

UNADOPTED

POLEGATE TOWN COUNCIL

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

Present: Cllr. Barber (Mayor), Mrs C Berry, Mrs J Bigsby, G. Carter, M. Cunningham, J. Harmer, Mrs D. Joy, R. Martin, Mrs M. Piper, J. Rogers, S. Shing (8128 – 8136 only)
Mrs J. Voyce, T. Voyce, A. Watkins and T. Wright

3 members of the public, 1 member of the press

In attendance: PCSO Michael Easton, Sussex Police

8128 Apologies

None

8129 Declarations of interest

Under Confidential Business the MUGA

Cllrs Mrs Bigsby, Mrs Joy, Martin and Rogers – personal and prejudicial

8130 Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 9 June 2008

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

8131 Matters arising from the minutes of the Council Meeting held on 9 June 2008

Minutes 8091/8092 – Cllr Mrs Berry – asked if Cllr Watkins had submitted in the amended text to the Master plan and had the plan been submitted to Wealden. The clerk confirmed this had taken place.

8061 - Hindsland – response from W&JPC - noted

8096 - Trees in Hailsham Road – further response to Council decision on not replacing the trees – refer to Working Group for further discussion as the Council decision for not replacing the trees stands for 6 months.

8132 Notification of any items to be dealt with as urgent

None

8133 PCSO Report – Copy on file

There were at this point no PCSOs were present so the clerk informed members that she would send these concerns through

Cllr J Harmer asked about various incidents during the week beginning 13.6 concerning youths on motorcycles

Cllr Mrs Berry asked when the speed checks in the High Street by the Gate crossing would be carried out

The following parking issues were mentioned:-

Western Road/Station Road junction cars parking on double yellow lines/pavements

Old Polegate Station – cars parking over the double yellow at its junction

And preventing pedestrians from crossing road

Hailsham Road a large van parking and obstructing on coming traffic from the roundabout at the top of the High Street.

PSCO Mike Easton arrived at the meeting

8134 In order to allow the Councillors/PSCOs to comment on PSCOs Mike Easton and Alison Beaden report it was resolved to suspend standing orders.

STANDING ORDERS SUSPENDED

PSCO Mike Easton had nothing to add to the report

STANDING ORDERS REINSTATED

8135 District/County Councillor's Report

A written report had been provided by Cllr Roy Martin for the District and County. (Copy of report on file)

Cllr Harmer asked if the Cophall roundabout could be sponsored – the clerk explained that the roundabout was under the control of the Highways Agency and they did not have the same scheme as ESCC for sponsorship of roundabouts.

Cllr Mrs Voyce wanted to ensure that Polegate Town Council was kept fully informed regarding any implications of the Hailsham/Eastbourne Triangle on Polegate.

Cllr Harmer asked if there had been any further news regarding the parking Restrictions in Eastbourne – Cllr Martin said no decisions had been made as yet.

8136 Update from Standing Committees and Working Groups

Council noted the reports from the following working groups:-

Buildings

Cllr Mrs Berry was concerned that no other quotations had been obtained for the works being considered. The clerk informed Cllr Mrs Berry that the works on the shower room ceiling at the Pavilion would have to be carried by the specialist company as per the notes. However if she wished the office to obtain further quotes for the other work she would do so however the company who had supplied the quotation listed was a specialist in the field. Cllr Mrs Berry was satisfied.

Resolved to adopt the recommendations contained in the notes dated 11 June 2008.

Gardens/ Christmas Lights Working Group

The group had visited all the areas of Polegate and drawn up a short list of gardens – the final visit would be on Thursday 24 July 2008

The clerk is to obtain a price for the rope lights prior to purchase and refer this back to Council for consideration.

Lesiure, Allotments and General Purposes Working group

Resolved to adopt the recommendations contained in the notes dated 23rd June 2008 apart from the bird boxes, bat boxes and seating as there is no provision in the 2008/09 budget for these.

Cllr Cunningham suggested that the Community School may like to make the boxes in their workshops as part of their Technology Project – the Clerk would contact the school and ask.

Cllr Watkins was still concerned over the metal strip which may cause a trip hazard at the Recreation Ground.

Members felt that seats at the recreation ground would be an advantage

Cllr Shing informed the meeting that Memorial seats at W&JPC were being offered to the public which included some costs for maintenance.

Sponsorship of seats would be referred to Finance for further discussion.

Youth

Cllr Mrs Berry expressed concerns over the proposed YDS Day on 6th August and heavy traffic perhaps using the bridge to access the field.

Resolved to adopt the recommendations contained in the notes dated 11th June 2008. Members thanked Cllr Mrs Bigsby for all her efforts on the Youth Shelter which had now been withdrawn at this time.

Strengthening Local Relationships (Traffic & Transport Group)

Cllr Voyce was concerned that following a newspaper report in which Mr N Baker had stated that he was to write to ESCC requesting one –hour Parking restriction in the residential streets around the station say between 10 – 11.00 a.m.

Resolved that the Clerk should write to ESCC (copy to Mr N Baker MP) opposing this suggestion as Council had been in long negotiations with both residents and Highways Officers to try and sort out the parking situation around the Town Centre and it was felt that this would be detrimental to residents in these areas.

Cllr Shing left the meeting

8137 Adoption of Minutes from Standing Committees

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

Planning Committee held on 17 June 2008

Finance Committee 2nd July 2008

8138 Financial Update

Council considered the schedules of Accounts for Payment for July 2008
Cllr Mrs Berry asked regarding the payment to Kent County Council for photocopying parts – the clerk informed members that the photocopier had been ordered by the previous Clerk and she was unaware of the costs involved she confirmed that the parts listed on the invoice were in the office. She would research the costs and report back via Finance.
Cllr Mrs Berry queried the new signs for the councillors' surgery as she had been given to understand that this service may cease as more 'open' meetings may be held. The clerk informed Cllr Mrs Berry that as the surgeries were continuing the old signs were not usable so new ones had been ordered and delivered.
The accounts for payment were then approved.

Approval of Annual Accounts to Mazars

Resolved to adopt the Annual Accounts 2007/08 as approved by Finance Committee 2nd July 2008. Council were read the Statement of Annual Governance by the Clerk (previously circulated) and this was approved and adopted by Council.

8139 Town Clerk's Report

Invitation to Councillors to attend a 40th birthday celebration at Polegate Library on 25th October 10.00a.m. – 4.00p.m. Members to let the clerk know if they are able to attend.

8140 Correspondence noted (copies circulated with agendas)

- i) Mr F Northcott – council business
- ii) Mr R Hoff – burial grants
The Clerk read out another letter from Mr Hoff in response to Council's reply.
- iii) WDC – confirming visit of Mr Dyer to 8 September 2008 to give presentation on Code of Conduct
- iv) St John's Church Polegate – thank you for the Mayor's donation

Publications for noting/distribution
WDC – Corporate Plan 2008-11
WDC – Benefits Service Issue 16
East Sussex Safer Communities Partnership Issue 5
East Sussex Health Scrutiny newsletter No 21
NALC – LCR Volume 60, No.2
South Downs Management Plan 2008 -2013

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8141 Communications from the Town Mayor

The Mayor reported that he had attended the Civic Service and thanked Colleagues who had attended with him

8142 Date of the next cycle of meetings

Finance Committee 22nd July 7.00p.m.

Planning Committee 22nd July 8.00p.m.

Traffic and Buildings Working Groups 29th July 2008 (New date) at 7.00pm

Finance 3rd September 2008 at 7.00pm

Full Council 8th September 2008 at 8.00pm

8143 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.