

PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE

ON MONDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER 2018 at 6.30PM

PRESENT:- COUN S MEIKLE (CHAIR)

Mesdames:- A C Long, K Hawley, K Liddell, M A Cartwright, K Duffy, S McDonnell, L Fenwick & S Simpson

Messrs:- T Duffy, S McGlen, G Carne, A Wilkinson, R Kyle, J Robinson, R Moore, S Miles, C Watkins & A Watson

63. Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been submitted by Councillor V Watson, A Watson & S Kirkup. **RESOLVED the Council approve the reason submitted for absence received from the Councillors listed, and their apologies for absence be recorded.**

64. Cultivating Change – Young Hero’s Presentation

The Chair welcomed Chief Inspector Lee Blakelock and PCSO Michelle Burr to the meeting and they gave a presentation outlining the “problem orientated” approach to policing in Peterlee, and in particular the partnership approach to working with young people in the Town.

The members of the public present at the meeting offered their congratulations on the excellent work done. The Mayor also thanked the Officers for their hard work and commitment to the Town and its residents. **RESOLVED the information given be noted.**

65. Public Participation Session

A public participation session was held to allow members of the public an opportunity to put questions to the Council.

66. 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.

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67. The Minutes of the Council Meeting of the 20th August 2018 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved.

Matters Arising

- (i) Minute Number 60 – PLGA & Lowhills Road Shop

It was agreed the minute be amended to clarify that the notice applied only to any items remaining in the former shop and store rooms. **RESOLVED the changes be agreed.**

- (ii) Minute Number 56(i) – Hill Rigg House

The site visit had arranged for Wednesday 19th September 2018 and several Members had gone along to view the facilities. Progress on works to the changing rooms was requested and the Town Clerk advised he, along with the Sports & Well Being Manager, were investigating grant funding opportunities for this work and would report back to Council. **RESOLVED a further report be awaited.**

68. The Minutes of the Resources Committee of the 3rd September 2018 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved.

69. The Minutes of the Community & Environment Committee of the 10th September 2018 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved, subject to Councillor Carne's apologies being recorded.

Matters Arising

- (i) Minute Number 36 – donation of fruit cage frame to Woodhouse Park Community Garden

RESOLVED the minute be amended to read Acre Rigg Infants School and not Acre Rigg Academy as stated.

- (ii) Minute Number 38 – Former Bowls Pavilion, Lowhills Road

Members asked for progress with this item. The Town Clerk reported he had, that evening, given a presentation to those group and organisations that had expressed an interest in using the building. He had asked them to prepare a Business Plan and given a six week turnaround for them to return them to the Council. In the meantime he would be making progress with the required legal process for drawing up a lease for the site. **RESOLVED a further report be awaited**

70. The Minutes of the Scrutiny & Progress Meeting of the 7th September 2018

It was noted the meeting was not quorate with only 3 Members present and there were no minutes taken.

71. Purchase of John Deere Tractor

Members were requested to approve the purchase of a John Deere Tractor and attachments from Greenlay Limited at a value of £20,215.02 and they considered the joint report of the Town Clerk & Parks Manager which had been circulated. **RESOLVED the contract for the new tractor and fittings be awarded to Greenlay Ltd at a cost of £20,215.02. FURTHER RESOLVED approval be given to the virement of £5,125.00 into the new vehicles budget from underspend elsewhere in the capital programme.**

72. Planning Application

<https://publicaccess.durham.gov.uk/online-applications/applicationDetails.do?activeTab=documents&keyVal=PCW776GDMHG00>

Ref:- Planning application DM/18/02369/FPA

Erection of Office headquarters with associated car parking etc, The Sands & Durham Sixth Form Car Park, Freemans Place, Durham

This item had been requested by Councillor A Watson and following consideration it was **RESOLVED the Town Council object to this application as it was at odds with saved policy E3, Durham Cathedral & Castle World heritage site, and will be protected by 1) restricting development to safeguard local and long distance views to and from the castle and cathedral peninsula and 2) in accordance with policies E1,E5,E6,E10,E23 & E24. A recorded vote was requested by Councillor T Duffy and it was as follows:- For the recommendation to object to the application Councillors K Hawley, K Duffy, T Duffy, R Moore, G Carne, S McDonnell, J Robinson, A Wilkinson, M A Cartwright, A C Long, K Liddell, S Simpson & R Kyle. There were abstentions from Councillors S McGlen, L Fenwick & S Miles And Councillor A S H Meikle objected.**

73. Spokesperson of the North East Party's Report

Councillor K Duffy gave the report on Councillor Watsons's behalf. Councillor K Duffy gave a sincere thankyou and congratulations for a "job well done" to everyone involved in the preparation and presentation of Peterlee's 46th Annual Show. She said it was a fabulous weekend of family fun and she had heard good reviews and comments. She believed that even more people attended this year than ever before and it really did bring the community together to share good times.

Secondly she said how pleased she was to see the fence around the Roy Simpson Oval was almost complete. Peterlee Cricket Club could look forward to years of play in safety and the oval would be saved from the damage it had faced over the recent years from motorbikes and cars.

She said the councillors and other community services were reaching out and working hard to make Peterlee a better place for everyone. **RESOLVED the information given be noted.**

74. Spokesperson of the Labour Party's Report

Councillor Fenwick acknowledged the good work of Durham Constabulary Officers, Chief Inspector Lee Blakelock and especially PCSO Michelle Burr who she felt she was an asset to Peterlee and by engaging with the youth of the Town in our communities she was giving them a chance to turn their lives around and so helping to reduce anti social behavior. She offered her thanks for all the work she does. She reported it was good to see the old college site was to be redeveloped soon and even when some may not agree on the use of the land there was no denying that the extra jobs would be welcomed.

Councillor Fenwick thanked DCC Clean & Green Team on the work they were doing on the underpasses in the Town she said they were looking clean, jet washed and painted, and she hoped they would stay tidy and graffiti free for a long while.

By the same token she expressed her disappointment to have the blue fencing around the former college site covered in graffiti last week , but thankfully this had been cleaned off that day.

She thanked the Parks Department staff for clearing the trees and branches up from last week's storm. She felt it was good to see so many people working to keep Peterlee tidy and she felt things were really looking up for residents. **RESOLVED the information given be noted.**