

UNADOPTED

POLEGATE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on Monday 12TH April 2010 in the Council Chamber, 49 High Street, Polegate at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Cllrs J Harmer (Chair), T Voyce, Mrs J Voyce, G Carter, T Wright, Mrs M Piper, Mrs C Berry, R Martin and Mrs J Bigsby

No members of the public present

9118 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from the following –
Cllr Cunningham, Cllr Barber (work), Cllr Watkins (prior appointment), Cllr Rogers (family commitment), Cllr Shing (prior appointment), Cllr Mrs Joy (travelling).

9119 Declarations of interest

Cllr Harmer item 9133 personal and non prejudicial

9120 Opportunity for Public Comment

None.

9121 Minutes of the meeting held on 15th March 2010.

The minutes were agreed and signed.

A change to the minutes regarding the Children with Cancer fund should refer to the location of the private land (the grassed area outside Polegate railway station).

Cllr J Harmer reserved matters under 9082 to be discussed under confidential.

9122 Allotments

A discussion regarding a new notice board at Cophall allotments took place all members having read the report that was circulated and noted.

It was resolved that the decision be postponed for a later date when the maintenance man has less work to complete. Approx 6 months. 7 votes Cllr Mrs Piper voted against postponing.

A discussion took place regarding volunteers to judge the best dressed allotment and the best dressed garden.

It was resolved that the Best dressed allotment judges will be Cllr J Harmer, Cllr Mrs M Piper, Cllr Mrs J Bigsby, Cllr T Voyce, Cllr Mrs Berry

It was resolved that the Best dressed garden would be assessed by a group of councillors allocated in areas by the office. Each councillor would then submit a maximum of 3 houses to be judged by the cllrs who volunteered for the allotment judging. The judging would take place at the end of June for the houses to be submitted and the beginning of July for the final judging decision. The presentation evening would then be held at the end of July.

Prizes to be within the budget were resolved to be:

**Allotments Best Allotment: 1st Prize £25, 2nd Prize £15, 3rd Prize £10
Best Dressed Garden: 1st Prize £25, 2nd Prize £15, 3rd Prize £10
These would be in the form of Vouchers.**

The Town Clerk informed members that according to the Land Registry, the land at Poly Arch (which used to be used as allotments) has been bought by a private housing company.

It was suggested that the Town Clerk would contact Wealden District Council regarding section 106 in reference to any new development and the possibility of land donation

9123 Benches, Dog Bins, Planters, Notice Boards and Bus Shelters

East Sussex County Council have now issued a licence to install a bench at the bottom of Black Path, which the maintenance man will install once the bench parts have arrived and the bench refurbished.

The picnic bench in the meadow will also be refurbished once the parts have arrived.

The Town Clerk was asked to contact the bus company regarding brambles and trees branches which are now encroaching the bus shelter next to St George's church.

9124 Oakleaf, Wannock Road and Brightling Road

The replacement basket has now been installed at Oakleaf. The quotes for the insurance repairs to Oakleaf will be received shortly and the council will be updated.

The crazy duck and 4 seat rocker are currently awaiting refurbishment.

The Model Engineering Club was discussed regarding their new tourist sign and their lease being up for renewal.

It was suggested that we ask them for a projected plan and that the lease is looked at regarding our position should they decide to terminate their lease. It was agreed that Cllr Harmer and Cllr Mrs Berry would look at the lease with the Town Clerk. The charges will be discussed later.

9125 Buildings Working Group Update

The decorators will not be able to start until July at the earliest (for the interior) The exterior will be looked at along with the lean to with the potential of carrying out the decorating during August. The Health & Safety Executive have been consulted regarding the work. The next buildings working group will convene in the near future and the lean to will be discussed.

It was resolved and voted by 7 in favour and 1 against (Cllrs Mrs C Berry) that the contractor will be appointed to carry out the interior works in July and the exterior works in August subject to the lean to issue being resolved. The lean to will be discussed at the buildings working group and brought back to the next meeting.

9126 Christmas Lights – The Harvester

The lights on the tree and the maintenance of the tree were discussed at length regarding the comments from the tree warden at East Sussex County Council. It was also mentioned that other local authorities would also be asked to remove the lights.

It was resolved that the Town Clerk send a letter to ESCC challenging the decision that once the maintenance of the tree has been carried out that Polegate Town Council would be allowed to replace the lights should they choose to.

It was resolved to get quotes from a qualified tree surgeon with regard to Polegate Town Council having the tree maintained.

It was also resolved to write a letter to the chain who own the Harvester informing them that the lights will be removed and whether they would be prepared to make a contribution to the replacement of the lights.

9127 Fees and Charges for 2010/2011

It was resolved that at Cophall to increase the charge per rod from £2.50 to £3.00 per rod. Gosford to increase the charge £2.25 per rod to increase to £2.75 per rod from 1st April 2011.

It was resolved to leave the deposit required for new tenants to £50.

It was resolved and voted by 6 in favour and 2 against (Cllrs Mrs C Berry and R Martin) to raise the charges for the cricket club from £25 to £30 per match and to make enquiries into what other authorities charge clubs and the costs for the pavilion and then make a further decision at the next meeting as to raising the football clubs fees.

Brightling Road – Model Engineering Club the lease on the model railway was discussed It was resolved to increase the lease by £10 per annum to £120 per annum.

Council Chambers – It was resolved and voted by 6 in favour and 2 against (Cllrs Mrs C Berry and R Martin) that the rate for the Council chambers with use of the kitchen be increased to £10 per hour.

Reg shingleton room – It was resolved and voted by 7 in favour and 1 against (Cllr Mrs C Berry) to increase the rent to £5 per hour.

Key holder charge to be increased to £10. VOTE 6 in favour 2 against

9128 Town Map - Update

The town map is with the framer and will be with us by next week. There are several copies. One to library, one to town centre (in the display case), one in archives, 2 spares in case we need to do a presentation. A discussion took place regarding the placement of the map as the managing agents for the land at the "Centre" had agreed in principle for the map to be on their land.

Three proposals were submitted and seconded:

Cllr Voyce proposed seconded Cllr Wright To put the map in the Millennium Gardens VOTE 2 in favour

Cllr Martin proposed seconded Cllr Mrs Berry To put the map on the Grassed area (privately owned) outside the fruit and vegetable shop requiring planning permission at a cost of approximately £175. VOTE 2 in favour 1 against Cllr Wright

Cllr Mrs Bigsby proposed seconded Cllr Mrs M Piper To put the map on the grassed area subject to permission but should this change to put the map in the millennium gardens. VOTE 2 in favour.

A letter will be sent to the landlord of the private land advising them where it would be sited. Cllr Berry asked for a copy of the correspondence.

9129 Correspondence None

9130 Resolution to take business into Confidential