

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD IN THE
COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL,
PETERLEE ON MONDAY 12TH NOVEMBER 2018 AT 6.30PM

PRESENT: COUN M A CARTWRIGHT (CHAIR)

Mesdames:- S Simpson, K J Duffy & A C Long

Messrs:- S McGlen, A Watson, R Moore, T Duffy, G
Carne, S Miles & S Kirkup

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.

50. Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been submitted and accepted from Councillors S McDonnell, K Liddell, R Kyle, A Wilkinson, K Hawley, S Franklin, S Meikle, C Watkins & L Fenwick. **RESOLVED the Council approve the reason submitted for absence received from the Councillors listed, and their apologies for absence be recorded.**

51. To receive declarations of interest

Members were reminded of the need to disclose any interests in items on this agenda, whether pecuniary or otherwise. None were given.

52. Minutes of the last Meeting held on 8th October 2018, a copy of which had been previously been circulated with the Council agenda, were approved and signed as a true and correct record.

Prior to the start of the meeting Councillor A Watson asked for it to be recorded that Peterlee Town Council welcomed new investment into the Town Centre, this was agreed unanimously by all present. Councillor Cartwright asked for it to be recorded she had been mis quoted in the recent press article concerning the new retail park.

53. Minutes of the Woodhouse Park Working Party of the 3rd October 2018 a copy of which had been circulated, were approved and signed as a true and correct record.

54. Minutes of the Events Working Parties of the 10th & 24th October 2018 a copy of which had been circulated, were approved and signed as a true and correct record.

Members reported the Halloween Party had been fantastic and the children there had seemed to enjoy it, especially the dancing pumpkins display.

Members also commented on the recent Remembrance Day Parade and how well attended it had been. There were several suggestions made on how both the Parade and the memorial may be improved and it was **RESOLVED a working party be established to consider this in more detail and members of the public be invited to join in. FURTHER RESOLVED the Council's thanks be extended to the Team for organising the Parade.**

55. Update on Sports Development Activities

The report of the Sport & Wellbeing Manager providing information for Members about activities and events, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was considered. A Member commented that she felt the events and activities needed to be advertised more extensively. **RESOLVED the contents of the report be noted.**

56. Bring Back the Denes

The report of the Parks Manager providing Members with a summary of the proposed works to be carried out in the North & South Denes was considered. The report provided Members with a summary of the works that would be carried out to "Bring Back the Denes" both North & South, if agreed, shifting that capital budget of £25,000 to revenue and using it for the surveys for the bridges and walls in the North side of the Dene Park, as well as equipment and supplies for the Parks Department to carry out the works in house.

RESOLVED the contents of this report be noted and the approval be given to the activities proposed for the winter and spring seasons in the Dene Parks area. FURTHER RESOLVED approval be given to the reallocation of the £25,000 capital allocation to revenue.

Councillor T Duffy joined the meeting at 7.30pm.

57. Play Area Investment Strategy

The report of the Town Clerk was intended to provide Members with an update on progress with the development of a Parks & Play area investment strategy for the Town Council. The report made a number of recommendations relating to the allocation of funding to the Town Council's parks and play areas for the provision of new/replacement equipment, fencing and other associated works and recommends that a detailed tendering specification be drawn up to enable a full procurement process for the works. Both Councillor S Miles and G Carne objected to the recommendation 1 contained in the report and asked for the Hill Rigg House play area to be retained; this was agreed. A Local Member commented that the actual user/visitor numbers to each of the play areas would be useful whilst accepting this would be a costly exercise to achieve.

RESOLVED that:-

1: Hill Rigg House play area does not receive additional investment under this play area strategy, but is maintained;

2: a new play area installed adjacent to the Pavilion on Helford Road and the Oakerside play area be decommissioned and returned back to a grassed public space once the new site is completed;

3: the Town Clerk be authorised to prepare bids for s106 funding for the Woodhouse Park project as part of the funding of this play area investment strategy;

4: the Town Clerk prepare a separate report on the detailed procurement process to put all of the identified sites out to procurement as part of a single process;

5: that Heath Close and Helford Road be prioritised for commencement in the current financial year (i.e. within the existing £110,000 allocation), with the remainder of the works commencing in the 2019/2020 financial year, with the necessary funds drawn from reserves into the capital programme.

Councillor Mc Glen left the meeting at 8.00pm. Councillor Long left the meeting at 8.10pm.

58. Fishing at Shotton Hall Pond

RESOLVED consideration of this item be deferred.