

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE
ON MONDAY 7TH JULY 2014

PRESENT: COUN R CURTIS (CHAIR)

Mesdames:- L Wood, K Liddell, V Watson, S Simpson,
M Milsom, C Baty, J I Measor & M J Thompson

Messrs:- J Alvey, C Robbins, D Sillito, S Miles, A Watson, C J
Metcalf, C Watkins, L Cook, D Milsom & R Kyle

**MEMBERS WERE REMINDED OF THE NEED TO DISCLOSE ANY
INTEREST PREJUDICIAL OR PERSONAL IN ACCORDANCE
WITH THE CODE OF CONDUCT.**

22. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted and accepted on behalf of Councillors G Cowie, (ill), W M Jeffrey, (Larger Local Councils Meeting).

23. THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING, a copy of which had been previously circulated, were approved.

Matters Arising

(i) Minute Number 10 – Policies for your Council Advice

It was noted at the Council Meeting the following Members had been selected to form a small working group to assist with this matter:- Councillor L Cook, C Baty, W M Jeffrey, C J Metcalfe. It was agreed Councillor A Watson also be part of this group.

RECOMMENDED the information given, be noted.

(ii) Minute Number 20 – Civic Car Contract

RECOMMENDED it be confirmed that the civic car contract would be extended to April 2017, and not 2015 as previously stated.

24. THE REPORT OF THE FINANCE SUB COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE 19TH JUNE 2014 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was approved.

25. BOOKLET PRODUCED TO MARK 150TH BIRTHDAY OF PETER LEE, DOB 20TH JULY 1864

Details were circulated of a booklet being produced by the Wheatley Hill Heritage Society with financial assistance from Wheatley Hill Parish Council, produced to mark the 150th Birthday of Peter Lee. It was suggested that perhaps there should be a stall hosted at The Show and include Council activities and invite the Heritage Group to come along and promote their booklet. It was also suggested Mrs Win Colman, Peter Lee's relative, be invited along to the Show.

RECOMMENDED these suggestions be taken forward.

26. EAST DURHAM ASSOCIATION OF PARISH & TOWN COUNCIL, MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF THE 11TH MARCH 2014

A copy of the minutes of this meeting were circulated for Member's information.

RECOMMENDED the information given, be noted.

27. COUNTY DURHAM ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS, MINUTES OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE 21ST MARCH 2014

A copy of the minutes of this meeting were circulated for Member's information. It was asked if further information could be obtained on item number 7 – where items discussed had included fireworks.

RECOMMENDED the information given, be noted and a request be made for further information on the discussion at the meeting relating to fireworks.

28. NEXT LARGER LOCAL COUNCILS FORUM MEETING – 25TH JULY 2014, SEDGFIELD – REQUEST FOR ITEMS

It was reported the next larger Local Councils Forum was scheduled for the 25th July and items were requested for the agenda for discussion.

RECOMMENDED any items be submitted to the Deputy Town Clerk as soon as possible.

29. AGENDA & PAPERS – 247TH MEETING OF NATIONAL COUNCIL, 1ST JULY 2014

A copy of the minutes of this meeting were circulated for Member's information.

RECOMMENDED the information given, be noted.

30. IMPROVEMENTS TO PETERLEE TOWN CENTRE – REQUEST FROM DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL FOR CONSIDERATION OF A CONTRIBUTION FROM PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL TOWARDS PROPOSED GATEWAY IMPROVEMENTS – POST OFFICE/SUBWAY AREA

Members gave consideration to brief details of the possibility of improvements being carried out to Peterlee Town Centre and whether the Town Council would consider making a contribution towards a gateway improvements scheme at the Post Office/Subway area and the space as you walk towards Ridgemount House. It was reported that there was no budget provision for such request or works. It was suggested that perhaps such works could be assisted by private funds from the Town Centre owners or business.

RECOMMENDED that Durham County Council be advised that unfortunately the Town Council were not able to make a financial contribution towards proposed works at this time.

31. CODE OF CONDUCT TRAINING HELD ON MONDAY 30TH JUNE 2014 – COPY OF THE HANDOUT

Members were circulated with a copy of the material given out at the recent training session held with the following Members in attendance:-

Miss V Watson, B Baty, M J Thompson, S Miles, A Watson, W M Jeffrey, J Alvey and CJ Metcalfe. Apologies had been offered by Councillors L Wood, C Watkins and S Simpson.

Members had found the session informative.

RECOMMENDED the information given, be noted.

32. RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC IN VIEW OF THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED, THE COMMITTEE PASSED THE FORMAL RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC FROM THE MEETING, PURSUANT TO THE PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSIONS TO MEETINGS) ACT, 1960 & THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985.

33. STOCK REPORTS PERIODS ENDING 27TH MAY 2014

(A) Shotton Hall

(B) The Pavilion

Consideration was given to the stock reports for the above period for all of the Town Councils licensed premises.

RECOMMENDED that the reports be accepted.

34. WOODHOUSE PARK CCTV QUOTATION

Consideration was given to the price received from the Town Council's appointed security provider for a CCTV system for Woodhouse Park. Several questions were raised on the specification and it was **RECOMMENDED that these be clarified and then further consideration be given to this item at the Council Meeting.**

35. NEW SERVER/DESKTOPS

Consideration was given to the price received for a proposal for the IT requirements covering all of the three Town Council's sites. It was asked that further prices be obtained for these proposals and they then be re considered by Council.

RECOMMENDED that further prices be obtained for the proposal submitted.

36. PETERLEE SHOW 2015 – ROYAL SIGNALS MOTORCYCLE DISPLAY TEAM – THE WHITE HELMETS

Members gave consideration to indicative costs for the Royal Signals Motor Cycle Display Team – The White Helmets to display at Peterlee Show.

RECOMMENDED that the Team not be booked for the Show for 2015.

COUNCILLOR M J THOMPSON DECLARED AN INTEREST IN THE FOLLOWING ITEM AND LEFT THE ROOM FOR THE DURATION OF THE ITEM.

37. REQUEST TO COVER LEGAL COSTS – TWO COUNCIL MEMBERS

MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMM OF THE 7TH JULY
2014

It was reported at the recent Council Meeting it was agreed that this letter be received. The Deputy Town Clerk read out the letter for all members to consider.

RECOMMENDED the request to pay legal fees, be refused. FURTHER RECOMMENDED the Town Council consider re joining the National Association of Councillors and further information be obtained on this and if necessary a representative be invited to a future meeting.