

PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PARKS &  
CEMETERY COMMITTEE

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL

ON MONDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2016

PRESENT: COUN M A CARTWRIGHT (CHAIR)

Mesdames: K Liddell, L M Wood, K Hawley, S Simpson, S  
McDonnell & V Watson

Messrs: S Miles, D Sillito, W M Jeffrey, L Cook, C J  
Metcalf, C Robbins & A Watson

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

23. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been submitted and accepted from Councillor G Cowie,  
(ill).

**RECOMMENDED the Council approve the reason submitted for  
absence received from the Councillor Cowie, on the grounds given  
above, and his apologies for absence be recorded.**

24. CRICKET – FENCING

Mr Laidlaw from the Cricket Club was in attendance at the meeting and  
spoke on the aspirations of the Club and suggested ways that they could  
provide support to the Town Council ie volunteering for work on the  
cricket field on a weekend.

Members considered the report prepared by the Town Clerk regarding  
perimeter fencing to the cricket pitch at Helford Road Pavilion and there  
was a lengthy discussion on the issue.

**RECOMMENDED consideration of the report be deferred pending a joint meeting with Peterlee Cricket Club to consider the impact of lack of fencing on grant claims for the Club.**

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

Matters Arising

Circus at Eden Lane

Members were advised that the circus shall not be coming to Peterlee after all. It was hoped they may consider the site at Eden Lane for a future event.

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

26. NOTICES OF MOTION/ITEMS FOR THE AGENDA

(i) Vandalism & the cost of Repairs to the Play Areas

This item had been submitted by Councillor W M Jeffrey. He asked about alternatives to rubber crumb surfacing on the Town Council's play areas.

The Horticultural Supervisor reported that as agreed previously in February of this year he had removed the rubber crumb and swings and a safamat surface, a system which using a mesh that then would be grown in with grass, had been installed at Hampshire Place play area.

The Town Clerk advised he had considered the Play Area Strategy report prepared by Groundwork NE & Cumbria and presented to Council in December 2015 and he intended to work through the recommendations in the report with the Horticultural Supervisor and present an Action Plan to Council to consider.

**RECOMMENDED a report be awaited as detailed on the future play area strategy for the Town Council.**

(ii) Progress on Hampshire Place Play Area as a pilot park and new equipment

This item had been submitted by Councillor D Sillito and he asked what was happening with this project. It was confirmed that the first of a series of site meetings had been held with the first at Hampshire Place Play Area on 21 April 2016 and prices had now been obtained from various play providers which varied both in price and content for the play area improvements. It was agreed the Hampshire Place would be

the pilot Play Area and Members were keen to see progress with this and were happy to give their approval to commit the capital budget allocation of £25,000 in this years estimates of expenditure towards these works. The Town Clerk assured full and proper procurement exercises would be followed in the purchase of equipment.

**RECOMMENDED approval be given in principle for the works at Hampshire Place Play Area to proceed, subject to proper procurement processes.**

Councillor V Watson left the meeting at 7.35pm.

27. MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT OF THE HORTICULTURAL SUPERVISOR

Members considered the progress report giving details of maintenance on football, rugby, cricket and bowling greens. Members also considered a letter received from Peterlee Town Bowling Club requesting Members “make a maintenance visit to the club to see what course of action could be agreed upon to ensure the playing surface was fit for purpose in the future.”

**RECOMMENDED a visit be arranged to the Peterlee Town Bowling Club at Eden Lane with the following Members being interested in coming along to that meeting:- L Cook, A Watson, S McDonnell, S Miles, W M Jeffrey, M A Cartwright and C J Metcalfe.**

28. YODEN VILLAGE QUARRY

Members considered the report advising this site had now been designated as a site of National Importance in the geological conservation review and a Site of Special Scientific Interest.

**RECOMMENDED the contents of the report be noted and a site visit be arranged in October/November 2016 with representatives from Peterlee Town Council, Natural England and Durham County Council.**

29. PAYPHONE KIOSK REMOVAL, 88 BEVERLEY WAY, PETERLEE

Members were circulated with details of a proposal from BT to remove this telephone kiosk from Beverley Way. Members were concerned that

there were a number of elderly and vulnerable residents in this area and potentially this kiosk could provide a lifeline to those that may not have access to a land line or mobile telephone.

**RECOMMENDED the Town Council express its strong objection to this payphone being removed and request further information as to why BT felt it should be removed.**

30. HORDEN & PETERLEE RUGBY CLUB, EDEN LANE – PROGRESS REPORT

Several Members were pleased to report that they had received positive feedback from local residents and sports users about the Eden Lane Facility. It was reported there were 90 or so youths signed up to the Club's youth Teams, (with 20 or so from the Edenhill area), and that the club was becoming a huge asset both to the Town and also to local residents.

(a) Request for support towards the refurbishment of the changing rooms

**RECOMMENDED this request be re considered once the potential grant funding for improvement works to the showers and changing rooms was known.**

(b) Request to use the fields and shower facilities at The Pavilion, September, October & November 2016

**RECOMMENDED approval be given for the use, subject to availability and at an agreed fee to be determined by the Sports Development Officer and Horticultural Supervisor.**

31. 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.

32. FIREWORKS, NOVEMBER 5<sup>TH</sup> 2016 – ROAD CLOSURE

Members considered the report of the Events/Show Co Ordinator for the supply of a road closure for the Fireworks Event on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2016. There was discussion on the road closures over the past two years and Local Members provided details of concerns over previous road closures.

**RECOMMENDED the tender submission received from Roadsafe of Blaydon, at the price as indicated in the report, be accepted, subject to the Town Clerk clarifying issues raised by Local Members with the Show Co-Ordinator.**