

PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE

ON MONDAY 17TH AUGUST 2009

PRESENT: COUN C J METCALFE (CHAIR)

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

Messrs: R Kyle, T A Jones, J Alvey, H Bennett MBE, J Hardy, W M Jeffrey, D Langan, C Robbins, R Huitson, D Milsom & E W Hall

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.

80. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted and accepted on behalf of Councillors G Cowie and R Jones.

81. POLICE -UPDATE

The Chairman welcomed PC Gooden to the meeting. PC Gooden summarized the crime statistics gathered since the last meeting and then answered all of the issues raised at the last meeting. The Town

Clerk asked if extra patrols could be included for the remainder of the school summer holidays at Woodhouse Park, particularly in the evening.

The Leader reported receipt of a letter from a local resident following an incident where she had been verbally abused and threatened and had made 3 calls to the 999 emergency service with no immediate response.

It was suggested that a copy of this letter should be sent to the newly appointed Chief Inspector for her comment/attention.

The Chairman thanked PC Gooden for his attendance.

RESOLVED that a copy of the letter from the local resident be sent to Chief Inspector Taylor.

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

Matters Arising

- (a) Minute Number 36 - HGV use of Lowhills Road

Members were circulated with a copy of correspondence received from the Operations Manager, Northern Logistics, Pepsico International confirming that she had spoken to the Transport Teams at each of their Distribution Centers to remind all drivers not to use Lowhills Road, as a route to or from the Peterlee Site and other measures that had been taken which would hopefully resolve the issue.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

- (b) Minute Number 75 – East Durham College – Noise and Nuisance

Members were circulated with a copy of correspondence from the Principal Environmental Health Officer - Licensing, regarding events held at the new College site. In considering this reply Members commented that the installation of traffic calming measures on the main road adjacent to the College would be of great benefit to local

residents, unfortunately local County Council Member funds had already been committed to other schemes.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

(c) Minute number 77 – Proposed Traffic Regulation Order – Seascape Primary School, Ellison Road

The Town Clerk reported on discussions at a meeting held to consider this Order and a copy of his note from the meeting was circulated to each Member. It was reported that the proposed Order had been minimized and reduced the impact on residents although it was felt congestion would remain a problem. The summary of discussions was that the County Council would again approach the Legion Club regarding leasing for the Park and Stride Scheme and consideration be given to Peterlee Town Council land ownership in the area to assess whether any would be appropriate for car parking.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

84. THE REPORT OF THE INTERNAL AUDIT SUB COMMITTEE OF THE 15TH JULY 2009 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

85. THE REPORT OF THE MAYOR'S COMMITTEE OF THE 20TH JULY 2009 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

Members were asked if they would be able to support the Mayor's Charity by giving time to man a collection point at the Bank Holiday Market. If available, Members were asked to advise the Mayor's Secretary.

86. THE REPORT OF THE SHOW COMMITTEE OF THE 30TH JULY 2009 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

87. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Details of planning applications and determined applications were circulated to each Member. It was pointed out that several of the applications had been submitted retrospectively. This was an issue which the Town Council strongly objected to and felt that an increased fee should be levied for applications made in this way. **RESOLVED that no objections be made to the application details submitted. FURTHER RESOLVED that a letter of concern be forwarded to Durham County Council regarding the submission and determination of retrospective planning applications.**

88. STOCKTAKE SUMMARY SHEET, SHOTTON HALL BANQUETING SUITES, PETERLEE FOOTBALL CLUB & THE PAVILION – PERIOD UP TO 31ST JULY 2009

Consideration was given to the Stocktaker's Reports for the period up to 31st July 2009. A further report was given from the Facilities Manager for the wastage at the Football Club.

RESOLVED that the reports provided by the Stocktaker, be received and the contents of the further report be accepted.

FURTHER RESOLVED that an income and expenditure report be collated for each premise on a quarterly basis.

89. TWINNING
(A) SUMMER VISIT REPORT

The Report of the Liaison Officer was circulated and everyone agreed the visit had been successful. The comments on attendance at the Farewell Party were noted and the suggestion made to combat this problem.

