

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL,  
PETERLEE ON MONDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2017 AT 6.30PM

PRESENT: COUN L COOK (CHAIR)

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

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

**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.**

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been submitted and accepted from Councillors K Liddell, (broken arm), S Franklin, (work), V Watson, M A Cartwright & A Wilkinson, (work commitments).

**RESOLVED the Council approve the reason submitted for absence received from the Councillors listed, and their apologies for absence be recorded.**

2. To receive declarations of interest

Members were reminded of the need to disclose any interests in items on this agenda, whether pecuniary or otherwise. **RESOLVED the information given, be noted.**

3. The Minutes of the previous Parks & Cemetery Meeting of 10<sup>th</sup> April 2017, a copy of which had been circulated, were approved and signed as a true record.

4. No Smoking Policy

Members were requested to consider and approve the No Smoking Policy, a copy of which had been previously circulated. **RESOLVED the No Smoking Policy be approved and adopted immediately.**

5. New Rules for Dog Owners form 1 June 2017 – Public Space Protection Order

Members were requested to note the new rules for dog owners in County Durham to be applied from 1 June 2017 under the new Public Space Protection Order and a copy of an e mail form Steve Ragg, CDALC was circulated to each Member. Members asked questions about the new Order and the Town Clerk outlined what measures he hoped the Town Council may take in relation to dog fouling in the Town ie training Town Council Officers to become authorised officers in relation to the PSPO and its powers. He stressed in the meantime Members could make individual reports on dog fouling to Durham County Council. Members asked if the Town Clerk could ask DCC if they intended to erect

new signage re enforcing the PSPOs. **RESOLVED progress be awaited with what measures the Town Council could take in relation to supporting the PSPO in Peterlee.**

6. Sports Development Activities

Members considered the progress report from the Sports Development Officer updating Members on the work of the Sports Development Team. At this point in the meeting the town Clerk updated Members with details of incidents that had occurred at Helford Road during a cricket match with anti social behaviour and underage drinking. It was reported a joint meeting with the various interested partners and the Police had been held this evening. There was also an issue of motorbikes being off road. Members and residents were encouraged to continue to make reports on the 101 number. The Police were to give their support in tackling the issues at Helford Road. **RESOLVED the information given, be noted and the contents of the report be accepted.**

7. Thorntree Gill & Lowhills Road Allotment sites – Progress/Update

Prior to any discussion on the matter, Councillor T Duffy declared an interest in the item.

The Town Clerk gave a verbal update on the two leisure gardens sites. He was pleased to report that the Town Council were in a positive position in relation to the Lowhills Road site and he would continue to advise on progress. Thorntree Gill had a well established Association and Committee and he was currently looking into the various models of lease and agreements that could be implemented at the site. The issue of the temporary rain shelter that was in place and also the current policy of there being no fires allowed at the site were discussed. Following consideration it was **RESOLVED:**

- (a) Approval be given in principle to replace the current temporary steel cabin being used as a rain shelter at the Thorntree Gill site, this being subject to procurement procedures being applied planning permission, (if required), and budget provision being available;**
- (b) Council agree in principle to a lease with the Thorntree Gill Association, giving a legal interest in the land, being drawn up as a priority;**
- (c) A further report be prepared on allowing fires on the site.**