

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE  
FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE  
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE  
ON MONDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER 2014

PRESENT: COUN R CURTIS (CHAIR)

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

Messrs:- S Miles, C J Metcalfe, D Sillito, W M Jeffrey, L Cook,  
J Alvey, C Robbins, G Cowie, D Milsom & A Watson

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

63. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were submitted and accepted from Councillor Baty, (ill). In the light of the advice received from NALC and considered at the previous Council Meeting in relation to the recording of apologies for absence, the Deputy Town Clerk asked for Member's consideration of the apologies previously submitted by Councillor Thompson which had not been accepted by Members. Members agreed they would now formally approve Councillor Thompson reasons for absence, due to ill health.

**RECOMMENDED the Council approve the reasons submitted for absence received from Councillor Baty and Thompson, on the grounds that they were ill, and their apologies for absence be recorded.**

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

Matters Arising

- (i) Minute Number 59 – Purchase of New Server & Desk Tops

To note the purchase was agreed at the Council Meeting.

- (ii) Minute Number 61 – Stopping Up Orders

Members were asked to withdraw their previous objections to these orders, on the grounds that the issues had now been fully explained, necessary amendments made and assurances given that full consultation would be carried out.

**RECOMMENDED the Town Council's objections be withdrawn and approval be given for the County Council be advised of this immediately.**

65. THE REPORT OF THE FINANCE SUB COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE 23<sup>RD</sup> OCTOBER 2014 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was approved.

66. COUNTY DURHAM ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS – VARIOUS ITEMS

- (i) Bulletin from Larger Local Councils Forum Meeting

- (ii) Durham Association News October & November 2014

- (iii) NALC Update following Liberal Democrat Party Conference

- (iv) Election to NALC Larger Councils Committee

**RECOMMENDED the information given in the various releases, bulletins and updates be noted. FURTHER RECOMMENDED Peterlee Town Council support the nomination of Councillor Bob Flemming from Bishop Auckland Town Council for election to the NALC Larger local Councils Committee.**

67. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION REQUEST

A copy of this request had been circulated to each Member for their information. Councillor Watson advised at the meeting he now wished for this request to be withdrawn.

**RECOMMENDED it be noted that this request for information had now been withdrawn.**

68. EVENT PLAN

Members were circulated with a copy of an event plan covering the forthcoming calendar year.

**RECOMMENDED this report be used as a base for considering the funding for the various Town Activities and Events for the budget for 2014/15 and it be considered further at the Council Meeting.**

69. 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.

70. STOCK REPORTS PERIODS ENDING 7<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 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 and a copy of the wastage details be provided for the Pavilion.**

71. REQUEST TO USE SHOTTON HALL BANQUETING SUITES  
FOR A FUND RAISER

Councillor Curtis asked for consideration of the use of the Banqueting Suites to organise a fund raiser for a local resident and his family where he had been injured recently whilst in London.

**RECOMMENDED free use of the Banqueting Suites be granted for this proposed event.**

72. SOCIAL MEDIA & THE LOCAL PRESS

**RECOMMENDED NALC be contacted for their advice on best practice with the use of the press and social media. In making reference to recent changes in the Law, NALC also be asked for their comments and further advice on the recording of meetings that were not open to the press and public.**

73. TOWN CLERK'S GRIEVANCE

**RECOMMENDED the letter be received and a copy be sent to the Council's solicitor to seek advice before any further action was taken.**