

PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARKS &
CEMETERY COMMITTEE

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL

ON MONDAY 14TH MARCH 2016

PRESENT: COUN M A CARTWRIGHT (CHAIR)

Mesdames: K Liddell, S Simpson, S McDonnell, M J
Thompson, K Hawley & V Watson

Messrs: S Miles, W M Jeffrey, C Watkins, L Cook,
C Robbins & A Watson

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

81. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been submitted and accepted from Councillors L M
Wood, (ill) and C J Metcalfe, (personal reasons).

**RECOMMENDED the Council approve the reasons submitted for
absence received from the Councillors on the grounds given above,
and their apologies for absence be recorded.**

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

COUNCILLOR W M JEFFREY DECLARED AN INTEREST IN THE
FOLLOWING ITEM AND TOOK NO FURTHER PART IN THE
DISCUSSION WHICH ENSUED.

83. THORNTREE GILL ALLOTMENT SITE

The Chairman welcomed Mr Frank Ramshaw to the meeting. Mr
Ramshaw offered his thanks and appreciation to the Council for their

time and patience in resolving recent issues. He also thanked the Council for the rain shelter that had been provided, which the plot holders were all really pleased with.

RECOMMENDED the information given, be noted.

84. WOODHOUSE PARK & DENE PARKS – PROGRESS REPORT

The Parks Development Officer had prepared a progress report which included clearing the site of the fire damaged porta cabin, damage to the grassed areas alongside the footpath edges, the various user groups using Woodhouse Park, works in Dene Parks and the Clean for the Queen that had taken place on 8th March 2016.

Following consideration and discussion it was **RECOMMENDED:-**

- (i) **further information be obtained on the joint CCTV scheme that had been offered previously to parish and town councils to help combat problems with fly tipping;**
- (ii) **the Horticultural Supervisor check to ensure the East Durham Belles cycle club were fully insured;**
- (iii) **approval be given for Direct Steps to use the area identified in the report for growing flowers and vegetables etc.**
- (iv) **working practices with regard to driving on footpaths in Woodhouse Park be fully managed.**

85. 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.

86. MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT OF THE HORTICULTURAL SUPERVISOR

The report of the Horticultural Supervisor was circulated to each Member for their consideration.

COUNCILLOR W M JEFFREY DECLARED AN INTEREST IN THE ITEMS RELATING TO THE LEISURE GARDENS.

Site reports had been compiled for both sites and issues at both were considered.

At the Lowhills site various issues were given in relation to installation of a CCTV system, repairs being required to the access road. Receipt of a petition and supporting letters was reported and a copy of which was circulated at the meeting for Member's attention.

At the Thorntree Gill site there were issues of flooding of a nearby beck, the hiring of the rain shelter, tree pruning and green waste schemes.

Consideration was also given to information given on the options relating to the repair/replacement of the roller used for the cricket square.

At the meeting Members asked for information in relation to the Town Council owned and managed play areas on repairs being carried out and current closures due to vandalism.

RECOMMENDED:-

- (i) land that was discussed at the Lowhills Road site, be inspected and tested immediately;**
- (ii) a letter be sent to every plot holder at the Lowhills site re assuring them of their tenancy and the future of the site;**
- (iii) a further report from the Horticultural Supervisor be awaited on the policy of garden fires at both sites;**
- (iv) Members be circulated with copies of the new documentation for the two garden sites, when approved;**
- (v) Three prices be obtained and submitted for the hiring in of a roller for the current cricket season and this be considered at the Council Meeting;**
- (vi) A grant application be submitted for the purchase of a replacement roller.**

87. HORDEN RUGBY CLUB – PROGRESS REPORT

- (i) License Application – details

As requested Members were circulated with details of the premises licence application that had been submitted by HRFC.

RECOMMENDED support be offered in respect of the licence application. FURTHER RECOMMENDED Members be circulated

with details within the lease regarding the future name change for the Club.

(ii) Planning Application – extension to the changing rooms

Details were given of the planning application that had been submitted in respect to improvements to the changing rooms at the site.

RECOMMENDED **Horde RFC be requested to reimburse the Town Council with the planning application fee.**