

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE COMMUNITY & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE BANQUETING SUITES,
SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE ON MONDAY 11TH OCTOBER 2021 AT 6.30PM

PRESENT: M A CARTWRIGHT (CHAIR)

Mesdames:- K Liddell, D Quinn, K Duffy, S Simpson, M McCue, S McDonnell & J Black

Messrs:- D Hawley, B Fishwick, M Sanderson, R Burnip, S P Franklin, R Moore & T Duffy

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.

6. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were submitted by Councillors K Hawley, D Howarth, G Johnson, E Watson, and S Meikle.

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

7. 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.

8. To Approve the Minutes of the Last Meeting

The Minutes of the last meeting held on 6th September 2021, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member were approved.

9. To welcome Joy Allen, Police & Crime Commissioner to the meeting

The Chair welcomed Joy Allen to the meeting and handed over to her. Ms Allen advised her office had undertaken an online survey with the public during October and December 2020 with over 1,200 people responding on what they felt the Police priorities should be, as well as expressing a wide variety of views. She advised the top 5 priorities were anti Social behaviour, drug use and drug dealing; fly tipping; speeding/off road bikes and vandalism. With the information collected, she was preparing a draft plan for consultation and feedback and the Town Council would be included in this exercise.

Ms Allen addressed the questions that had posed by Council/councillors prior to the meeting. She encouraged Councillors to sign up to the "In the Know" service where

already 10,000 people had already signed up. There was also a “Fearless” service which was a Crime Stoppers for young people to use.

There was considerable discussion on the use of the 101 service along with the new custody site proposals for Spennymoor.

In closing Ms Allen thanked the Council for the opportunity to come along to the meeting and she assured she would be happy to return to provide a progress report.

RESOLVED Ms Allen be thanked for her attendance and the information provided, be noted.

10. To review the arrangements for the opening and closing of the gate the car park adjacent to the CALM CIC community hub at Lowhills Road

This item had been requested by Cllr Scott Meikle following complaints about the car park being left locked during some week days and weekends. Councillor Meikle was unable to attend the meeting and asked that the item be deferred. **RESOLVED the information given, be noted and Councillor Meikle submit a Notice of Motion should he wish for this item to be reconsidered.**

11. Eden Lane Woodland Park Proposal

Members were presented with a report from the Parks Manager and Town Clerk on a proposed community woodland creation project for the ‘pony fields’ area off Eden Lane. Members were asked to approve the proposal to plant several thousand new trees on the site in a project that had been developed in partnership with Durham County Council. Members fully supported the proposals and asked to be involved where possible. **RESOLVED the information given be noted and approval be given to the proposals outlined in the report.**