

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,
SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE ON MONDAY 10TH FEBRUARY 2020 AT 6.30PM

PRESENT: COUN M A CARTWRIGHT (CHAIR)

Mesdames:- D Howarth, A C Long, K Liddell, S Simpson & S McDonnell

Messrs:- A Watson, S Miles, G Carne & C Watkins

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.

61. Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been submitted and accepted from T Duffy, K J Duffy & L Fenwick. **RESOLVED the Council approve the reason submitted for absence received from the Councillors listed, and their apologies for absence be recorded.**

62. 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.

63. Horden & Peterlee RFC

Representatives of the Club were in attendance at the meeting to update the Council on the Club's development and their future plans. They thanked the Town Council for their help and support in getting the Club to where they are today. He gave details of the works carried out on the building and stand and progress with the Club's development, detailing particularly the youth and women's teams. He advised the biggest issues for them was wear and tear on the first team pitch. This was where the proposal for the Horden & Peterlee RFC to fund the development of a training pitch between the Rugby Club and cemetery had been necessary. Consideration of this request had been deferred at the last meeting.

It was reported the Club was very well used on almost every day of the week with various community groups using the facilities regularly. A Local Member reported on the massive positive impact on the behaviour of local school children that she came into contact with that are involved with the Club. Whilst there was discussion on the name change of the Club the Town Council accepted the concerns about potential relegation this may cause

and were pleased to see the signage had been changed at the Club. It was stressed that the Town Council did expect the full name change to Peterlee Rugby Club to be delivered for the 5th year anniversary, as per the terms of the lease.

RESOLVED the information given be noted and further consideration be given to the request for a third pitch at a future meeting.

64. Former Bowling Green Site, Lowhills Road - Progress

The Town Clerk reported a meeting had been held with the two interested parties on Friday 7th February 2020 and he now asked Council to decide which was their preferred option for the future use of the site. Members wished for a genuine community hub facility to be created on the site and following discussion it was **RESOLVED the proposal from CALM in East Durham to create a Wellbeing Village on the former bowls pavilion and grounds at Lowhills Road, be accepted. Members were keen for the site to be used and agreed that an interim License to Occupy be drawn up which would allow non-exclusive right of access to the site. A formal lease for the site would be drawn up and brought back to Council for a final formal approval as soon as possible.**

65. Information on Sport & Wellbeing Activities and Events

The progress report of the Sports & Well Being Manager providing information for Members about new and existing Sport & Wellbeing activities, and issues raised by sports users was considered. The Sport & Wellbeing Manager asked for Member's help with promoting the Active Families sessions to be held during the school holidays in February as well as the SEED workshop to be held on 25th February 2020. A Local Member reported the installation of sound panels in the main hall had made a huge difference with the acoustics in the room. **RESOLVED the information given, be noted.**

66. To Approve the Minutes of the Last Meeting of the 13th January 2020 and Minutes of the Special Meeting held on 20th January 2020 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member were approved and signed as a true and correct record.

67. Report of the Events Working Party of Monday 20th January 2020 a copy of which had been circulated, were noted. Councillor R Moore expressed his disappointment that the Armed Forces event had been cancelled.

68. Report of the Woodhouse Park Working Party of 15th January 2020 a copy of which had been circulated, were noted.

Councillor R Moore had asked Council to discuss the way forward for dealing with ASB issues in Woodhouse Park.

Two local residents had come along to the meeting to speak to the Council about problems of anti social behaviour there were experiencing living next to and using the Park and they asked for Woodhouse Park to be locked on an evening which they felt would reduce problems. Following discussion it was **RESOLVED the Town Council investigate further the access options for Woodhouse Park.**

The Chair thanked the residents for their attendance at the meeting.

69. Permanent Christmas Tree – Shotton Hall

Consideration was given to the report of the Parks Manager providing Members with a summary of planting a permanent Christmas tree at Shotton Hall. **RESOLVED the purchase and installation of a permanent British sourced Nordmann fir tree from Todds Nursery at a cost of £3,800, be agreed.**