

PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARKS & CEMETERY
COMMITTEE

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE

ON MONDAY 9TH JULY 2007

PRESENT: G COWIE (CHAIR)

Mesdames: J I Measor, L Wood, J Scott
& M Milsom

Messrs: W M Jeffrey, D Milsom, T Jones,
H Bennett MBE, R Jones, R Curtis,
C J Metcalfe, R Huitson, R Kyle,
D Langan, J Hardy, B Scott & J Alvey

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

14. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors:- C Robbins, M Cartwright, C Austin and E W Hall.

15. THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved.

In connection with Minute No. 11 – Shotton Hall Annex Roof the Town Clerk asked for permission to engage the Town Council's Architect to proceed with tenders for these works on the basis of the first option in the report dated 23rd April 2007.



RECOMMENDED that these emergency repair works be carried out by Debmat at an estimated cost of £15,000 from the capitalised maintenance works budget.

d) Action Packed Futures Event – Helford Road

The Action Packed Futures Event had been held on Sunday 1st July 2007. The organisers of the event were very pleased with the venue at Helford Road and asked that their appreciation be passed onto the Town Council for their efforts and those of the staff. The organisers were also pleased to report an attendance of 2,020 visitors.

A Member remarked on the damage to the ground after this event and asked if it would be reinstated to its original condition.

RECOMMENDED that the ground at Helford Road be reinstated as soon as possible.

e) Annual Maintenance to Sports Pitches

The heavy rainfall in recent weeks had interrupted scheduled maintenance work to the Sports Pitches. Eden Lane pitches 1 and 2 were now complete and work was in progress at Lowhills Road. Once this work was complete work would commence at Helford Road. The work at Helford Road pitches had been scheduled to take place after the Action Packed Futures event. In the light of this delay the Horticultural Supervisor suggested that friendly games at Helford Road were not allowed, but, be transferred to other venues, where matches could be accommodated.

RECOMMENDED that the information given be noted, and friendly games not be held at the Helford Road site.

18. OFFICIAL OPENING – EDENHILL PLAY AREA & CEMETERY LIGHTING SCHEME

RECOMMENDED that the date for the Official Opening be Saturday 28th July 2007, to be incorporated as part of the Annual Parks Inspection.



19. LOCAL COUNCIL ADVISORY SERVICE – ANNUAL SEMINARS – DELEGATES REPORT

A copy of the delegate's report had been submitted, the contents of which had been noted.

RECOMMENDED that the report be received.

20. 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 & PUBLIC FROM THE MEETING, PURSUANT TO THE PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSIONS TO MEETINGS) ACT 1961 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985.

21. HORTICULTURAL SUPERVISOR'S PROGRESS REPORT

a) Purchase of Protective/Corporate Clothing

Prices had been sought for the supply of important protective/corporate clothing for the Parks Department staff.

Two prices had been received and the lowest price received had been submitted by Charles Dickens (Homesmart) of Hartlepool. The total cost for the supply of clothing for the Parks Department staff including attendants and cleaners was £1,116.95.

RECOMMENDED that the action taken by the Horticultural Supervisor in placing an order with Charles Dickens of Hartlepool, in the sum of £1,116.95, be endorsed.

b) Replacement of Pedestrian Mower – Haytor Harrier 56

The existing Haytor Pedestrian Mower was eleven years old and the District of Easington who maintain and repair the Town Council's machinery had advised that this machine was beyond



economical repair. At this time of year it was essential that a replacement was purchased immediately. Quotations were sought for the replacement of this machine, two out of three had been returned.

RECOMMENDED that the action taken by the Horticultural Supervisor in placing an order of the purchase of a Hayton Harrier 56 in the sum of £750.00 with Carrs, of Billington, be endorsed.

22. FORMER PLAY AREA MORTON SQUARE - LEASE

The Town Clerk advised he would speak to the District Council's Valuer and determine any possible future use had been identified.

RECOMMENDED that the information given, be noted.

23. TRAINING COURSE – INTRODUCTION TO RISK ASSESSMENTS, HALF DAY, CHESTER LE STREET – 20TH SEPTEMBER 2007

The Town Clerk recommended that the Horticultural Supervisor attend this half day training course.

RECOMMENDED that authority be given for Mr B Arnell to attend this course.

24. RESIGNATION OF PARKS ATTENDANT – MR G ATKINSON

The Town Clerk reported to Members the resignation received from Mr Graham Atkinson, Parks Attendant. He asked for endorsement in advertising this vacant position with the local Job Centre on an initial three month temporary basis.

RECOMMENDED that the Town Clerk proceed with the filling of this position initially on a temporary basis.

25. DAMAGE TO BOWLING GREEN AT EDEN LANE

It was reported that youths had caused damage to the Eden Lane bowling green. The Police had been notified and the damage was repaired quickly, bowling matches being played since with no problems.

A Member raised the issue with CCTV and asked if any evidence could be sought from this security measure to assist the Police with their investigations.

RECOMMENDED that the Town Clerk make investigations as to CCTV evidence.

26. PONY FIELDS

A Member reported that the pony fields were in urgent need of cutting as they varied from three to five foot high in areas.

The Horticulture Supervisor advised that this task was expected to be carried out within the next week or so, as the Parks Staff were extremely busy with higher priority duties.

Councillor Alvey advised that a local farmer may be willing to cut the pony fields, free of charge, and utilise the hay for the farm.

RECOMMENDED that Councillor Alvey make enquiries with the local farmer and advise the Horticulture Supervisor on the outcome.

Howie