

UNADOPTED
POLEGATE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Monday 25th November 2024 7pm at Council chambers 49 High Street, Polegate BN26 6AL.

Present: Cllrs D Dunbar, S Shing, M Piper, D Watts, N Dunbar, W Heasman-O'Neill, A O'Kane, M Cunningham (8)

Not Present: - Cllrs W Alexander, D Shing, J Heward, C Berry, A Wood, D Murray, J Keen (7)

1 member of public

Minute No.	Subject/Resolution
13679	Opportunity for public comment for items on the agenda None
13680	Apologies for absence Cllrs W Alexander (illness), D Shing (work), J Heward (illness), A Wood (personal), D Murray(hols), C Berry (personal) no other apologies were received
13681	Declarations of interest in any items on the agenda Cllr N Dunbar and Cllr D Dunbar prejudicial interest (left the room for the agenda item and did not take part in the vote.) minute 13687 Cllr S Shing minute numbers 13686a and b
13682	Mayors Verbal report The Mayor updated the council on his civic activities including an awards evening with the cadets; hedge planting at Brightling Road Leisure ground; Polegate school youth radio; remembrance events including St Johns Church and Polegate War Memorial recreation ground; The unveiling of the mural at Polegate British Legion which took 200 hours to paint. The scenes are all linked to Royal British legion and members; he also attended family support networking charity with Eastbourne Mayor and children services visits; Bernhard Baron Cottages Homes Christmas fayre which raised a huge £2000; Willingdon Secondary School KS4 awards with Chairman Cllr John Pritchett (Willingdon and Jevington Parish Council and the Eastbourne Mayor. He also attended the Breakfast Prayer for the 25 th Anniversary with Deputy Mayor Cllr Stephen Shing; He mentioned the Christmas switch on on Saturday 30 th at 5pm and the Christmas market event from at 2pm. The lights were being switched on by the local Drama Group Dame who would be in costume; he reminded all present that the Community Centre Christmas fair was also on in the morning and would be part of their official "opening" of the new automatic doors.
13683	To adopt and approve the minutes of the Full Council meeting of 28th October 2024 <u>It was resolved to adopt and approve the minutes of the Full Council meeting of 28th October 2024</u> <u>VOTE All in favour</u>
13684	Minutes and recommendations of committees and standing committees a. Christmas Lights Committee 2nd August 2024 b. Buildings and Land Committee 1st November 2024 c. Personnel Committee 8th November 2024 d. Finance Committee 22nd November 2024 (if available) <u>It was resolved to adopt the minutes and recommendations of the above committee meetings en bloc. VOTE All in favour.</u>
13685	Financials a) Barclay card statements for noting b) Bank reconciliations, income and expenditure reports, trial balances, ear marked reserves including VAT return. For approval of variances as shown <u>It was resolved to accept the accounts as presented and variances. VOTE All in favour</u>
13686	Correspondence for action a. Motion for corporate response required for comments regarding S1/447_Shepham Lane, Jubilee Drive B2247 Pevensey Rd/ Dittons Rd mini roundabout, Polegate Proposed s278 Highway works <u>The S278 was discussed in detail some members having attended the presentation the previous Saturday. Comments were made specifically on the flooding at the roundabout and how this</u>

	<u>should be part of the works. However, some councillors felt that other than the flooding/drainage being resolved the rest of the works were less of a priority as maintaining other areas such as School Lane in Polegate and dealing with potholes. Members commented on the works that had been carried out recently and how the levels of the road were still not appropriate to resolve the flooding issues at the new roundabout. A member commented that it would be better to have a footway from Levett Road to the roundabout on the other side of the road. It was agreed that the flooding should be addressed, potholes and improvement of the footway in the S278 alongside the above comments and to submit the summary of the comments as a corporate response. VOTE 7 for 1 abstention S Shing.</u> b. Corporate response required for comments re A22 Travel Measures Consultation <u>A member who had attended the highways presentation commented that some of the officers there had not known where the A2270 was. A member commented on whether highways had carried out any traffic modelling on the effects of congestion. A number of members commented on the children trying to cross over to LIDL and how dangerous this was currently and even exiting LIDL was dangerous as cars coming off the roundabout were still going fast. They also commented how a footway was needed going towards Stone cross as well as a crossing. A bridge over the bypass was discussed and how bridges and underpasses are unpopular with pedestrians. Members agreed that a crossing at Station road would be useful for residents. It was resolved to submit a summary of the comments (as above) VOTE 7 for 1 abstention S Shing.</u>
13687	Motion to install a new bin type storage container within the car park of 49-51 High Street on behalf of the Polegate Community Foundation. Polegate town Council to cover costs of installation £1,000 <i>Cllrs N Dunbar and D Dunbar left the meeting and did not take part in the vote 19:29pm Deputy Mayor Cllr S Shing chaired the agenda item.</i> The item was discussed in great detail. The report had been circulated prior to the meeting and read by all present. There were concerns about public liability and insurance comments and the location of the storage unit and how allowing this may set a precedent for others. A comment was made regarding the country bikes. The contents of the storage units were discussed and that wealden as waste management often gave the litter picking equipment to encourage volunteers. Some councillors were keen to support it as it would help volunteers collect equipment and use it. Concerns were raised about the council effectively underwriting the unit and how it may be subject the vandalism. A councillor stated that the volunteers were not paid and doing a great job and felt that this should be supported to encourage more. It was clarified that this was just a locked cabinet with the low cost/low value equipment for them to litter pick. Rubbish was usually arranged by Wealden District Council for collection. A councillor commented that it would be a potential burden to the taxpayer as the council was being asked to pay for the installation costs. A councillor commented that although this was the case it was also an opportunity to send a signal that the volunteering was supported by the council. He also stated that it was in the wider remit of the goals of the council and to facilitate the public volunteering in this way. After much discussion it was generally agreed that the benefits for the community outweighed the risks. <u>It was resolved to allow the installation of the litter picking equipment storage unit on council land at the bottom of the car park near to the allotment and the cost to come from general reserves. It was also asked that the overall success / issues would be reported back to council in around a years time. VOTE 5 for 1 against W Heasman-O'Neill.</u> <i>Cllrs N Dunbar and D Dunbar returned to the meeting 19:47pm</i>
13688	Dates for next meetings Full Council meeting 6th January 2025 (Precept and budget setting) Full Council meeting 27th January 2025 Full Council meeting 24th February 2025 Full Council meeting 31st March 2025

	The dates of the meetings were noted by all present and that the 27 th January meeting may not take place if there was not enough business.
--	--

The meeting closed at 19:50pm

Signed Mayor of Polegate _____ Date _____

DRAFT