

UNADOPTED

POLEGATE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on Monday 14TH June 2010 in the Council Chamber, 49 High Street, Polegate at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Chair Cllr Mrs J Bigsby, Cllr Mrs C Berry, Cllr Mr M Cunningham, Cllr Mr J Harmer, Cllr Mr R Martin, Cllr Mrs M Piper, Cllr Mrs J Voyce, Cllr Mr T Voyce

4 members of the public present

9249 Apologies for absence

None received

9250 Declarations of interest

Cllr Harmer item 9256, 9257 personal and non prejudicial
Cllr T Voyce, 9257; Cllr Mrs J Voyce 9257; Cllr Mrs J Bigsby 9257; Cllr Mr M Cunningham 9257; Cllr Mr J Harmer 9257; Cllr Mrs M Piper 9257 non prejudicial

9251 Opportunity for Public Comment

Standing orders were suspended

An allotment holder (Gosford Allotments) commented on the increase in rental charges when most of the maintenance of the Gosford allotments is done by himself and water is supplied by the stream that runs through the allotments. The allotment holder proposed that a water pipe be put across to the allotments, a gate be put in lower down in the brickwork.

Standing orders were reinstated

Cllr Mr J Harmer thanked the allotment holder for his hard work.

9252 Minutes of the meeting held on 12th April 2010.

The minutes were agreed and signed.

9253 Election of Vice Chair of Environment & Leisure

It was recommended that Cllr Mr J Harmer was elected to the position of vice chair of environment & leisure.
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9254 Terms of reference

It was circulated and noted and various amendments were discussed.

It was resolved that the Terms of reference of Environment & Leisure are agreed and would be presented to the next Full Council.
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9255 Allotments

Water provision, safety of the main entrance gate, costs of installing water and the price increase were discussed. It was also discussed that permission be obtained from Wealden District Council who rent the land to Polegate Town Council and the environment agency regarding their land.

It was resolved that the price increase remain in place and quotes would be obtained by the Clerk to investigate the cost of installing water to the Gosford Way Allotments, providing there were no unusual problems the water would be installed the land owner to be contacted and the clerk to report back to the environment & leisure. VOTE 5 in favour 3 against Cllr Mrs Berry, Cllr Mr R Martin, Cllr Mr T Voyce.

A discussion took place regarding the Bee Keepers proposed "viewing cage" at Cophall allotments regarding risk assessments and children attending the site. A risk assessment will be carried out and a letter sent to the bee keeper.

It was resolved to carry out a risk assessment on the Bees on the allotments and that at this time the council would not give permission for the viewing cage to be installed.

A discussion regarding extending the existing water supply by tenant of 25A at no cost to the council. It was discussed that the work should be carried out by a recognised plumber or checked once completed before the trench be filled.

It was resolved to allow the allotment holder (25A) to dig the trench to 2 feet plus run a 15mm blue ethylene hose ball cock and tank. Check with other plot holders in the vicinity to check they are not adversely affected and check that the location will be appropriate. Letter to be sent to plot holders from the office and a qualified plumber to check the connections before the trench is filled.

9256 Oakleaf play area

The quotes regarding the work to be carried out after the insurance company safety report

It was resolved to instruct Playdale Playgrounds Ltd to supply deliver and install the equipment as per their quote (952).

The quotes for the bark chippings

It was resolved to instruct DMS Supplies to supply 10m³ of BS play grade loose bark chippings before school summer holidays.

9257 Polegate War Memorial Recreation Ground

The Football club lease for season 2010-2011 was discussed, Cllr Mrs C Berry wished that it be noted she would not vote until the Village Green status was resolved as it may affect her decision. It was discussed about the lease having a

termination clause should the village green status be agreed as per the cricket club new lease.

It was resolved to go ahead with the new lease with the clause for termination as per cricket club should village green status proceed. VOTE 6 in favour 2 against Cllr Mrs C Berry Cllr Mr R Martin.

CCTV was discussed regarding installation of a new system. 3 estimates were received.

It was resolved that the Clerk obtain 3 quotes for CCTV with a specification written by Cllr J Harmer & Cllr R Martin. Specification to be written by the end June 2010 and sent to Town Clerk.

Periodical Electrical Inspections were discussed and noted at this point.

It was resolved to that the Town Clerk would check the quote for the company that is currently used against the other two quotes and as long as the variation was small that the normal company would be chosen. VOTE 8 in favour

Polegate Residents Association Family Fun day was discussed and noted by the Council.

9258 Brightling Road – Meadow and Skate Park

The bat boxes have now been installed in the meadow.

The skate park inspection report was discussed.

It was resolved to ask the new maintenance company to give us quotes for all of the repairs on the inspection report for the skate park.

The licence for the model engineering club was discussed and noted for information.

9259 Report from festivities and Town Appearance Advisory Group

The Harvester Tree Lights were discussed. ESCC have told us that the lights must come down prior to tree pruning but that we could not apply for a licence to put further lights on the tree at a later date, but the control box would need to be certified by a qualified electrician. Further discussions took place regarding the costs involved.

It was resolved that the tree lights be removed by the tree surgeon as per his quote. The transformers and box to be made safe, so if at a later date a licence is applied for to ESCC it can be reinstated. The Town Clerk will send a letter to the "Harvester" chain and ask that they make some contribution to the lights. The office would seek further quotes for lighting the harvester tree, both purchase prices and rental prices.

The best kept garden and allotment were discussed regarding the dates for submission of the chosen gardens. The allotments would be judged at 6.30pm Monday 21st June 2010 and the gardens would be judged by Wednesday 30th June 2010. One person to inform the office who has 1st 2nd & 3rd Prize for the best garden and 1st 2nd 3rd prize by 1st July 2010 or earlier.

The Town Map was discussed regarding permission from the land owners for placing the town map on their land. The costs for the finger posts were discussed. The costs were considered prohibitively expensive for this financial year and would be added to the potential improvements for next years budget.

The summer beds were discussed, some Councillors felt that the summer bedding and hanging baskets were not of sufficient quality. The office was asked to send a letter to allotment holders and the garden club asking them if anyone would be interested in maintaining some of the beds. This was to be included in the tenders for next year to ensure that baskets and planters are of sufficient quality in future years. The possibility of having a local gardener or allotment holders might wish to tend the beds, especially at the Crossroads.

The Town Clerk was asked to inform the current suppliers that the Council were unhappy with the current bedding and ask if the bed at the Crossroads could be looked at as a gesture of goodwill.

The Polegate Town sign was discussed and the quote was discussed in detail.

It was resolved that the quote would be accepted subject to the wood being stained not painted in a black stain.

9260 Report from Traffic and Transport Advisory Group

None received.

9261 Resolution to take business into Confidential session