

PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE

ON MONDAY 15<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2009

PRESENT: COUN C J METCALFE (CHAIR)

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

Messrs: R Kyle, J Alvey, J Hardy, W M Jeffrey, D Langan, R Huitson, D Milsom, T A Jones, R Curtis, 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. THERE WERE NO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT.

33. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted and accepted on behalf of Councillors C Robbins, G Cowie, H Bennett MBE, & R Jones. Apologies were submitted but not accepted from Councillor M A Cartwright.

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

Matters Arising

Minute Number 28 - Attendance at Conferences

**RESOLVED:-**

- (i) a Member must have attended or have had apologies accepted for at least four consecutive meetings be invited to attend a Conference;
- (ii) a Conference would be allocated in consultation with the Leader and Deputy Leader, with two Members and two reserves being selected, with 2 days notice being given before the acceptance or otherwise needed to be given to the Office;
- (iii) any Member not wishing to be considered for Conferences should the Office so that they could be left off the rota;
- (iv) all Members must submit a report following their attendance at a Conference.
35. THE REPORT OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTORS OF THE PARISH OF PETERLEE OF THE 18<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2009 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

36. POLICE -UPDATE

The Chairman welcomed PC Gordon Brown and his colleague PC Rob Mellenthin to the meeting who gave his report on progress with items from the previous meeting. Circulated around the meeting was a list detailing action taken following problems with HGV on Surtees Road. The Leader of the Council expressed his appreciation for this action and the efforts by the Police.

Several items of concern were given for further investigation:-

- Cars parking across the footpath and lay by next to St Bedes School, Burnhope Way;
- Taxi drivers driving unreasonably;
- A van continuing to park causing danger at the top of Edenhill Road;
- HGV wagons using Lowhills Road;

- Request to close a public footpath.

**RESOLVED:-**

- (i) that the information given be noted and the matters raised be investigated;
- (ii) a letter be sent to Walkers asking for co-operation from HGV drivers not to use the route along Lowhills Road as had been previously agreed;
- (iii) a copy of the letter from the local resident about a footpath in Edenhill be forwarded to the Police and also to the Unitary Authority Members for their support and assistance.

37. THE REPORT OF THE SHOW COMMITTEE OF THE 28<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2009 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

38. THE REPORT OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE OF THE 1<sup>ST</sup> JUNE 2009 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

39. THE REPORT OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE OF THE 1<sup>ST</sup> JUNE 2009 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

40. THE REPORT OF THE ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEE OF THE 1<sup>ST</sup> JUNE 2009 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

Matters Arising

Minute Number 9 - Request for Leave for Magistrates Duties – Mrs B Taylor

**RESOLVED** that a further report be prepared by the Town Clerk for consideration at a future meeting.

41. THE REPORT OF THE CLERK'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE 8<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2009 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

42. THE REPORT OF THE PARKS & CEMETERY COMMITTEE OF THE 8<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2009 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

43. THE REPORT OF THE HELFORD ROAD WORKING PARTY OF THE 9<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2009 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

Matters Arising

Minute Number 95 – Bar Sales – Setting Prices

The Town Clerk advised that he was hoping for practical completion on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> June, 2009. He asked for Member's consideration as to the setting of prices other than for beers and lagers at The Pavilion that had been previously discussed.

**RESOLVED that the price of beer at The Pavilion and Peterlee Football Club be set at £1.90 per pint and £1.95 for a pint of lager. FURTHER RESOLVED that the prices for other bar sales be set the same level as Peterlee Football Club.**

44. STOCKTAKE SUMMARY SHEET, SHOTTON HALL BANQUETING SUITES & PETERLEE FOOTBALL CLUB – PERIOD UP TO 29<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2009

Consideration was given to the Stocktaker's Reports for the period up to 29<sup>th</sup> May 2009. Consideration was also given to the report on wastage at the Football Club. Members asked for a full breakdown on this matter.

**RESOLVED that the reports provided by the Stocktaker, be received and a further report be awaited from the Facilities**

**Manager.**

45. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Consideration was given to the planning application details received.

