

UNADOPTED

POLEGATE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Environment & Leisure Committee meeting held on Monday 12th September 2011 in the Council Chamber, 49 High Street, Polegate at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Cllrs J Harmer (Chair), J O'Riordan, G Gibbs, M Cunningham, R Martin, Mrs J Voyce, M Clewett, T Voyce (ex officio) Mrs M piper (ex officio)

Not Present: Cllrs G Carter, Mrs C Berry, D Shing

2 members of the public present

9859 Apologies for absence

Cllrs D Shing (work), Mrs C Berry (bereavement), G Carter (ill health)

9860 Declarations of interest

9869 R Martin no prejudicial

9861 Opportunity for Public Comment

Standing orders suspended

A member of public spoke on regarding the proposed street lighting

Standing orders reinstated

9862 Minutes of the meeting held on 20th June 2011

The minutes were agreed and signed as correct by the chair.

9863 Cophall Allotments

a) Bonfire curfews Cophall

Each councillor had received and read the letter form the plot holder prior to the meeting. A councillor commented that three differing times would be too complicated. Two proposals were made

1. To alter the curfew to: No bonfires allowed before 6pm March – October ; 3pm October to March
2. No bonfires allowed before 7pm March – October; 3pm October – March

A vote was taken on the first proposal

It was recommended that the curfew be altered to " No bonfires allowed before 6pm March – October ; 3pm October to March " and for a notice to be put on the board at Cophall informing all allotment holders, plus a note in the rental letters. VOTE 7 For 2 against

b) Water standpipe Cophall

All papers were circulated to the members a discussion took place regarding the options and costs involved.

It was recommended that the standpipe with push tap be installed by a plumber at maximum cost of £125 VOTE All in favour

c) Annual Skip

Background papers were circulated prior to the meeting to all present.

It was recommended that a skip be hired for Cophall allotment at an approximate cost of £168 + VAT VOTE All in favour

d) Allotment Society.

The clerks report was circulated to all members prior to the meeting. No further action required at present.

9864 Polegate Town Football Club (PTFC)

a) Sunday veterans match

The club had requested to play a veterans match between the football and cricket clubs.

It was recommended that PTFC be granted permission to play the match on a Sunday and would be asked to advise of the date of the match. VOTE All in favour

b) Signage to recreation ground at Polegate Crossroads

A discussion took place on the location, the costs and who should fund the signs along with the exact wording to comply with the 32 spaces.

It was recommended that the sign wording be "Wannock Rd Recreation Grd" VOTE 6 for 1 against 2 abstentions

It was recommended that Polegate Town Council fund the sign and choose the wording as above with a maximum cost of £93.50. VOTE 7 for 1 against 1 abstention

The football club had also submitted a request to have a new freezer (table top) and new microwave for use in the pavilion. The football club to supply.

It was recommended that permission to have the freezer and microwave installed at the pavilion kitchen be granted and the clerk to arrange for Pat testing to be carried out on the new equipment. VOTE All in favour

9865 Diamond Jubilee Celebrations 2012

a) Planter colours for 2012

A report had been circulated by the clerk prior to the meeting.

It was recommended that the plants be red, white and blue next year and to be made as robust as possible in order for them to be planted out prior to the jubilee weekend. VOTE All in favour

The clerk was asked to write a letter of thanks to the contractor thanking them for the lovely displays this year.

b) Select members of the Diamond Jubilee Committee

It was recommended that the following councillors be included in the Diamond Jubilee Committee: Cllrs Mrs J Voyce, M Cunningham, J O'Riordan, T Voyce, Mrs M Piper, Mrs C Berry, R Martin VOTE All in favour

Interested members of the public are welcome and invited to contact the office should they wish to be involved in the Diamond Jubilee

The clerk was asked to invite the major organisations to become involved and to attend the first meeting of the Diamond Jubilee Committee set for 4th October 2011 at 7.30pm.

It was discussed that the main part the council would play would be to co-ordinate the events. There would be a number of people required to be able to carry out all of the tasks required.

c) Request from Willingdon & Jevington Parish Council

Polegate Town council had received a verbal request as to whether they would be prepared to be involved in a joint firework party with Willingdon and Jevington Parish Council over the Diamond jubilee period. The cost was likely to be in the region of £4000 total. It would be held in Willingdon Community School. The council discussed the location and that it was not central to Polegate. They discussed the potential of the event and that other events may come forward in the discussions at the Polegate Town Council Diamond jubilee committee meeting. It was agreed that other opportunities may arise and the council could not commit £2000 to an event out of the area, without first exploring other events that may be held within the Polegate area.

It was recommended that a letter be sent to Willingdon and Jevington Parish Council declining to be involved at this stage VOTE All in favour

9866 Street Lighting

Following the comments received by a member of the public and the clerk report, a discussion took place regarding the potential for the Council having a policy for the future of street lighting in Polegate, what lighting was suitable and who would be qualified to advise the council on such a policy.

It was agreed that Mr Northcott would be asked if he would be prepared to meet with the clerk to discuss street lighting in order that a comprehensive street lighting policy be formed. It was also agreed that the clerk would obtain independent advice on the report provided by Mr Northcott.

