

UNADOPTED

POLEGATE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Monday 14th April 2008 in the Council Chamber, 49 High Street, Polegate at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Cllr. J. Rogers (Mayor), S. Barber, Mrs C. Berry,
G. Carter, M. Cunningham, J. Harmer, Mrs D. Joy R. Martin, Mrs M.
Piper, S. Shing, Mrs J. Voyce, T. Voyce, A. Watkins and T. Wright

4 members of the public, 1 member of the press

In attendance: PCSO Gareth Hollister and Michael Easton, Sussex
Police

The Mayor welcomed the new appointed clerk Mrs L Baxter

7993 Apologies

Cllr. Mrs J Bigsby

7994 Declarations of interest

Item 9 – MUGA

Cllrs Mrs D Joy, R Martin, J Rogers personal and non-prejudicial

Item 11 – Accounts for payments

Cllr J & T Voyce personal interest in two payees

7995 Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 10 March 2008

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

7996 Matters arising from the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 10 March 2008

Minute 7877 – Cllr Mrs C Berry wished confirmation that the summer bedding had been ordered – to be confirmed

Minute 7932 – Cllr A Watkins wished confirmation that although a response had been received from the Highway Agency had ESCC Highways and Norman Baker MP been included in the correspondence – to be confirmed.

Minute 7938 – Confidential – Cllr Mrs C Berry

The Clerk reported to Cllr G Carter that the cost of the Zurich Insurance engineering insurance which he had queried was in fact £6 cheaper this year.

Members noted the response from the Highways Agency on Cophall Roundabout. (Minute 7932)

7997 Notification of any items to be dealt with as urgent

It was resolved to accept the quotation for new lanterns in Aberdale Road to replace lanterns on Columns D and F as per quotation of 8.4.08

7998 In order to allow the public opportunity for comment it was resolved to suspend standing orders.

STANDING ORDERS SUSPENDED

A resident spoke on concerns of the proposal to place a youth shelter in Wannock Recreation Ground.

The Mayor thanked him for his comments.

A resident asked to speak on two subjects for longer than three minutes as per Your Right to Speak at Meetings of the Council policy

STANDING ORDERS REINSTATED

7999 It was resolved that the resident be allowed to speak for three minutes on each subject.

8000 In order to allow the public opportunity for comment it was resolved to suspend standing orders.

STANDING ORDERS SUSPENDED

The resident declined to speak further.

STANDING ORDERS REINSTATED

8001 In order to allow the PSCOs to comment on PSCO Jamie Harwood's report it was resolved to suspend standing orders.

STANDING ORDERS SUSPENDED

PCSO Report – Copy on file

Cllr Mrs C Berry asked when the speed check was to be carried out on the High Street – PSCO G Hollister said this would be done this week. Cllr J Harmer stated that the report had said that the CCTV needed to be upgraded Cllr Harmer said that it was state of the art digital cameras however more cameras could be required. Cllr T Voyce asked about the 2 hour restrictions in Brook Street which were causing residents problems – the response was that unfortunately areas were 'blitzed' by colleagues. Cllr R Martin was concerned that he had no response having reported an

incident on a van which was obstructing the highway. This would be looked at by the PSCOs.

8002 District/County Councillors' Reports

Written reports had been provided by Cllr Oi Lin Shing for the District and Cllr R Martin for County. (Copy of reports on file)

It was resolved that the Clerk should write to Wealden District Council asking for two representatives from Polegate Town Council to be included in the Eastbourne Hailsham Core Reference Group of the County Council.

Cllr R Martin is to provide Council with a copy of the minutes of the recent meeting of the Hailsham – Eastbourne Core Reference Group which he attended.

The Clerk had provided all District/County councillors with a list of when she required their reports so that they could be circulated with the other council papers.

8003 Update from Standing Committees and Working Group

Youth Working Group

Youth Shelter

Council considered the report from the Youth Working Group of 31 March and the additional report by Cllr Mrs J Bigsby. The contents of which were noted.

Cllr Mrs C Berry felt that Cllr Mrs M Piper concerns regarding the woods were irrelevant as far as the Youth Shelter was concerned. Cllr Mrs M Piper said that she felt it had been very relevant and reflected the problems there are with youth in the general area.

Cllr Mrs C Berry that it was wonderful that Police JAG had offered £2000 towards the shelter and that problems in the area should be reported directly to the Police so that all calls could be logged. She also mentioned that the Neighbourhood Watch Scheme in Bernhard Gardens was not affiliated to the Polegate Neighbourhood Watch Scheme.

The Mayor reported that the Youth Group were now monitoring the Situation for another 3 months before any final decisions were made.

MUGA

Cllr Mrs C Berry expressed concerns over Council being responsible during school holidays for the public liability insurance and how would this work in conjunction with the school's insurance.

Cllr T Voyce had given the Mayor a list of 13 questions which he had required answers to on this project and as yet he had not seen the responses.

It was resolved to hold a Special Council Meeting in June to discuss this project with representatives of the school being present.

NEW SIGNAGE

Request from Cllr Mrs J Bigsby this was referred to Leisure, Allotments And General Purposes for consideration.

