

UNADOPTED

POLEGATE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on Monday 18th January 2010 in the Council Chamber, 49 High Street, Polegate at 7.30 p.m.

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

10 members of the public present

8859 Apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs A Watkins, S Shing, M Cunningham, S Barber and Mrs D Joy.

8960 Declarations of interest

None

8961 Opportunity for Public Comment

None.

8962 Minutes of the meeting held on 18th November 2009.

The minutes were agreed and signed.

8963 Polegate War Memorial Recreation Ground

a) Application for Town and Village Green

An application has been received from ESCC on behalf of KORGI to Register the Polegate War Memorial Recreation Ground as a Town Green. A lengthy discussion took place amongst council regarding the Application. It was felt that the law relating to the application of Town Green is very complex and in order to make an informed decision an appropriate Solicitor should be instructed to advise the Council on this matter.

It was resolved that an appropriate Solicitor should be instructed to advise the Council on the application to register Polegate War Memorial Recreation Ground as a Town Green. The Clerk is to be informed of any questions that any member of Council wishes to ask the Solicitor.

b) Update of New Play Park

The Clerk informed the Council that the final adjustments would be completed by End of the week as the Contractor would be visiting the Site the following day. A new piece of equipment has been suggested in the play park either a 2.4m Rota Web Climber or a 3.3m Rota Web Climber. The 3.3m piece of equipment was felt By the contractor to be too big so he would recommend that the 2.4m climber Would be the best option.

It was recommended, by 4 votes for and 3 against, that the purchase of the 2.4m Rota Web Climber be taken to the Finance Committee for approval.

c) Cricket Fences

The Council have been approached by a resident as their property backs onto the

Recreation ground to install cricket fences to protect the property. It was felt by The Council that this was a very expensive piece of equipment.

It was recommended that a letter be written to the resident stating that the Council could not justify the expense of the cricket fences.

8964 Oakleaf Play Park, Brightling Road Pleasure Ground

a) Oakleaf Play park

The basket within the bin at Oakleaf needs to be replaced as we have trialled Using a plastic bin and this has proved to be unsuccessful.

It was recommended that a new basket be purchased for Oakleaf play park.

b) Brightling Road Pleasure Ground

Quotes were received by Council for a new bin to be placed in the Skate Park.

These were discussed but it was felt that they were not suitable for the purpose.

It was recommended that the office would gain more quotes and speak to other Councils to obtain more information.

8965 Allotments

A majority of plots have been taken and the rental is now up to date. There is Still a waiting a list and Polegate residents are always are given priority.

As there is still a waiting list the idea was discussed of dividing the middle section To create new plots to help with the waiting list.

It was recommended that the middle section be divided into plots. There would be posts placed in the corners of the plots. The new allotment holders would be responsible for netting their own area.

To help with the provision of allotments the idea of looking at land around Poly Arch which used to be plots should be investigated.

It was recommended that the Clerk would investigate the land around Poly Arch for more allotments.

A draft of an allotment newsletter was displayed to all members. It was felt that The first edition would be edited by the office and subsequent editions should be Edited by an allotment holder. A request will go out for a volunteer.

It was recommended that the newsletter was a good idea and the allotment holders would be approached to see if anyone was interested in editing the newsletter.

Plots 1 and 2 (new plots) and plot 5a require fence posts and numbers to label Them. They also require netting to divide the plots.

It was recommended that the fence posts and numbers be purchased by the allotment holders should purchase the netting themselves.

8966 Buildings Maintenance Programme

A report was prepared by Cllr T Voyce which was presented to the General Purposes Committee. This would be discussed at Full Council on 25th January.

The Buildings Working Group has not met since last July and it was felt that the Group was too big and it needs to be made up of members with the relevant Knowledge and experience. The members are at this present time – Cllrs Carter, Martin, Mrs Berry, Wright, Harmer and Voyce.

It was recommended that Cllrs Voyce, Martin and Harmer would make up the Buildings Working Group.

8967 Highways Issues

a) Street Lights – A 27/A22 Railway Bridge to Cophall Roundabout – there appears to be 6 lights out at the present time. The office has chased the Highways Dept and they have informed us that it detailed to be completed in February.

It was recommended that a strong letter be sent to the Highways Dept regarding the lights on A27/A22 Railway Bridge to Cophall Roundabout stating that this work is now urgent and needs to be completed and a letter to Norman Baker MP to pusue.

b) Grit Bins – Information from ESCC was noted on how grit bins can be Provided on the highway to help residents in winter conditions. There are no Authorised grit bins within Polegate Boundary. If the Council wishes to purchase Grit bins then there is a cost involved. Private individuals can request a grit bin. The request must be put in writing to the Council Office and then a licence is Requested from ESCC. The individual will have to pay for the bin and the filling Of the bin. The initial installation and first fill is £273.00, subsequent fills cost £70.

A lengthy discussion took place regarding the clearing of the pavements and the Roads and private car parks. It is Highways responsibility to clear public roads And pavements and this is done on a priority basis.

c) Bus Shelter – A resident has asked for the bus shelter to be moved on Hailsham Road as the bus shelter and the bus stop are not in the same place. The office has been in contact with the Bus Company and they have been Advised to make sure that no one is waiting in the bus shelter. The situation will Be monitored closely by the office.

d) Seats and Dog Bins – A map was provided with the all seats and dog bins plotted.

8968 Resolution to take business into confidential Session