**RESOLVED that no comment be made in response to this application.**

46. ANNUAL PERFORMANCE PLAN 2009/10 - DRAFT

The Town Clerk circulated Members with a copy of the draft of the Town Council's Annual Performance Plan for 2009/10. He asked for any comments from Members as soon as possible and for approval for him to finalize the contents with the Leader and Deputy Leader and to publish the Plan by the end of June.

**RESOLVED that approval be given to this course of action.**

47. UPDATE ON POLICING ISSUES

Members were circulated with a copy of information received from Chief Superintendent Trevor Watson, Durham Constabulary offering a commitment to keep the Town Council updated regularly on policing issues. The Town Clerk confirmed that the Police would continue to attend Council Meetings.

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

48. PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL – STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31<sup>ST</sup> MARCH 2009 INCLUDING CORPORATE GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Members were circulated with a copy of this document.

**RESOLVED that the Statement of Accounts for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2009, including the Corporate Governance Statement be accepted and the Mayor and Clerk be given approval to sign them.**

49. CULTURAL & HERITAGE WEEK

Members were circulated with the draft programme of events over the Cultural Week to be held in conjunction with Shotton Hall School.

**RESOLVED that the programme be approved.**

50. 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.

51. 2010 RATING REVALUATION – BUSINESS RATES

Members were circulated with a copy of a letter offering their services from Storey Sons and Parker. The Town Clerk suggested that the Town Council should accept the offer on a no win no fee basis as savings had been made in the past in using this service.

**RESOLVED that the offer from Storey Sons and Parker for them to appeal on the Town Council's behalf against the rating revaluations to be issued for 2010.**

52. “THE PAVILION” – STAFFING

**RESOLVED :-**

- (i) a Facilities Manager for a) Shotton Hall and b) The Pavilion/Peterlee Football Club be appointed and the grading of these posts be reviewed and evaluated by N.E.R.E.O.
- (ii) that Mr A Maddison and Mr A Hunt be appointed to the post of Facilities Assistants, Scale 4, at The Pavilion.
- (iii) The Town Clerk make arrangements for the appointment of the required posts of Receptionist Scale 2, cleaning and security staff.

53. TWINNING VISIT 2009

It was reported hosts were still needed for two persons and anyone that could assist were asked to get in touch with the Twinning Officer, Debra Coates, as soon as possible .

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

54. WINTER MAINTENANCE – OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY

Members were advised that Councillor Dan Myers, Chair of DCC’s Winter Maintenance Group was seeking the views of Parish & Town Councils on their Winter Maintenance Programme in readiness for this year. Comments or possible solutions were invited by no later than 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2009.

**RESOLVED that the requested information be noted.**

55. EDEN HILL COMMUNITY CENTRE

The Town Clerk circulated for Members a letter from DCC advising that Edenhill Community Centre was surplus to their requirements

and there was potential availability of the site. An expression of interest was invited.

**RESOLVED that the Town Council advise that they are interested in this property and it be noted that it was understood that there was a right of way through the site which would need clarifying.**

56. MATTERDALE & BRAITHWAITE ENVIRONMENTAL APPRAISAL

Members were advised of an invitation to attend a public consultation event regarding the Matterdale and Braithwaite Environmental Appraisal to be held on 19<sup>th</sup> June 2009 from 3.00 – 7.00pm at Peterlee Methodist Church. Groundwork staff would be on hand to answer any questions and gather feedback.

**RESOLVED that any Member wishing to go along do so.**

57. LEADER'S REPORT

The Leader gave his report which covered the following areas:-

- an invitation for all Members to go along to view The Pavilion, Helford Road on Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2009 at 7.00pm.
- AAP Launch Event – Summary Report – he referred to the recent meeting of the Big Five Councils held at Shotton Hall. It had been agreed that more Councillors be invited to take part in the meetings and that the Group should be registered by the County Association and be recognized by NALC. The comments from the new Unitary Members had also been noted.
- Eden Hill Community Centre – he was concerned at the future for community groups that may disappear if they did not have anywhere to meet.

**RESOLVED that the contents of the report be noted.**