

UNADOPTED

POLEGATE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Environment & Leisure Committee Budget meeting held on Monday 6th December 2010 in the Council Chamber, 49 High Street, Polegate at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Cllrs Mrs J Bigsby (Chair), J Harmer, T.Voyce, Mrs J Voyce, J Rogers, Mrs M Piper, Mrs C Berry.

Not Present: Cllrs M Cunningham, R Martin

4 members of the public present

9498 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs R Martin, M Cunningham

9499 Declarations of interest

Cllr Mrs Bigsby declared a prejudicial interest in item 13 (confidential) and stated that she would hand over the chair to Cllr Harmer at that stage.

Cllr J Rogers declared a prejudicial interest in item 13 (confidential)

9500 Opportunity for Public Comment

Standing orders were suspended

Mr Black of Polegate Town Football Club (PTFC) explained in detail about the location and specification of the grills that the club had requested to be installed at the pavilion. He also stated that PTFC had been involved in numerous emails and conversations with The Grasshoppers club offering to help them but still complying with the requirements of their lease with Polegate Town Council. He stated that the club was still open for further discussions should Grasshoppers wish.

Standing order reinstated

9501 Minutes of the meeting held on 8th November 2010 (adopted).

These were agreed and signed as correct.

9502 Allotments

A letter had been received from an allotment holder asking to use a piece of non rented land which had been left as a dumping ground, for the keeping of chickens. A lengthy discussion took place on the viability of the land for growing produce and its current condition and keeping chickens, plus the previously agreed maximum rods per allotment holder.

Standing orders suspended

Mr Fuller gave further details on the area and his request to Council.

Standing orders reinstated

It was recommended that a sign be put up on the plot and gate stating the intentions to allow Mr Fuller to use this area of land for keeping chickens and any correspondence received would be fed back to the next Environment & Leisure meeting on 14th February 2011 to make a final decision. A letter would be sent to the plot holder who was currently storing items without permission on this area. VOTE All in favour

9503 Polegate War Memorial Recreation Ground

a) CCTV Update The clerk informed Council that this was delayed due to bad weather. (Since that time the CCTV has been installed)

b) Toilet Doors update – It was agreed that the clerk would seek further quotes for the soffits and when more had been received would inform Cllr Harmer in order that a Buildings and Land Group meeting could be called.

c) Request for grills on pavilion windows - Council expressed their concerns that Polegate Town Football Club were taking over the pavilion and many expressed the views that grills would be unsightly and may ruin the frames in the future.

It was resolved to refuse the request from Polegate Town Football Club to install grills on the window at the pavilion. VOTE 5 for 2 against.

d) Update on Polegate Grasshopper and non signing of lease

A lengthy discussion took place over the reasons for Grasshoppers choosing not to sign the lease particularly in relation to correspondence between Polegate Town Football Club (PTFC) and Polegate Grasshoppers. Council were concerned that Polegate Town Football Club was trying to gain total ownership over the pitch and impose their terms and conditions on the Grasshoppers.

Standing orders suspended

Mr Black representing PTFC, clarified the situation and informed the council of further correspondence between the Grasshoppers and PTFC which the council were not aware. They stated that they had tried to encourage the grasshoppers to the recreation ground but still keep within their own leasing arrangements. Mr Black continued to explain that PTFC had tried to keep the pitch in the best condition possible, and had offered to teach the grasshoppers team management how to use the pitch marker and for the older team members offered the same coloured kits as their adult PTFC colours.

Standing orders reinstated.

Council accepted that the agenda item was for information only and they had offered the pitch and the lease had been turned down.

9504 Brightling Road

a) Skate Park – New quotes for the skatelite would be obtained by the clerk and details be brought back to the next appropriate meeting.

b) Meadow Including Lottery bid – The clerk explained this was ongoing and quotes were still coming in which would be collated into probably two separate bids.

c) Tree Works near William Daly Gates

A lengthy discussion took place regarding requests from residents for pruning of trees.

It was resolved that the clerk would correspond with the resident making the request and state that under the current economic situation there were no funds available for this work, but the resident would be permitted to carry out the works subject to them funding the works and giving full details of the company which would be completing them and details of work to be carried out. VOTE All in favour

It was resolved that the clerk would get prices for the maintenance man to attend a chainsaw course and report the details back to Council. VOTE All in favour

9505 Bulb Planting

a) The clerk informed Council that all bulbs excluding the small section at the bund slip had been completed.

b) Polegate Crossroads – gardener’s society area

A lengthy discussion took place on the best option for the area.

It was resolved that the maintenance man would take out all of the old shrubs over the coming months to spring and the clerk would contact the Rotary club and the gardener’s society to see if either would be able to supply and plant out small flowers for the spring. VOTE 5 For 2 against

The Clerk would report back their replies at the next Environment & Leisure Meeting on 14th February 2011.

9506 Bund Slip Update – the meeting will be rescheduled due to adverse weather.

9507 Harvester Tree Lights Update – The Clerk reported that she had collected £127 from the manager of the Harvester at Polegate and due to the amount she had contacted the Regional Manager by telephone to ask if the Harvester chain would contribute further. The Regional Manager stated that he would contact the Clerk again after having spoken to the Polegate Manager. A discussion took place where council expressed their tremendous disappointment in the figure particularly in that most of the contributions were due to collection buckets rather than a donation form the Harvester chain itself. Council asked for the donation part of the sign by the tree to be removed at this time. Council agreed that the new lights looked spectacular.

9508 Garden Share Scheme – Council noted the contents of the scheme that was being run by age concern, but did not wish to run a similar scheme at this stage.

9509 Resolution to take the next item into confidential

It was resolved to take the next item into confidential VOTE All in favour.

Cllr Rogers & Cllr Mrs Bigsby left the meeting.

9510 Request by Polegate Scouts to purchase land at Brightling Road.

A short discussion took place. Polegate Town Council had already made it a policy not to sell any pieces of land.

It was resolved to write to Polegate Scouts and inform them that due to it being council policy not to sell any areas of Polegate Town Council land they would not be able to enter further discussions with the Scouts. Vote All in favour.

The meeting closed at 8.55pm