awarded to Joan Shoemith and Jim Dobell for outstanding service to Polegate Community Association, and the Steer family were honoured for their long connection with the Scouting movement. The evening also saw prizes and certificates awarded to the winners and runners-up in the Best Garden and Allotment competition.

Your Town Councillors and their phone numbers: Chris BERRY 486705; Edward BOARD 486508; Gerald CARTER 483773; Michael CLEWETT 486647; Malcolm CUNNINGHAM 486260; George GIBBS 484109; John HARMER 485801; Roy MARTIN 485330; Joseph O'RIORDAN 486021; Margaret PIPER (Deputy Mayor) 485611; Mark PYBUS 482128; Daniel SHING; Stephen SHING 489265; Jill VOYCE 486429; Tim VOYCE (Mayor) 486429

Wannock rental opportunity

The Council is considering letting the former Council offices at Wannock. The premises include a large meeting room, small office and kitchen. For further details, please contact the Town Clerk on 488114.

Councillors Honoured

Congratulations to Cllr George Gibbs, awarded an MBE in the New Year's Honours list for services to police and the community, and to Cllr. Roy Martin (pictured), to whom a National Express coach has been dedicated.



Christmas in Polegate

Polegate's annual Christmas lights switch-on was combined with a Dickens-themed fair, centred around the Town Hall. Music, morris dancers, Father Christmas and a selection of yuletide stalls ensured that the afternoon was a great success. Thanks to all who arranged or participated in the event, and to PJ Skips for donating the Christmas tree.

More than a hundred of Polegate's retired residents attended the ever-popular annual Christmas tea party, hosted by Town Mayor Councillor Tim Voyce. A retiring collection raised almost £300 for St Wilfrid's Hospice, the Mayor's chosen charity of the year.