

**UNADOPTED
POLEGATE TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Monday 14th December 2020 7pm by REMOTE meeting

Present: Cllrs D Watts, M Falkner, Mrs C Berry, A Wood, M Cunningham, R Shing, D Sanders, Mrs W Alexander, D Murray, S Shing, D Dunbar, Mrs M Piper, Ms A Snell, D Shing (14)

Not Present:

2 members of the public were present at the live event.

Minute No.	Subject/Resolution
12741	Standing orders suspended <u>VOTE All in favour Cllrs D Watts, M Falkner, Mrs C Berry, A Wood, R Shing, D Sanders, Mrs W Alexander, D Murray, S Shing, D Dunbar, Mrs M Piper, Ms A Snell</u>
12742	Opportunity for public comment None received
12743	Apologies for absence Cllr D Shing, M Cunningham (both had technical difficulties but were able to log in later)
12744	Declarations of interest in any items on the agenda <i>All councillors declared interests for discussions on the councillors allowances. (dispensation)</i> <i>Minute 12749 District Councillors A Snell, D Shing, R Shing, S Shing.</i>
12745	To approve and adopt the minutes of the Full Council meetings of 30th November 2020 <i>An amendment was made to 13th line deleted as referred to non council issue.</i> <u>It was resolved to adopt the minutes of the Full Council meetings of 30th November 2020 as an accurate record of the meeting VOTE All in favour Cllrs D Watts, M Falkner, Mrs C Berry, A Wood, R Shing, D Sanders, Mrs W Alexander, D Murray, S Shing, D Dunbar, Mrs M Piper, Ms A Snell</u>
12746	Mayors Report (verbal) The Mayor mentioned that this was the last meeting of the year.
12747	<i>Cllr M Cunningham arrived at 7.10pm</i> Financial Update a) Approval of payments as presented b) Motion to vire money from surplus grass cutting budget to use for use on refurbishing planters in the town (see paperwork for details) NB already delegated to Town Clerk, but seeking council approval for this specific virement A councillor asked that vinyl logos be purchased for the new planters. (The concrete planters are not suitable for vinyl stickers) <i>Cllr D Shing arrived at 7.16pm</i> It was resolved to vire money (est £900) from surplus grass cutting budget to use for use on refurbishing planters in the town and to purchase vinyl logo stickers <u>VOTE 13 for Cllrs D Watts, M Falkner, Mrs C Berry, A Wood, R Shing, D Sanders, Mrs W Alexander, D Murray, S Shing, D Dunbar, Mrs M Piper, Ms A Snell, M Cunningham 1 abstention D Shing (not present for whole discussion)</u> c) Motion to vire funds from public info day (not taking place) ad hoc for use on grant requests to the end of the financial year NB already delegated to Town Clerk, but seeking council approval for this specific virement It was resolved to vire funds from public info day (not taking place) ad hoc for use on grant requests to the end of the financial year <u>VOTE All in favour Cllrs D Watts, M Falkner, Mrs C Berry, A Wood, R Shing, D Sanders, Mrs W Alexander, D Murray, S Shing, D Dunbar, Mrs M Piper, Ms A Snell, M Cunningham, D Shing</u>

	Budget 2021/22 and precept discussions Discussions on the proposed budget took place including a suggestion that councillors do not increase their allowances this year. This was suggested as a motion to carry forward to 11th January 2021 discussions, to be included in the budget calculations. The chair of finance mentioned that the tax base had increased but that income from council tax was not expected to go up and had not increased significantly, but it had allowed the council to suggest a 0% increase on the Band D for 2021/22. It was suggested that the flower budget cover winter bedding. It was suggested that NJC were unlikely to give a substantial pay award in 2021 and this could possibly reduce the personnel budget, although it was noted that any increase agreed by NJC was contractual and could not be changed from what was predicted to be increased. All councillors felt that for the 2021/22 year it was important with the current pandemic situation to keep the precept increase to 0% or as close as possible.
12749	Motion to go ahead with quote of preferred supplier (WDC) for office refurb (provision of accommodation for elderly residents above) feasibility study in accordance with their email, confirmed by council solicitor as acceptable. (costs already agreed by full council 30th November 2020). Discussions took place on the comments by the council's solicitor on selecting the contractor recommended by Andy Vincent at Wealden District Council and how this is compliant with Financial regulations and standing orders. Councillors discussed that any particular works would need further resolutions from council and a legal agreement with wealden district council before committing to any public works loan and subsequent consultations. A councillor stated that she would want to see any design before anything progressed as she was opposed to any building that could be an eyesore on the High Street Street scene. Full repairing leases and apartments for the elderly were discussed along with the project as a whole. It was agreed that this was a huge project and the council would be taking baby steps <u>It was resolved to instruct the contractor recommended by Wealden District Council for the feasibility study to make alterations to the council office and potentially provide accommodation above. The costs expected to be £5500 at this stage to be paid from the office alterations reserve Ear Marked Reserve 339. VOTE 13 for Cllrs D Watts, M Falkner, Mrs C Berry, A Wood, R Shing, D Sanders, Mrs W Alexander, D Murray, D Dunbar, Mrs M Piper, Ms A Snell, M Cunningham, D Shing 1 abstention S Shing,</u>
12750	Dates of the next scheduled meetings Full Council 11th January 2021 BUDGET setting and PRECEPT setting REMOTE MEETING Full Council 25th January 2021 Full Council 22nd February 2021 Full Council 29th March 2021 Full Council 26th April 2021 Annual Town Assembly 2021 TBA Annual Statutory meeting (election of mayor) 17th May 2021 Full Council 28th June 2021 Full Council 26th July 2021 Full Council 27th September 2021

The meeting closed at 8:30pm

Signed Mayor of Polegate _____ Date _____