

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT

COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL,

PETERLEE ON MONDAY 9th JULY 2018 AT 6.30PM

PRESENT: COUN M A CARTWRIGHT (CHAIR)

Mesdames:- K Liddell, S Simpson, K J Duffy & K Hawley

Messrs:- A Watson, R Moore, T Duffy, G L Carne, A S H
Meikle, S Miles &

S McGlen

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.

20. Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been submitted and accepted from Councillors S McDonnell, A C Long, L Fenwick, J Robinson & A Wilkinson. **RESOLVED the Council approve the reason submitted for absence received from the Councillors listed, and their apologies for absence be recorded.**

21. To receive declarations of interest

Members were reminded of the need to disclose any interests in items on this agenda, whether pecuniary or otherwise.

22. Youth Provision

The Chair introduced Joanne Holloway and Maureen Conway from Groundwork NE & Cumbria to the meeting. They gave details on how the youth sessions were being developed with 30-50 young people attending the Friday night sessions, at these sessions areas of concern to young people were covered and there were very positive outcomes from them working in partnership with various agencies. **RESOLVED approval be given to funding The Project at a cost of £17,800 up to 31 March 2019. FURTHER RESOLVED following a review and evaluation prior to budget setting for 2019/20 this project be funded until April 2021.**

23. The Minutes of the Last Meeting held on 11th June and Special Meeting of the 18th June 2018 2copies of which had been circulated, were approved and signed as a true and correct record.

Matters Arising

- (i) Minute Number 5 - Christmas Tree – South Denes

The order had been placed for the tree for Shotton Hall and an approach had been made to DCC about the electricity supply for a tree in the Dene Parks. **RESOLVED progress be awaited.**

- (ii) Community Gardening in neighbourhoods and roadside grass verges

Reference was made to this project and it was asked any leaflets or publicity for projects where the Town Council was working in conjunction with a group or partner, be agreed prior to circulation. **RESOLVED this course of action be agreed.**

- (iii) Emergency works – Eden Lane Shutter door

It was asked why a contractor that had previously carried out work with the shutters had not been approached to carry out this work. Officers explained that the works were of an urgent nature on a Friday afternoon and an immediate emergency call-out was required. The Town Clerk agreed to look into the matter further for future reference. **RESOLVED the information given be noted.**

- (iv) Opening and Closing of the Play Areas, the Park and Cemetery – progress

It was reported there had been two incidents that had been reported to the Police. **RESOLVED the information given be noted.**

- (v) Minutes Number 15 - Thorntree Gill Leisure Gardens – proposed building – progress

It was reported that a number of suggested amendments had been received from the Thorntree gardeners and that these would be fed back to the architect to be amended. It was further reported that once the final plans were agreed they would be issued to local builders as part of an open tendering process in line with financial regulations. **RESOLVED progress be awaited.**

24. Minutes of the Events Working Parties of the 6th, 13th & 26th June 10th, 24th April & 16th May 2018

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.**

25. Minutes of the Woodhouse Park Working Parties of the 24th April & 23rd May 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 and the Arts and Development Officer at DCC be contacted with regard to an art installation in the Park, themed as suggested.**

26. Update on Sports Development Activities

The report of the Sport & Wellbeing Manager providing information for Members about new and existing sports development activities, club development and issues raised by sports users. Progress was reported on the membership scheme and there was discussion on the item. It was reported there were 27 teams that had applied to play, (there were 17 last year) and the Officer advised with more teams playing there would be increased parking. There was considerable discussion on the parking and

it was **RESOLVED** parking on Lowhills Road be reviewed as the season progressed.

27. Former bowls Pavilion, Lowhills Road

The building had been recently vacated voluntarily by a local bowling club and the Council was committed to keeping it in community use by exploring different ways for the community to make use of the club house and surrounding landscaped areas. **RESOLVED the Town Council seek expressions of interest from local community groups who might be interested in taking on the management of, or running sessions from the former bowls Pavilion. Those interested to be given until 1st August 2018 to contact the Council.**

28. Woodhouse Park

(a) leylandi planting

This item had been requested by Councillor Long (referred from the Woodhouse Park Working Party). **RESOLVED an arbor consultant be requested to provide advice on this coppice.**

(b) Noticeboards in the Park

Members were asked to approve in principle, the purchase of new noticeboards in the park and a full report shall be presented to the next meeting for approval following consultation with the Woodhouse Working Party. **RESOLVED the report be awaited.**

(c) Use of the temporary demountable building by the Community

This was a request from residents to use the space alongside the current users for a camera club, community garden meetings, shared use of the greenhouse space, a toddlers play area, bingo area for seniors, use by groundworks for training young gardeners that had come via Councillor Long. Members agreed to the principle being developed further by the Woodhouse Park Working Party and brought back to council for further consideration. **RESOLVED a further report be awaited.**

(d) Opening & Closing of the toilets

This item had been referred from the Woodhouse Park Working Party for the Council to consider the opening and closing of the toilets. The Residents Group supported the toilets being closed at the close of each working day, as at present. **RESOLVED the toilets be closed daily at the end of the Parks working day. FURTHER RESOLVED that officers research options for provision for weekend opening and closing for consideration at a future meeting.**