

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL,
PETERLEE ON MONDAY 16TH APRIL 2018 AT 6.30PM

PRESENT: COUN M A CARTWRIGHT (CHAIR)

Mesdames:- K Liddell, L Fenwick, S Simpson, K J Duffy, K Hawley,
V Watson & A C Long

Messrs:- A Watson, R Moore, T Duffy, G L Carne, A S H Meikle, S Miles,
R Kyle, C Watkins, S Kirkup, S McGlen & S P Franklin

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.

92. Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been submitted and accepted from Councillors S McDonnell, A Wilkinson & J Robinson. Councillor A Watson asked for approval to agree to accept Councillor McDonnell's absence and a dispensation be granted for this absence which may be over six months, (under Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972, sub section 3. **RESOLVED the Council approve the reason submitted for absence received from the Councillors listed, and their apologies for absence be recorded. FURTHER RESOLVED Councillor McDonnell's apologies for absence be accepted indefinitely.**

93. 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 T & K Duffy declared an interest in item No. 13 – Thorntree Gill Leisure Gardens and Councillor Meikle in item No. 15 - Helford Road Fencing.

94. The Minutes of the last Meeting held on 12 March 2018, a copy of which had been circulated, were approved and signed as a true and correct record.

95. Minutes of the Events Working Parties of the 6th & 27th March 2018

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

96. Minutes of the Woodhouse Park Working Party of the 19th March 2018

The Minutes from this working party, a copy of which had been previously circulated to each Member, were considered. **RESOLVED the contents of these minutes be noted and approved.**

97. The Notes of the Play Area Strategy Working Party held on 12th March 2018

The Minutes from this working party, a copy of which had been previously circulated to each Member, were considered. **RESOLVED the contents of these minutes be noted and approved, subject to Councillor K Duffy's apologies being recorded.**

98. Update on Sports Development Activities

The report of the Sports Development Officer providing information for Members about new and existing sports development activities, club development and issues raised by Sports users, was considered. The Sports Development Officer reported that works were due to start at the Rugby Club, Eden Lane. Members were concerned with regard to the situation with the drainage at the site and wished to see the detail of the plans for the proposed works as landlords of the building. **RESOLVED the information contained in the report be noted. FURTHER RESOLVED the plans for the proposed work at the Rugby Club be requested and provided for Members as soon as possible; with no further work being carried out at the site until they were considered and approved by the Council.**

99. Update on the Parks & Cemetery Department

The report of the Horticultural Supervisor giving an update on works within the Department was circulated for the information of Members. Members asked that their appreciation be passed on to the Team for their hard work and efforts in relation to the grounds maintenance of the bowling greens and sports playing fields. **RESOLVED the information contained in the report, be noted and thanks and appreciation be passed on to the Team.**

100. Litter Respect Campaign

This item had been requested by Councillor A C Long requesting an update on progress with the initiative. The Town Clerk gave a verbal update to Council, he also stressed that any individual was able to contact DCC and carry out, with their support, voluntary litter picking. **RESOLVED a working party be established to take this item forward.**

101. Lowhills Road Bowling Club

Members were informed that a letter had been received advising the Club would no longer be playing at the site as from Monday 16th April 2018. A copy of the letter had been, as requested, given to the Mayor and relevant Officers. **RESOLVED the notice to leave the site received from Chairman of Lowhills Bowls Club, be accepted and the keys be collected and the site secured. FURTHER RESOLVED work begin immediately on the potential future use of the site.**

102. Youth Provision in Peterlee Town Centre

At the Council meeting it had been agreed in principle the Town Council financially support youth provision in the town. The Town Clerk was continuing to work with Groundwork on costings and he intended making a further report as soon as he had these. Councillor A Watson reported on issues with anti social behavior and the need for appropriate provision of activities for the youth of the Town. **RESOLVED the report be awaited.**

103. Opening and Closing of the Play Areas, the Park and Cemetery – progress

There was considerable discussion on the opening and closing of the Town Councils play areas in particular Woodhouse Park.

RESOLVED Woodhouse Park remain open and the extension to the fencing at the top play area be approved. This trial be until October 2018 when it would be reviewed.

Hampshire Place Play Area

This item had been requested by Councillors G Carne and K Liddell following them attending a meeting with local residents on issues relating to this play area. Again there was considerable discussion and debate on the issue. **RESOLVED the gates be kept open to this play area and this be for a trial until October 2018 when it would be reviewed.**

104. Thorntree Gill Leisure Gardens – proposed building - progress

Members were advised of progress with the provision of the new shelter and store at Thorntree Gill Leisure Gardens site with the second set of drawings now being awaited from the Architect. **RESOLVED progress be awaited.**

105. Lowhills Road Fencing - progress

The Town Clerk gave a verbal update on this matter advising that he was awaiting feedback from DCC Highways and Planning Departments. **RESOLVED further progress be awaited.**

106. Helford Road Fencing - Procurement

Members considered the report of the Town Clerk advising on the outcome of the recent procurement exercise for the proposed fencing to the cricket oval at Helford Road. There was considerable discussion on the matter and a vote was taken. **RESOLVED approval be given to the proposal to install a 2.4m perimeter fencing and gates at Helford Road cricket oval. Councillor C Watkins and L Fenwick asked that it be recorded that they had voted against this proposal and Councillor S McGlen abstained from voting. FURTHER RESOLVED the contract for the fencing works be awarded to Rennyco Ltd at an approximate value of £19,590. +vat. A vote was taken again and Councillors Fenwick, Watkins & McGlen abstained from voting.**

107. Concessionary Use of the Pavilion, Charity Event, 13 May 2018

This item had been referred from the Resources Committee held on 9 April 2018. Members were asked to note the members of the Events Working Party recommended that free use be granted for this event. **RESOLVED that free use of the facilities be granted for this event.**