

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL,  
PETERLEE ON MONDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2017 AT 6.30PM

PRESENT: COUN A WATSON (CHAIR)

Mesdames:- L Fenwick, S Simpson, K Duffy, K Hawley, K Liddell,  
S McDonnell & V Watson

Messrs:- G L Carne, R Moore, S Miles, R Kyle, T Duffy, S McGlen  
& J Robinson

In the absence of both the Chair and Vice Chair Councillor A Watson was nominated to Chair the meeting.

**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.**

18. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been submitted and accepted from Councillors A S Meikle & A C Long, (on holiday). **RESOLVED the Council approve the reason submitted for absence received from the Councillors listed, and their apologies for absence be recorded.**

19. To receive declarations of interest

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

20. Peterlee & Horden Rugby Club, Eden Lane – Update/Presentation

Mr John Groves, (President) and Mr John Fenwick, (Treasurer) were welcomed to the meeting. Mr Groves gave a brief background of the Club and then went on to give details of how the Club were developing and progressing one year on from them moving into the Eden Lane Ground. He explained their goal was to further develop facilities in partnership with the Town Council and working in the community. This also included applying for grant funding from various sources. A question and answer session was held and it was agreed that further details of the community use and work with the community be provided to the Council by the Club. Mr Groves and Mr Fenwick were thanked for their attendance and informative presentation. **RESOLVED the information given, be noted.**

21. Minutes of the Last Meeting of the 10 July 2017, a copy of which had been circulated, were approved and signed as a true and correct record.

22. Minutes of the Events Sub Committees of the 12<sup>th</sup> July, 2<sup>nd</sup> August and 16<sup>th</sup> August 2017, a copies of which had been circulated, were approved and signed as a true and correct record, subject to an amendment being made relating to the route of the Remembrance Day Parade and the ordering of a council wreath.

23. Minutes of the Play Area Strategy Working Party held on 4 August 2017 a copy of which had been circulated, were approved.

24. Update report from the Sports Development Officer

A copy of the report of the Sports Development Officer providing Members with an update on new and existing sport development activities, club development and issues raised by sports users were considered. In considering the progress report several items were raised, one was the problem of litter at the football pitches, Lowhills Road and progress with the proposed cricket fence was given for Members. It was **RESOLVED:-**

- (i) the information given in the report, be noted;**
- (ii) a letter be sent to all of the Teams using Lowhills Road with a reminder about clearing up litter after their games;**
- (iii) a letter of congratulations be sent the first junior runner to complete the 5k Fun Run, (Peterlee Show).**

25. Opening and closing of the Park, play areas and cemetery

Members considered the report of the Town Clerk providing a number of options for future arrangements for the opening and closing of the Town Council's Parks, play areas and cemetery. There was considerable discussion on the item and the Town Clerk answered the questions posed and assured that if agreed this would be carried out in a phased, fully managed and controlled programme. **RESOLVED:-**

- (i) the contents of this report be noted;**
- (ii) approval be given to the removal of the blanket 'dawn to dusk' opening policy for the Town Council's park and play areas;**
- (iii) the managed opening of the park and play areas, subject to the completion of risk assessments and appropriate remedial works for each site, be agreed;**
- (iv) the work on the proposal for supporting increased levels of community engagement be endorsed and participation in the management of the park and play areas, to be developed in conjunction with the Park and Play Area Strategy Working Group and report back to this committee in due course.**

26. Parks Progress Report

In the Horticultural Supervisor's absence, the Town Clerk gave a verbal update on works in the Parks Department which included works at Eden Lane Cemetery, rugby league

(Helford Road), Rugby Union, (Eden Lane), bowls, tennis, cricket, play areas, Eden Lane Quarry Project, Dene Parks & open areas and the Leisure Gardens. The Town Clerk also gave brief details of the Skill Mill Initiative which he hoped the Council would become involved in. **RESOLVED the information given, be noted.**

27. Litter in the Town

This item had been referred for further discussion and consideration by this Committee. Members discussed the role of education, enforcement, neighborhood champions and what role the Town Council may play in tackling the problems with littering in the Town. **RESOLVED a member(s) of the Civic Pride Team, (DCC) be invite to a future meeting to consider this matter further.**