

PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE

ON MONDAY 16TH JUNE 2008

PRESENT: COUN T JONES (CHAIR)

Mesdames: L Wood, J I Measor, M Milsom

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

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

PRIOR TO THE MEETING, A 15 MINUTE “OPEN SESSION” WAS HELD TO ALLOW MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AN OPPORTUNITY TO PUT QUESTIONS TO THE COUNCIL.

34. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were given on behalf of Councillors R Kyle & R Jones.

35. POLICE UPDATE

The Chairman welcomed the Police representatives to the meeting who gave Members an update on the crime figures in the Town since the last meeting and on action taken.

The Leader of the Council commented that he felt that the Council had been let down by the Police in that there were issues that were

being raised month after month and were not being resolved. In particular he made reference to parking outside Buckingham Bingo and the parking of Asda wagons on the highway. He was disappointed that recently when reports had been made of incidents in the Edenhill Area there had been no response at all. The Police reported that there had been a two week blitz on anti social behaviour with a very specific Action Plan but assured that all of the comments would be fed back to supervisors.

A vote of thanks was recorded to the Leader for expressing the views of Members so well.

RESOLVED that the information given be noted.

36. THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed, subject to Minute Number 8 being altered to read “wife” rather than “Partner”.

37. THE REPORT OF THE SHOW MEETING OF THE 29TH MAY 2008, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

38. THE REPORT OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE OF THE 2ND JUNE 2008, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member was agreed.
Matters Arising
Minute Number 9 – Twinning Subsidies
RESOLVED that the subsidies as detailed in the Liaison Officer’s report for entertainers accompanying the twinning visit to celebrate Nordenham’s 100th Anniversary, be agreed.

39. THE REPORT OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE OF THE 2ND JUNE 2008, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member was agreed.
Matters Arising
Minute Number 6 – Planning the Future of Easington District – Core Strategy & Development Management & Preferred Options

Report

RESOLVED that this report be considered further at the next meeting of the Planning Committee.

40. THE REPORT OF THE ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEE OF THE 2ND JUNE 2008, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member was agreed.
41. THE REPORT OF THE INFORMATION CENTRE COMMITTEE OF THE 9TH JUNE 2008, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member was agreed.
42. THE REPORT OF THE CLERK'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE 9TH JUNE 2008, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member was agreed.
43. THE REPORT OF THE PARKS & CEMETERY COMMITTEE OF THE 9TH JUNE 2008, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member was agreed.

Matters Arising

(i) Minute Number 7 – Performance Plan 2008/09

RESOLVED that details of all Council sites be given on the front cover of next year's Annual Performance Plan.

(ii) Minute Number 17 - Eden Lane Play Facilities – Consideration of Schemes Received

RESOLVED that the tender and scheme submitted by Wiksteed Playscapes, of Kettering Northamptonshire in the sum of £44,000.00 be accepted, subject to finances being confirmed by the District of Easington.

(iii) Minute Number 11 - Ellison Road School - Easement

Members were advised that a plan had been received, as circulated, showing the proposed route for the drainage easement.

RESOLVED that the easement as circulated be agreed on the same basis as the other wayleaves already granted.

44. STOCKTAKE SUMMARY SHEET, SHOTTON HALL BANQUETING SUITES & PETERLEE FOOTBALL CLUB – PERIOD UP TO 29TH MAY 2008

Consideration was given to the Stocktaker's Reports for the period up to 29th May 2008.

RESOLVED that the reports provided by the Stocktaker, be received.

45. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Details of planning applications received were circulated to Members for their consideration. A further list was circulated at the meeting of applications received since the compilation of the agenda.

RESOLVED that no comments or objections be made to the applications received.

46. NEW BRIEFING ON THE NALC WEB SITE

Members were circulated with details of the above.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

47. CORPORATE GOVERNANCE STATEMENT & STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2008

Members were circulated with a copy of the Corporate Governance Statement along with the Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2008.

RESOLVED that the Corporate Governance Statement be accepted and the Mayor and Town Clerk be given authority to sign and accept the Town Council's Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2008.

48. RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PRESS & PUBLIC
IN VIEW OF THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED, THE COMMITTEE PASSED THE FORMAL RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PRESS & PUBLIC FROM THE MEETING, PURSUANT TO THE PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSIONS TO MEETINGS) ACT, 1961 & THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985.

49. CULTURAL WEEK – HIRE OF MARQUEES

The Town Clerk asked for consideration of quotations received for the provision of a marquee and chairs for the Cultural Week in July 2008.

RESOLVED that the lowest price received from Jeff Dobson Marquee Hire in the sum of £1,400 including the hire of chairs, be accepted.

50. ITEC SITE – LIFTING OF RESTRICTIVE COVENANT/FORMER ITEC SITE

The Town Clerk reported that he had received confirmation from Modus Properties that they would like to officially enter into discussions to remove the restrictive covenant on the remainder of the ITEC site. Plans were displayed at the meeting for Member's information. The Town Clerk asked for approval to engage GVA Lamb and Edge to carry out the necessary negotiations on the Town Council's behalf.

RESOLVED that approval be given to the engagement of GVA Lamb and Edge to act on the Town Council's behalf in negotiations with Modus to consider the lifting of the restrictive covenant on the remainder of the former Itec site.

51. VISIT TO EAST DURHAM COMMUNITY TRUST BUILDING, EDENHILL

The Deputy Town Clerk advised that a visit to the East Durham Community Trust Building had been arranged for Monday 30th

June 2008 at 7.00pm. A note would be sent out to all Members as a reminder.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

52. REQUEST RECEIVED FROM WINGATE PARISH COUNCIL TO CARRY OUT SPRAYING WORKS

Members were advised of receipt of a request from Wingate Parish Council for the Town Council to carry out some spraying works for them on a re-charge basis.

RESOLVED that approval be given for these works to be carried out if the capacity was available to do this with no resulting overtime to the Town Council.

53. LEADER'S REPORT

This was the first report since the Annual General Meeting and the Leader expressed his hopes that the Mayor's civic year went well. He commented on proposals to bring forward the next Parish/Town Council elections that were scheduled for 2013 but that there had been suggestions that they coincide with the European Elections in 2009 and responses to this were requested through the Durham Association of Local Councils. In considering the level of remuneration for Parish/Town Councillors he advised that Members had agreed to accept the recommendation of the District of Easington Remuneration Panel from a date to be agreed but that the date from which to implement these was not determined.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) **a letter be sent to CDALC outlining the Council's view that elections should be held in 2009 and at the earliest 2011, which is the date Parish Councillors were elected until;**
- (ii) **the Scheme of Member's Allowances as recommended by the District of Easington Remuneration Panel be adopted and the implementation date be considered at the next meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee.**