

UNADOPTED

POLEGATE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Statutory Meeting of the Town Council held on Monday 11th May 2009 in the Council Chamber, 49 High Street, Polegate at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Cllrs. S Barber, Mrs C Berry, Mrs J Bigsby, G Carter, J Harmer, Mrs D Joy, Mrs M Piper, J Rogers, T Wright.

4 members of the public

1 member of the press

8589 Election of Town Mayor

It was proposed that Cllr. Steve Barber be elected to the position. This was seconded and there being no other nominations, it was resolved unanimously to elect Cllr. Steve Barber as Town Mayor.

8590 To receive the Mayors declaration of acceptance of office

The Mayor read out and signed the declaration of acceptance of office of Town Mayor which was countersigned by the Town Clerk.

8591 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Cunningham, Martin, Shing, Mrs J Voyce, Voyce, Watkins.

8592 Declarations of interest

None

8593 Election of Deputy Town Mayor

The Town Mayor called for nominations for the office of Deputy Town Mayor. It was proposed that Cllr. Mrs Piper be elected for the ensuing year. This was seconded and there being no other nominations, it was resolved unanimously to elect Cllr. Mrs Piper as Deputy Town Mayor.

8594 To receive and confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 6 April 2009

The minutes were approved as a true record and the Mayor was authorised to sign them.

8595 Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on 6 April 2009.

Norman Baker MP had received a response from the Highways Agency stating that the repairs to the noise bund slip is in the design stage and the work would commence in early 2010. Cllr Harmer felt that this had been ongoing for too long and a letter should be sent to the Highways Agency stating this fact.

It was resolved that the Clerk should send a letter to the Highways Agency stating that this had been ongoing for over 2 years and that the Council were disappointed that this work had not appeared to have been given the priority it had deserved.

8596 Appointment of members of the Standing Committee

a) Finance –

Cllr Cunningham, Watkins, Carter, Harmer, Cllr Mrs Joy, Cllr Rogers, Cllr Mrs Voyce, Cllr Voyce and Wright

b) General Purposes

Cllr Harmer, Rogers, Cllr Mrs Berry, Cllr Mrs Bigsby, Cllr Carter, Cunningham, Cllr Mrs Joy, Cllr Martin, Shing, Cllr Mrs Voyce
Cllr Voyce, Watkins and Wright

c) Planning

Cllr Wright, Rogers, Cllr Mrs Berry, Cllr Carter, Harmer, Voyce
Watkins.

d) Personnel

Cllr Carter, Cllr Mrs Voyce, Cllr Mrs Berry, Cllr Mrs Bigsby, Cllr Mrs Joy, Cllr Martin, Cllr Mrs Piper, Cllr Voyce and Wright.

8597 Appointment of Chairpersons to Standing Committees

a) Finance – Cllr Cunningham

b) General Purposes – Cllr Harmer

c) Planning – Cllr Wright

d) Personnel – Cllr Carter

8598 Appointment of Tree Warden

Mr D Hammond had agreed to the appointment for this year.

8599 To appoint representatives to outside organisations

Citizens Advice Bureau – Cllr Harmer

Civil Protection – Cllr Martin and Cunningham

Children/Playgroups – Cllr Mrs Bigsby

Community Association – Cllr Rogers and Cllr Mrs Joy

Community Bus – Cllr Mrs Joy

Crime Prevention/Neighbourhood Watch – Cllr Mrs Bigsby, Cllr Mrs Berry and Cllr Watkins

Eastbourne Area Transport Forum – Cllr Martin, Barber and Cunningham

Polegate Windmill – Cllr Harmer and Watkins

Press Liaison – Cllr Mrs Bigsby

South Wealden Ass of Local Councils – Cllr Carter and Wright

Wealden Planning Panel – Cllr Wright

Twinning Association – Cllr Mrs Joy

8600 Appointment of Internal Auditor

Graham J Parish had agreed to the appointment for this year.

- 8601 To receive statement of deeds etc held by Council Solicitors**
Members were in receipt of a letter from the Councils Solicitors listing the deeds and documents held on the Councils behalf.
- 8602 Financial Matter**
Subscriptions
a) The subscription to SE Employees should be deleted
Accounts for Payment
b) The Council considered the schedules of Accounts for payment and they were approved
Annual Accounts
c) The Annual Governance Statement was read by all members and agreed and adopted by members
d) Members agreed to adopt the final accounts as agreed by Finance Committee 6 May 2009.
- 8603 Adoption of minutes of the last cycle of meetings**
It was resolved to adopt the minutes of the following committees
Personnel 14 April 2009 (Confidential)
General Purposes 15 April 2009
Planning 15, 21 April 2009
Finance 6 May 2009
LDF 6 May 2009 (no minutes had been taken at the working group as they considered it would be best to wait for the publication of the report from Wealden District Council) Members discussed the evidence based reports which Wealden District Council have published on their website. Different members have studied topics and criticised the evidence on which these reports are based.
- 8603 Communications from the Town Mayor**
The Mayor reported that he had spent a very enjoyable evening at the Towner Gallery. He recommended that everyone visits.
The Mayor had also been to Firle Place with the Hearing Dogs for the Deaf.
- 8605 Town Clerks Report**
The Clerk reported the she had a request from the Cricket Club to Weed kill the field again. This had been completed last year but had Not been very effective. It was agreed that it was too late this year.
It was resolved that the Clerk would gain quotes from 3 sources for this to be completed Feb/Mar 2010.

The Clerk reported that the Action Plan would be presented to the Full Council at the next meeting.

8606 Correspondence for action / noting
ESCC Community Transport Developments
WDC Security of Towermill Place, Polegate
Interroute A27 Speed Limit review

8607 Dates of the next cycle of meetings
Annual Town Meeting 18 May 2009
Full Council 8 June 2009
Planning as and when necessary
Personnel 20 May 2009

8608 Resolution to take next item in confidential session

It was resolved that due to the confidential nature of the next business to be transacted the press and public be excluded from the rest of the meeting