

PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

THE MINUTES OF A MEETING OF PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL

ON MONDAY 16TH OCTOBER 2006

PRESENT: COUN R KYLE (CHAIR)

Mesdames: A Laing and M Cartwright

Messrs: T Jones, B Scott, D Coates,
R Curtis, H Bennett MBE,
W M Jeffrey, E W Hall, R Huitson,
D Milsom

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

133. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors G Cowie, R Jones, B Joyce, J Measor, C J Metcalfe and M Milsom.

134. POLICE UPDATE

The representatives from the Police gave an update on crime figures for the Town.

The Leader of the Council related his experienced at Eden Lane Cemetery and his dismay that the Police response had not been quicker to his call especially when full discussions had taken place on the incidence of anti social behaviour in and around the vicinity of Eden Hill Cemetery.

The Police representatives gave details of high visibility patrols carried out in the Eden Hill area, but said they would need to check the records regarding not been able to respond more quickly as to what other incidents / reports were been attended to at that time.

In relation to parking on footpaths in the vicinity of the funeral directors on Bede Way the meeting was advised the owner of this establishment had been given advice by one of the P.C.S.O.'s

The questions of general illegal parking and taxi drivers not abiding by signage were also raised. Police representatives felt the P.C.S.O's may be able to address these matters.

Local Members also raised the matter of youths drinking behind Peterlee Newtown Football Fields and large number of youths gathering at Bells Store on Grampian Drive.

RESOLVED that the information given be noted.

FURTHER RESOLVED that in the light that some of the issues raised are repetitive and seem unable to be tackled within existing resources an appropriately worded letter be forwarded to the Chief Constable.

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

MATTERS ARISING

Minute 128 – Personnel and Health and Safety Advice – The Town Clerk advised he was still awaiting further information on this matter from the District of Easington and Durham County Council.

RESOLVED that the information given be noted.

136. THE REPORT OF THE MAYORS COMMITTEE OF THE 18TH SEPTEMBER 2006, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.
137. THE REPORT OF THE SHOW COMMITTEE OF THE 28TH SEPTEMBER 2006, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

138. THE REPORT OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE OF THE 2ND OCTOBER 2006, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.
139. THE REPORT OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE OF THE 2ND OCTOBER 2006, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.
140. THE REPORT OF THE ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEE OF THE 2ND OCTOBER 2006, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.
141. THE REPORT OF THE CLERKS ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE 9TH OCTOBER 2006, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed, subject to it been noted that apologies on behalf of Councillor C J Metcalfe were incorrect as he was not a Member of this Committee.

MATTERS ARISING

In connection with Minute No 37 – Democracy for Children and Young People.

RESOLVED that no nomination be made for this award.

142. THE REPORT OF THE PARKS AND CEMETERY COMMITTEE OF 9TH OCTOBER 2006, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.
143. THE REPORT OF THE PETERLEE INFORMATION CENTRE COMMITTEE OF 9TH OCTOBER 2006, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

MATTERS ARISING

In connection with Minute No 7 (f). – New Halloween Event, the Town Clerk reported the Councils Insurers advice on sale of hot beverages at this event i.e. that as long as a risk assessment was done and reasonable steps taken to prevent an accident e.g. locating hot beverages in a separate room then this would be seen as an acceptable risk.

RESOLVED that hot beverages be made available, in a separate room from the main event, at the Halloween Party.

144. STOCKTAKE SUMMARY SHEET – SHOTTON HALL BANQUETING SUITES – PERIOD ENDING 27TH SEPTEMBER 2006

Consideration was given to the above report, Members expressing their satisfaction with the recorded profit margin.

RESOLVED that the report be received and appreciation be passed on to the Facilities Team.

145. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Details of the planning applications relating to Peterlee, which had been submitted to the District of Easington, had been circulated to each Member for consideration. Two further applications, detailed below, had been received since compilation of the agenda:-

Proposed Porch (Retrospective)
At 64 Brougham Court
For Mr B Booth

Proposed First Floor Extension
At 1 Bellister Park
For Mr A Dulai

RESOLVED that no objections be submitted on the applications received.

146. RENAMING OF 1-5 THE BUNGALOWS, NEVILLE ROAD

The Town Clerk had circulated to Members extracts of a report from the District of Easington regarding changing only the postcode of 1-5 The Bungalows.

RESOLVED that the information given be noted, but this matter be raised at the next Area Forum, and a request be made that Town and Parish Councils be consulted / asked for suggestions on street naming.

147. MR J CUMMINGS MP – INTENTION TO STEP DOWN

The Town Clerk had circulated for Members information in recent press articles on Mr Cummings intention to stand down as M.P.

RESOLVED that the information given be noted, and this matter be further considered before the next general election.

148. CREATION OF COUNTY DURHAM PRIMARY CARE TRUST

The Town Clerk had circulated to each Member a copy of a letter from Lady Ann Calman, Chair of the new Primary Care Trust, setting out general information on the new County Durham PCT and advising the interim headquarters were at John Snow House, Durham University Science Park, Durham City, Tel 0191 3011300.

RESOLVED that the letter be received, and information noted.

149. ADVERTISING OPPORTUNITY – BOXING DAY DIP

The Town Clerk advised Members of an advertising opportunity via the above annual event.

RESOLVED that on this occasion an advertisement be not taken.

150. NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILLORS SEMINAR – CLOSER TO OUR COMMUNITIES – 17TH – 19TH NOVEMBER 2006 – CHESTER.

The Town Clerk advised Members of the invitation to attend this seminar highlighting the seminar would specifically cover the issue of devolution to Area Committees, Parish, and Community Councils.

RESOLVED that the invitation be accepted and two Members from the Conference Rota attend.

151. QUALITY PARISH PLUS SCHEME

The Town Clerk had circulated to each Member details of recent discussions between Government Departments and NALC representatives regarding the Best Value Regime and a Quality Parish Plus Scheme.

RESOLVED that the information given be noted.

152. LEADERS VERBAL REPORT

The Leader raised the following items in his report:-

1. The Leader was pleased to report that he had been elected to the NALC Larger Local Councils Committee, and had attended his first meeting. He found this extremely useful and had been able to raise the matter of risk management.
2. The Leader expressed his concern at the continuing level of vandalism both in the Town generally, and on Town Councils sites. He emphasized the Town Council would do everything it could to address this problem.
3. Again, the Leader expressed his concern about the cleanliness of the Town and the failure to keep the area tidy. He reiterated he was yet to see a road sweeper on any of the streets and his annoyance at builders / utility companies who leave sites without cleaning up after work is complete. Similarly he was concerned about waste bins just left out with apparently no enforcement of the regulations relating to these.
4. The Leader gave his apologies for not been able to attend the Regeneration Meeting last Thursday, due to work commitments, but understood the same presentation was to be given to the Town Council on Wednesday 25th October 2006.

153. HELFDOR ROAD REBUILD – RERVISIED PLANS

The Town Clerk had displayed for Members perusal the latest layout drawings of Helford Road amended to take account of additional female toilets on first floor and direct outside access for officials to the Cricket Pitch.

RESOLVED that these drawings be agreed, and the Architect proceed to planning application stage on this basis.