

PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARKS & CEMETERY
COMMITTEE

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE

ON MONDAY 9th NOVEMBER 2009

PRESENT: COUN. D LANGAN (CHAIR)

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

Messrs: J Hardy, D Milsom, R Huitson,
W M Jeffrey, C Austin, R Kyle,
C Robbins, H Bennett MBE,
J Alvey, G Cowie & E W Hall

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

50. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors; R Jones (caring duties) and Ms S McDonnell (holiday).

RECOMMENDED that the apologies submitted, be accepted.

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

MATTERS ARISING

i) Minute No. 43 – Edenhill Community Centre – Expression of Interest in the Building

The Town Clerk advised Members that Durham County Council had advised it would cost £160,000 to get this building in a lettable position.

The Leader advised that a meeting was to be held on Tuesday 10th November 2009 with himself, the Deputy Leader and the Town Clerk with the Unitary Members, and the matter would be raised at that meeting.

RECOMMENDED that the outcome of the meeting be reported at the Council meeting.

ii) Minute No. 48 – Eden Lane Depot - Electricity Bills

Up to date correspondence relating to the above had been circulated to Members.

RECOMMENDED that the Council do not pay any monies and the previous months' recommendation still stand.

52. PARKS SUPERVISOR'S PROGRESS REPORT, a copy of which had been circulated to Members, was considered under the following headings:-

a) Dene Parks North thinning out of overhanging trees (College footpath) also removal of large branches in order to improve street lighting effects and also to create a more "open area" so members of the public felt more reassured with the Dene's area as a whole; litter picking and increased sharps picks, (N.B. these were now be formally reported to Police/Wardens when found).

RECOMMENDED that the information given, be noted.

b) Durham County Council Restorative Justice Scheme

As detailed in the Supervisor's last report a "trial area" was highlighted in the Dene Parks South for the D.C.C. Restorative Justice Scheme. This exercise was concluded on 29 October with one offender from the Peterlee area litter picking an area over a period of five days. The event had been supervised and risk assessed and a total of 15 no. bags of litter had been collected and the area would go on a regular "pick" from this point.

RECOMMENDED that the information given, be noted and this scheme be monitored by the Supervisor.

c) Helford Road

The additional football pitch had been brought back into use for the further development of Peterlee Helford United, this being the middle pitch which was also being used for Rugby training sessions by Peterlee Pumas. Training for the under 9 and under 11 youth teams would now be allocated to the Cricket Outfield for the foreseeable future.

RECOMMENDED that the information given, be noted.

d) Additional Works

Following on from the Durham County Council Stock Condition Survey which had been completed on a monthly basis of buildings owned by Peterlee Town Council a number of points relating to the general decoration of buildings had arisen, these being Eden Lane Football Club, Eden Lane Bowls and Hill Rigg House.

The Supervisor intended to complete interior works as “wet weather work” by the Parks Department on a rolling basis in the coming weeks.

RECOMMENDED that the information given, be noted.

53. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE HELFORD ROAD MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE HELD ON 3RD NOVEMBER 2009, INCLUDING REPORTS OF THE FACILITIES MANAGER & SPORTS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

i) Facilities Manager’s Report

Members had been circulated with a copy of the above report for consideration.

In relation to Minute No. 19 – Official Opening it was **RECOMMENDED that the official opening date be Friday 4th December 2009 and the Facilities Manager contact all the North East Football Club’s, together with the Cricket and Rugby, with a view of a Sportsperson attending the Official Opening.**

In relation to the Bonfire & Firework Event a Member expressed concerns as to some staff not adhering to the Health and Safety Food Hygiene Regulations.

RECOMMENDED that the Town Clerk make investigations and report back to Members.

ii) Sports Development Officer's Report

Members had been circulated with a copy of the above report for consideration.

RECOMMENDED:-

- i) Permission be granted to purchase a digital camera for use at the Pavilion, at an approximate cost of £70.00**
- ii) Permission be granted for the Sports Development Officer to purchase 5 no. cd's to use for exercise sessions, in guidance with the PPL Entertainment licence at a cost of £19.00 each**
- iii) It was agreed that a leaflet distribution be organised as a matter of urgency, at a cost of £60.00 per 1,000, covering nearly 9,000 households in Peterlee. In addition, the Sports Development Officer liaise with the local Residents Associations and Schools.**

54. INVITATION TO ATTEND A PRESENTATION ON FACILITIES AVAILABLE AT THE NEW EAST DURHAM COLLEGE

An invitation had been received from East Durham College to all Members of the Council to attend a presentation on the facilities available at the College, including the Lubetkin Theatre and Scene 1 Restaurant.

RECOMMENDED that the Council accept this invitation.

55. WINTER MAINTENANCE - EXPLORATORY TALKS WITH DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

Correspondence had been received from Durham County Council, a copy of which had been circulated to Members.

RECOMMENDED that the Town Clerk attend the proposed meeting with Durham County Council to discuss proposals for Winter maintenance and report back with outcome.

56. PLAY AREA – HEATH CLOSE

A local Member asked the Supervisor the reason why this play area had been closed since August Bank Holiday, as he had received a number of enquiries from local residents.

The Supervisor explained that one piece of play equipment was awaiting a part for repair. He had previously kept the park open and isolated this piece of equipment, however, the fencing surrounding it had been vandalised and it had become a danger and liability to the Council. The Council's Insurance Company had recommended closing the park until the piece of equipment had been repaired.

RECOMMENDED that the Supervisor contact the specialist supplier again advising that this part was required as a matter of urgency.