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**FIRST
COUNCIL
MEETING 2009
12th January**

Planning Update

Polegate Town Council's planning Committee met at St John's Church Hall to consider a new application from Pelham Homes— which was an outline application to develop the land north west of Polegate currently known as Honey Farm and situated between the A27 Lewes Road and Cophall roundabout. The application was for the provision of up to 520 dwellings comprising 416 houses and 104 flats over 13 hectares, one form entry primary school incorporating a community centre, provision for a health centre and a convenience store. The main objections from residents was the provision of two accesses for pedestrians and cyclists onto the A27 trunk road with the possibility of a bus service if there is sufficient demand. These proposed accesses would link the development to the High Street via Brookside Avenue.

The Planning Committee had objections to the proposed plans and these objections were sent to Wealden District Council for consideration. Wealden District Council met on 4th December but did not determine the proposed plans as they are awaiting further information regarding traffic and road systems.

The planning committee welcomes residents' comments on all planning matters. Due to time constraints, it is often necessary to call meetings at short notice. Check the Council notice boards, website and local press for forthcoming meetings. Plans are available for inspection at the Town Council Office during the week prior to its meeting. Please phone in advance to ensure someone will be free to talk you through them.

CITIZENS ADVICE BUREAU

The Citizens Advice Bureau is held at Polegate Council Office on Tuesday mornings from 9.30—12.00. No appointments are necessary but sometimes you may have to wait to see the advisor. The Bureau also runs an outreach session at the Children's Centre in Oakleaf Drive Polegate every other Thursday 9.30—12.00. Check with Hailsham Citizens Advice Bureau for details of this service 01323 842336



Councillor Surgeries

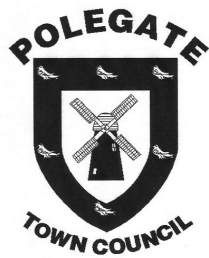
Residents have the opportunity to meet councillors and put their views in a monthly Council Surgery which is held every second Saturday in the month between the hours of 10:00 and 11:30 at the Council Chamber, 49, High Street. You are cordially invited to come along to the next surgery which will be held on Saturday 10th January 2009 and raise any issues or concerns that you may have or maybe just call in for a chat.

Have Your Say!

Members of the public have a right to attend Council meetings and may speak on any item on the agenda at the beginning of the meeting. However, once the meeting is in session members of the public must remain silent unless invited to speak by the Mayor. The Agenda for each meeting is published in the Council notice boards at the beginning of the week preceding the week of the meeting.

Mayor's Tea Party

Polegate's Town Mayor gave a wonderful tea party for the retired citizens of Polegate. Over 80 residents attended St John's Hall on 9th December to enjoy festive cheer and songs from Polegate School choir. Afternoon tea was served the help of children from Willingdon Community School. The party were entertained by Vernon on his organ. A secret santa was held with over 30 of the those present going home with a prize. A very enjoyable afternoon.



In partnership with



Polegate Youth Club

The youth club at Wannock Pavilion opens on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings between the hours of 7 pm and 9 pm with around 15 – 20 young people attending each session. The club is aimed at young people in the 11 to 19 age bracket providing them with somewhere to go for social and leisure activities as well as giving the opportunity to discuss a range of issues including health, diet and education regarding alcohol and substance abuse. If you would like to volunteer to help assist the youth workers please contact the Town Council.

Activity Games

The Active Play Team comes to Polegate every Wednesday until March at the Polegate Community Centre, 4.30p.m.—6.00p.m. Any one from 5—16 years old can try out electronic dance mats, space hoppers, arts and craft and so much more. Under 8s must be accompanied at every session by an adult. Active Play is funded by the Big Lottery and is a partnership project between Wealden District Council, Freedom Leisure, Hailsham Community College, and the drama organisation Act On It.

Christmas Competition

Last year, to complement the festive light displays in the High Street, many shops helped spread the festive message with displays of their own. The Council will once again be judging the best of these and prizes will be awarded for the best decorated shop. To give all residents the chance to get involved in the spirit of Christmas a competition will also be held to find the best dressed house in Polegate. There is no official entry requirement; just decorate the outside of your house and we'll do the rest. Prizes will be awarded to the best dressed house!



PCSO Surgery

Our local PCSO Ali Beaden will be holding a surgeries at the Council Chamber on Tuesdays 13th January and 17th February 9.30—11.30 a.m. at the Council Offices.

Come and raise any issues or concerns directly with your local police community support officer

The surgery is an informal opportunity for you to come and meet them and to raise any issues or concerns that you may have. They are always keen to hear from residents and to identify any problems that they and their colleagues can tackle.

Ho, Ho Ho!!

It's that time of year again when our thoughts begin to turn to Christmas. As in previous years the Council has arranged to have a festive display of lighting on the lamp columns in the High Street and there will be Christmas Trees located at strategic points around the town. Our Christmas motif was designed by Polegate Junior pupil Rachele Anne Anam-anam. The lights on the Christmas Tree were officially turned

On by Mr David Buck or Samantha as he is more commonly known at this time of the year as Polegate's Pantomime Dame. Thanks must go to the Polegate School Choir along with St Aidan's Praise singers who provided festive entertainment. Walter Wigfield, Roy Martin and Leo Keefe who supplied the musical accompaniment and St John's Church through Mike Hutchinson who provided mulled wine, tea & coffee & mince pies at St John's Church Hall.

If you know of anyone who would like to receive a copy of this newsletter please take any additional copies that you may need. Thank-you.

A Message From the Mayor

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**VERY HAPPY CHRISTMAS
AND A
HAPPY NEW YEAR**

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For more information about Polegate Council visit our website at www.polegate-tc.co.uk