

PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE PARKS & CEMETERY  
COMMITTEE

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE

ON MONDAY 13<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2011

PRESENT: COUN. R CURTIS (CHAIR)

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

Messrs: T Jones, J Hardy, R Huitson,  
D Milsom, W M Jeffrey, C Robbins,  
H Bennett MBE, R Jones, D Langan,  
C Watkins & E W Hall

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

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors:- J Alvey (ill health), G Cowie (ill health), C J Metcalfe (holiday) and C Austin (holiday).

**RECOMMENDED that the apologies submitted, be accepted.**

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

MATTERS ARISING –

- (i) Minute No. 112 – 128(a) – Newtown Floodlights  
Confirmation had been received via email of a guarantee for the work for a twelve month period.

**RECOMMENDED that the information given, be noted.**

- (ii) Minute No. 129 – The Pavilion, CCTV  
**RECOMMENDED that clarification in relation to the positioning of the cameras, be awaited.**

3. THE REPORT OF THE PARKS SUPERVISOR

a) SUMMER BEDDING SCHEMES

Members were advised that the Parks Supervisor had inspected the plants supplied by Darlington Council and reported that he was satisfied with the quality and size of the intended plant delivery, which would see planting beginning in the second week in June, in line with the Council's Work Programme.

**RECOMMENDED that the information given, be noted.**

b) PARKS INSPECTIONS

Members were requested to agree two inspection visits from the following suggested dates for the Annual Parks Inspections: Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> July, Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> July, Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> July. Members were also requested to list any areas of interest that they wish to be included in the visit.

**RECOMMENDED that two dates be agreed at the Council Meeting on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2011.**

***COUNCILLOR MRS J I MEASOR DECLARED AN INTEREST ON THE FOLLOWING ITEM AND TOOK NO PART IN THE DISCUSSION THAT ENSUED.***

c) PETERLEE NEWTOWN FOOTBALL STAND

Members were requested to consider a report from Dayes Kenyon (Structural Engineering Consultants Ltd) in relation to other outstanding problems associated within this site which would

impact financially upon the Council's Parks Department both in the short term and in the longer term. A copy of which had been circulated to all Members.

**RECOMMENDED that:-**

- i) **As advised in the Structural Engineer's Report, for the short term, remedial works be carried out to the football stand**
- ii) **the Parks Supervisor obtain quotations from relevant contractors**
- iii) **in the interim period, the Supervisor and Town Clerk investigate the possibility of grant funding**
- iv) **the Town Clerk make investigations as to the Council obtaining best value for money from the survey reports carried out by Durham County Council at a cost of £10,000 per annum**

d) SPORTS FIELD PREPARATIONS

Members were advised that pitch renovations for Helford Road, Eden Lane had been completed and Lowhills Road would be completed by Mid June. Members were advised that Pitch number two at Helford Road would have permanent goal post sockets fitted as from the 2012 season.

**RECOMMENDED that the information given, be noted.**

e) MUGA USAGE

April	92 ½ hours
May	109 hours

**RECOMMENDED that the information given, be noted.**

4. THE REPORT OF THE PARKS DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

(i) THE PARK RANGERS

Since the Park Rangers started in the November of 2010 they had taken part in a wide variety of tasks connected with the Parks Department, a copy of the progress report had been circulated to Members.

The Park Rangers were currently working towards running various events during the 2011 six week school holidays at Woodhouse Park.

**RECOMMENDED that the information given, be noted.**

(ii) CRAZY GOLF

The number of people who used this facility during 2010 was 104 no. The number of people who used this facility from 18<sup>th</sup> April 2011 to the 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2011 was 180 no., the Parks Development Officer expected this figure to increase significantly over the summer months.

**RECOMMENDED that the information given, be noted.**

5. PETERLEE LEISURE GARDENERS

(i) The Report of the Special Clerk's Advisory Meeting of the 14<sup>th</sup> April 2011

**RECOMMENDED that the above Report, be agreed.**

(ii) The Rules relating to the Use of a Leisure Garden, a copy of which had been circulated to Members, were considered.

**RECOMMENDED that the Rules, be agreed.**

(iii) Various requests from the Peterlee Leisure Gardeners Association

A copy of the above letter had been circulated to Members referring to the Plot 9 Project, detailing suggestions made by the Association for future consideration.

The Leader advised that the Co-Ordinator for the AAP had expressed a keen interest in being involved with an environmental scheme within the leisure gardens.

**RECOMMENDED that the Parks Supervisor liaise with the AAP Co-Ordinator and the Leisure Gardeners to develop projects and report back to a future meeting.**

(iv) Letter from Mr J Rippon

**RECOMMENDED that the Council support the action taken by the Leisure Gardeners Association.**

6. MR TAYLOR, 3 WOODBINE AVENUE, HORDEN

The Town Clerk advised she had met with Mr Taylor and advised him she would be arranging a meeting with the Leader and the Superintendent of Police, Elaine Taylor, to ascertain if the Police could assist with the on-going problems with motorbikes.

**RECOMMENDED that the Clerk keep Mr G Morris MP updated on progress with this matter.**

7. SEASCAPE PRIMARY SCHOOL – LAND AT EDEN LANE PONY FIELDS

The Parks Supervisor circulated an email from Durham County Council (Drainage Department), advising the Council that they had carried out a CCTV inspection of the interior of the sewer beginning from the manhole up stream of the two holes in the open space.

**RECOMMENDED that further investigations be carried out by the Parks Supervisor and the Town Clerk.**

**FURTHER RECOMMENDED that the way-leave not be signed by the Council.**

8. 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 1961 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985.

9. HORTICULTURAL SUPERVISOR'S REPORT

(1) Darlington Nurseries Sponsorship

Both the Show Co-ordinator and Parks Supervisor had visited Darlington nurseries with a view to establishing a four year sponsorship deal for the Horticultural Event within the Show. The sum discussed was £500 per year and would secure sponsorship for four years.

In exchange Peterlee Town Council would commit to purchasing bedding plants for the four year duration. Darlington Nurseries would also commit to a price match with nominated nurseries, (subject to same criteria being applied e.g. size, variety and service.) Additionally, if there were any price increases forecast such as fuel increases, (eg transportation), these could be offset to another year for budgeting purposes.

**RECOMMENDED that the information given, be noted.**

(2) Leisure Gardens Quotation

Members were asked to consider a quotation which had been circulated to all Members, from Durham County Council, Environmental Services. The quotation was based on a service to eradicate vermin at the Lowhills site and also to provide an ad-hoc service for the removal of bees and wasps.

**RECOMMENDED that this service be carried out by Durham County Council at a cost of £41.25 plus VAT per hour or per visit, whichever was the greater.**

(3) Football Pitch Allocations

Member's attention was drawn to the football allocations list and combined debtors list, which related to teams which had so far been allocated football pitches at Eden Lane, Helford Road or Lowhills Road. Teams were now required to fill in the relevant paperwork on a per team basis, as opposed to a block booking which had been the case in the past.

**RECOMMENDED that the information given, be noted.**

