

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL,  
PETERLEE ON MONDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2017 AT 6.30PM

PRESENT: COUN A WATSON (CHAIR)

Mesdames:- L Fenwick, S Simpson, K Duffy, K Hawley & A C Long

Messrs:- G L Carne, R Moore, S Miles, T Duffy, S McGlen &  
S P Franklin

Councillor A Watson was nominated to Chair the meeting.

**The Chairman advised Members of the committee that part of the meeting may be recorded by both audio and video, and it may be that photographs were taken.**

**37. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies had been submitted and accepted from Councillors V Watson, (on holiday), M A Cartwright, K Liddell, (work commitments), S Meikle, J Robinson, (work commitments), C Watkins, A Wilkinson. **RESOLVED the Council approve the reason submitted for absence received from the Councillors listed, and their apologies for absence be recorded.**

**0. To receive declarations of interest**

Members were reminded of the need to disclose any interests in items on this agenda, whether pecuniary or otherwise. Councillors K and T Duffy declared an interest in item 12(ii) Thorntree Gill Leisure Gardens, being plot holders at the site.

**38. Litter**

**(a)Dean Henry, Civic Pride Officer, Durham County Council**

The Chair welcomed Dean Henry who had agreed to come to the Committee meeting to discuss opportunities for more and better joint working between the Town Council and existing DCC litter campaigns in the area. Mr Henry reported on Durham County Council's current activity and the support they could offer to local programmes including public engagement and education in schools etc. With the appropriate notice given, subject to resource being available he felt the County Council could combine and support the Town

Council with local initiatives on litter. There was a question and answer session and in closing the Chair thanked Mr Henry for his attendance and advice to the Committee. **RESOLVED the information given, be noted.**

(b) 'Show a Litter Respect'

A verbal report was to be given by Cllr Scott Meikle about a potential future litter campaign for Peterlee, unfortunately Councillor Meikle was unable to attend the meeting. **RESOLVED the item be considered at a future meeting.**

40. Introduction of controlled fishing - Shotton Hall Pond

Members were asked to approve the recommendation to introduce controlled fishing at Shotton Hall Pond through a syndicate arrangement and day tickets. There was considerable discussion on the proposal and it was suggested a small working party be established to consider the item further and then report back to a future meeting. Members wishing to be involved were Councillors S P franklin, T Duffy, S Miles, G Carne and R Moore. **RESOLVED a further report from the working party be awaited.**

41. Minutes of the Events Working Parties of the 11<sup>th</sup> October & 25<sup>th</sup> October 2017

The Minutes from these working parties, copies of which had been previously circulated to each member, were considered. **RESOLVED the contents of these minutes be noted and approved.**

0. Minutes of the Sports & Well Being Sub Committee of the 16th October 2017

The Minutes of the Sports and Well Being Sub Committee, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were considered. **RESOLVED the contents of these minutes be noted and approved.**

42. Proposed de-Illumination – Various sites

Members were asked to comment on Durham County Council's proposed de-illumination sites. Several Members had already submitted their concerns on the proposals and there was discussion on the item. **RESOLVED the Town Councils concerns in relation to safety, potential for the increase in crime and anti social behavior be forwarded to Durham County Council on these proposals.**

#### 45. Feedback & Activity Update

The Sports Development Officer's gave a verbal report on several items, including the red bag litter scheme for the sports fields, the community use being provided by the Horden and Peterlee Rugby Club, a carol event organised for 14<sup>th</sup> December 2017, and the success of the Big Pink Event raising £330 for breast cancer. **RESOLVED the information given be noted.**

#### 46. Durham Skill Mill

The verbal report of the Parks & Horticultural Supervisor on progress with working with the Durham Skill Mill initiative on clearing areas of the Dene Parks was given. This work had been well received by local residents in particular hand and had proved a very positive partnership, one which it was hoped would be developed further with future projects in Peterlee. **RESOLVED the information given, be noted.**

#### 47. Update of the Yoden Quarry Site

The verbal report of the Parks & Horticultural Supervisor on progress with the Yoden Quarry Site initiative was given. **RESOLVED the information given, be noted.**

#### 48. Updates on outstanding items

##### (i) Cricket Fencing Helford Road

Members were given an update with this project where feedback was awaited from the Safety Officer and the Durham & Darlington Fire Service on the proposed fencing specification. As soon as the feedback had been received the specification would be submitted to Council for approval and then the contract would be given to the open market to price. **RESOLVED the information given, be noted and progress be awaited.**

Councillor K & T Duffy declared an interest in the following item and took no part in the discussion which ensued.

##### ( ) Thorntree Gill Leisure Gardens

A basic specification for the appointment of an architect/design consultant along with a shortlist of suppliers had been sourced via BLOOM/NEPO as previously agreed by Council, prices would then be sought a reported back to council for consideration. **RESOLVED the information given, be noted and progress be awaited.**

(iii) Lowhills Road Leisure Gardens

The Town Clerk advised he had met with three gardeners from the site and had a very positive meeting, and was now awaiting a draft constitution to be submitted to the Council for endorsement. **RESOLVED the information given, be noted and progress be awaited.**

49. Woodhouse Park - various items including access issues, vandalism, updating of the play areas and increasing community use

This item had been requested by Councillors A Long and R Moore. The Members asked about the status of the public toilets in the Park, the condition of the community building and improving the play equipment in the Park, amongst other items. The Howleth Residents Association had expressed an interest in supporting and being involved with the Park. Local Ward Members felt it was important that the Park was not only a priority for them as it was in their ward but also for it to be recognised as a Town Park and Facility. **RESOLVED a report be made back to the next meeting on the refurbishment of public toilets in the park. FURTHER RESOLVED a working party be formed, with members of the Residents Association being invited to take part and they come back to Council with suggestions for improvements to the Park.**

50. Replacement of Tent on Rugby Club Veranda with a permanent Structure & Request to upgrade the kitchen equipment

Members gave further consideration of the request received for permission to remove the temporary gazebo on the veranda and replace it with a permanent roofed structure to provide a more suitable outside area for the club and the community. The Club also asked for land lords consent to kitchen equipment, (a new range and kitchen units), being upgraded, at no cost to the Town Council. **RESOLVED the Town Council give formal landlord's approval to the Horden and Peterlee Rugby Club for the works to be undertaken for a roofed structure and improved kitchen facilities.**