RESOLVED that the report be accepted. FURTHER RESOLVED invitations to future Council events be issued on a personal named basis, and be non transferable.

(B) NORDENHAM – GARTEN AMBIENTE

Members were circulated with a report of the Town Clerk on a request received from the twin town of Nordenham for the Town Council to assist them in organizing British manufacturers and retailers to attend their Garten and Ambiente Event in June 2010.

RESOLVED that this request be agreed “in principle” and the Town Clerk look into how the Town Council may be able to support this request.

90. CONFERENCE LIST

The Town Clerk advised that Councillor Kyle had been offered a Conference that conflicted with the Show weekend.

RESOLVED that Councillor Kyle, as Chairman of the Show Committee not lose his place on the Conference Rota for declining this conference.

91. CHANGE OF AUDIT MANAGER

Members were circulated with details of a change in the Audit Manager from Rochelle Tribe to Paul Heppell. Mr Heppell had carried out this role in the past.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

92. REQUEST FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

(a) Peterlee Pumas

RESOLVED that a donation of £500.00 be made to Peterlee Pumas.

(b) Peterlee Helford Utd FC

RESOLVED that a donation of £500.00 be made to Peterlee Helford Utd FC.

93. REQUEST FOR CONCESSIONARY USE

(a) Peterlee Pumas – End of Season Awards - The Pavilion – Wednesday 26th September 2009

RESOLVED that free use of The Pavilion be granted for this event.

(b) Peterlee Town FC – Sportsmans Dinner – Shotton Hall Banqueting Suites – Friday 9th April 2010

RESOLVED that free use of the Banqueting Suites be granted for this event.

(c) Durham Coast Cricket League – Junior Presentation of Awards Evening – Thursday 1st October 2009

RESOLVED that free use of the Banqueting Suites be granted for this event.

94. TRAINING & DEVELOPMENT

(a) Speed Reading Workshop

Suggested dates had been given by the course facilitator to run this event. Members were asked for their availability and following discussion it was **RESOLVED that this course be arranged to take place on Monday 26th October 2009 at 7.00pm.**

(b) Participatory Budgeting – 3rd September 2009, County Hall, Durham

Members were advised of an invitation to attend this training.

RESOLVED that Councillors W M Jeffrey, H Bennett MBE, C Austin and J Hardy attend this training on the Town Council's behalf.

95. 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, PERSUANT TO THE PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSIONS TO MEETINGS)ACT 1961

& THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION)
ACT 1985.

96. RETIREMENT OF MR J. CLISH, (PARKS DEPARTMENT)

Members gave consideration to the report of the Town Clerk.

RESOLVED that a small reception be held to mark Mr Clish's retirement and long service to the Town Council. FURTHER RESOLVED that the post of Gardener, Scale 4, be filled in accordance with Council Policy.

97. N.P.N.P. GRANT BID

The Town Clerk advised that the Council had been successful in obtaining grant in connection with the North Peterlee Neighbourhood Pathfinder Management Bid. As a result he had advertised the post of Community Worker, Scale 6 with the Town Council.

The Town Clerk also asked for availability of Members of the Pathfinder Working Party to carry out work on the project with Officers of the Pathfinder.

RESOLVED that the action taken by the Town Clerk in advertising this post, be endorsed. FURTHER RESOLVED that Members advise the Clerk of their availability for a meeting in the near future.

98. LEADER'S VERBAL REPORT

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

- AAP Meeting – the Leader reported he had gone along to the first meeting with input being invited from Forum Members. The five priorities given at the initial session were concentrated upon although there was an item on Winter gritting, where he

commented on the resident of Witton Garth's recent request to the Town Council;

- A meeting had been requested and arranged with three of the County Council Members together with the Leader of the Town Council and the Town Clerk. The County Council Members asked for ideas/projects that they could put forward. One given was that of the proposed permanent skatepark. The issue of progress with the Regeneration Plan for Peterlee, (Growthpoint), was also discussed. Assurances were given that a meeting was to be called early September to discuss this with an invitation being extended for Town Council representatives to attend. The future use of the former College site and the North Blunts site were also discussed briefly.

RESOLVED that the contents of the report be noted, and action be taken where appropriate.