MASTERPLAN

Council agreed that the draft plan required further work and another meeting should be held prior to the Annual Town Meeting when the Masterplan would be the main topic of discussion.

8004 Adoption of Minutes from standing committees

It was resolved to adopt the minutes of the following committees:-

Planning Committee held on 27 March and 7 April 2008

Special Council of 17 March and 3 April 2008

Finance Committee 5 March and 7 April 2008 (Cllr Mrs C Berry was present) mastercopy amended.

7914 – Cllr G Carter asked for an update on the insurance policy

The Clerk reported that the policy had had to be renewed but the amendments as agreed would be notified to the insurance company.

The valuations had been programmed into the diary for next year

Personnel Committee 10 April 2008

8005 Financial Update

Council considered the schedules of Accounts for Payment and the Monthly Update for March 2008 and the accounts for payment were approved.

8006 Town Clerk's Report (Lin Baxter)

The contents of the Town Clerk's report were noted. The current Action List had been circulated to all members.

Burial Grants – Cllr Mrs C Berry requested that this item now be

Prioritised as it had been uncompleted on the list for too long.

The Clerk would ensure that this was actioned.

8007 Razor Wire – Wannock Road Recreation Ground Garages

The Clerk assured Council that the work outlined in Confidential Minute 7961 would be completed and the razor wire was entirely safe to be used in this situation.

8008 Wannock Road Sports Pavilion

Request for improvements from Polegate Football Club – Council deferred any decision so that Buildings Work Group & Leisure Group could meet the football club at the pavilion and go through the improvements.

The groups would then make a recommendation to Full Council.

It was resolved to allow the football club to carry out a green survey on solar power for the pavilion.

8009 Alterations to the agreed cupboard design in Reg Shingleton Room

It was resolved to change the cupboard design to two doors at an additional cost of approx. £50 to allow greater access.

8010 Right of Way from Car Park to Porters Way

It was resolved to write to the land owners to ask them to adapt the existing fence. Council felt that removing some of the close boarded fencing and replacing with trellis work would improve the visibility and safety of users.

8011 Traffic Calming Polegate High Street

It was resolved to refer back to the Parking Working Group the proposals put forward by ESCC E Mail 25.2.08.

8012 Polegate Town Brochure in association with Wealden DC

Unfortunately the draft brochure had not been sent from WDC so it Could not be discussed at the meeting.

8013 Communications from the Town Mayor

There were none.

8014 Mr F Northcott

Proposed Cllr J Rogers seconded Cllr Mrs C Berry that the Council enters into no further dialogue and correspondence with Mr F Northcott.

Agreed 12 votes for the motion 2 votes against.

It is noted that Cllr S Shing voted against this motion.

8015 Annual Town Meeting

Meeting is now planned for 14th May at Polegate Community Centre starting at 7.30p.m. The meeting will split into 9 groups as per the masterplan and discuss the draft plan at small groups of five per topic.

The Mayor will answer 5 questions from the public on his report which would have been placed on noticeboards prior to the meeting and circulated at the meeting. Invites will be issued to Norman Baker MP, District & County Councillors, PSCOs, and representatives from the original Polegate Partnership, Community Association and local Churches.

8016 Correspondence

- a. Polegate Grasshopper request to use pitch at Wannock Road Recreation Ground
Council had no objections
- b. WDC – Standards Committee request to give presentation to members
Cllr D Dyer would be asked to attend the July meeting
- c. Request for Memorial Seat
Unfortunately this is not land owned by the Council – the lady is to be given the name of the managing agents.
- d. Mr Northcott – concerns over Street Lighting Maintenance and Energy
- e. Mazars – External Audit notification
Annual Audit date is set for 31st July 2008
- f. Mrs Richardson – Parking in Brook Street/Cross Street (E Mail)
Referred to Parking Working Group

- g. Polegate Level Crossing – closure 7.5.08 23.30 to 8.5.08 until 05.00.
- h. WDC – Consultation on Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982 – Street trading
It was resolved to support this initiative from Forest Row Parish Council and ask WDC to adopt these proposals
- i. WDC – Older Persons Strategy – Consultation Documents
- j. ESCC – Road Closures in Town Boundaries
- h. ESCC – Health and Scrutiny Committee Annual Report 2007
- i. Action in Rural Sussex
- j. Wealden View
- k. SE England – regional Housing Strategy – 2008 -2011

8017 Report

The following reports were noted:-

- i Cuckmere Community Bus (DJ)
- ii Polegate Twinning Association (DJ)
- iii ESCC Economic Partnership – information from Conference

8018 Date of the next cycle of meetings

Buildings & Leisure Groups	–Monday 28 April 2008 at the Pavilion at 7.00
Planning	Tuesday 29 April 2008
Masterplan Group	Tuesday 29 April 2008
(on the arising of Planning)	
Standing Orders review	Wednesday 30 April at 1.00p.m.
Finance	Monday 12 May 2008
Annual Town Meeting	- Wednesday 14 May 2008
Full Council	Monday 19 May 2008
Personnel	As and when required

8019 Resolution to take business into 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.