Standing order were suspended whilst the committee asked Mr Northcott about his expertise in the street lighting field and his qualifications. Mr Northcott was asked to write to the office with details of his knowledge and expertise. Mr Northcott agreed to do this and meet with the clerk to discuss the current lighting and possibility of future lighting. Standing orders were reinstated.

It was recommended that the decision to repair the bulk list of columns be deferred. VOTE All in favour

b) Age tests of columns

A discussion took place on the need for an age test on the columns.

It was recommended that no extra tests be carried out at this time, but to continue with the traditional hammer ring test as per contract. VOTE All in favour.

9867 Dickensian group update

The clerk had circulated the minutes and agendas from the Dickensian group for the committee.

A discussion took place on the collections to take place at the event. The Morris dancers will be making donations to St Wilfred's (the Mayors charity). St Wilfred's had already been asked to be there on the day.

9868 Oakleaf play area

A discussion took place regarding the possibility of locking the park. It was agreed that from the police report that there was no evidence to suggest that any disturbances had resulted in any other anti social behaviour. The costs of locking were prohibitively expensive and the fence on the cuckoo trail side was low enough that entrance could be gained.

9869 Bus shelter

A lengthy discussion took place regarding the costs and work involved in moving the shelter and some of the issues that may arise. An issue regarding whether the stop was a request stop or a bus stop.

It was recommended that the shelter be moved at a maximum cost of £300 (with concrete base) and the clerk to apply for a licence to ESCC Highways authority to locate the shelter next to the bus stop and for the clerk to look into ways to have the remaining concrete base removed or resolve the issue of the concrete left behind may be possible to put a bench on it). VOTE 7 for 2 against

9870 Pavilion brackets/soffits

A short discussion took place regarding the report. No further action required.

9871 Flower beds

a) Troughs

A discussion took place regarding the possibilities of where the troughs could be planted, the costs and quotes received. It was agreed to defer the decision to summer plant the troughs.

b) Council offices Wannock Road maintenance

A short discussion took place regarding the winter maintenance of the council beds at Wannock Road offices.

A proposal was made to not plant the troughs or maintain the flower beds. No seconder was received. A second proposal to plant the troughs with winter flowering pansies.

It was recommended that the maintenance person install the troughs on the barriers at Polegate War Memorial Recreation Ground and plant them with winter pansies along with the Council flower bed at a cost of approximately £75. VOTE All in favour.

9872 Brightling Road Advisory Committee

A verbal report was given regarding the new shelter and how well used it is already.

PCSO Hannah Parks had arranged a youth meeting (2nd September) of which she invited Cllr J O'Riordan to attend. It was fairly well attended. The children were

asked what they would like in that area. Cllr O’Riordan intended to call a festivities meeting and form a Masterplan and budget for that over 3 years of facilities and improvements. The vandalism and litter was alleged to be children from the Hailsham area. PCSO Hannah Parks indicated that she would find out if the “striker cam” (CCTV Surveillance system) could be used to catch the individuals causing the problems. The children were keen to have CCTV but the prohibitive expense was discussed with those children and parents present. Those present had indicated that they would prefer for there to be a separate small area for the younger children to practice in order for the younger ones not to feel intimidated and the older ones not to have the children in the way. This is something that would be looked into. PSCO Parks was also keen to arrange an event day at the skate park as she had been present at one in Uckfield which had been very successful and as it was sponsored was very low cost.

9873 Festivities & Town Appearance Advisory Committee

The letters congratulating businesses on their well presented shops had been well received and the polite letters to those who were not so well presented had been reacted to very quickly.

**It was recommended that the clerk be delegated to send out letters to well presented shops from suggestions from any one councillor or resident. The clerk would circulate the shop nominated to the councillors and if the vote was taken in favour of sending a letter would be sent.
VOTE All in favour**

The clerk stated that she would keep details of the vote and the letters sent. A short discussion took place regarding overgrowth and the clerk informed those present that she already had the facility to deal with these issues and any issues should be sent through to the office.

9874 Traffic & Transport Advisory Committee

Cllr Gibbs and Cllr Martin were due to attend a Local Transport Plan implementation plan being held by ESCC at the town hall Eastbourne on Tuesday 20th September. A report would be submitted at the next meeting.

9875 Youth & Elderly Advisory Committee

No reports

9876 Clerks report – updates

A councillor raised the issue of the lottery bid and requested a meeting once the consultations replies had been received from the two schools.

The clerk stated that she was keeping a record of the works on the bund slip.

The civic award presentation and allotment and gardens presentation was due to take place the next day. Cllr R Martin gave apologies for not being able to attend.

The clerk also stated that Polegate school had stated that they did not wish to be involved in a xmas motifs competition. A councillor suggested that it be widened to adults and family members for a competition next year. It could be done via the newsletter. The clerk had also requested to the neighbouring property whether they would accept motifs to be erected on the building over the Christmas period, she was currently awaiting a reply.

The clerk was asked about the amount of utilities etc digging up the roads in and around Polegate. The clerk stated that she was currently dealing with a number of complaints with regard to this and hoped that many would be resolved shortly. The clerk also mentioned that she had received further information about a possible problem with the entrance gates at the Stone cross end of Polegate and the new cycle paths.

9877 Date of next meeting

Agreed to be 14th November 2011 – Budget meeting.

The meeting closed at 9.30pm