

PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE

ON MONDAY 28TH JUNE 2010

PRESENT: COUN L WOOD (CHAIR)

Mesdames: J I Measor, M Milsom & J Black

Messrs: J Alvey, H Bennett MBE, T Jones, J Hardy, D Milsom, C J Metcalfe, R Kyle, C Austin, C Robbins, W M Jeffrey, R Curtis, G Cowie, R W Jones & 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. MR O’DONNELL HAD ASKED TO COME ALONG TO THIS SESSION.

PRIOR TO CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEM COUNCILLOR J I MEASOR DECLARED AN INTEREST AND TOOK NO PART IN THE DISCUSSION WHICH ENSUED.

The Mayor welcomed Mr T O’Donnell to the meeting.

Mr O’Donnell was representing the Black Bull FC and wished to address the Town Council on his recent application to play on the Peterlee Newtown Football Pitch at Eden Lane. He gave the history of the Club and their aspirations. Mr O’Donnell gave details on his request to use the pitch every two weeks, 14 times a year for League Matches along with Cup Matches.

Mr O'Donnell thanked Members for the opportunity to address them and left the meeting.

Members asked for further information from the Horticultural Officer on what costs etc were involved to assist with consideration of this request, and asked for the Sports Development Officer's input in assisting with pitch allocation and this be considered at the next Parks & Cemetery Committee.

RESOLVED that this course of action be followed.

30. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted and approved on behalf of Councillor S McDonnell, (tonsillitis).

31. THE REPORT OF THE ANNUAL PARISH MEETING OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTORS OF THE 17TH MAY 2010 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed, subject to Councillor Hall's attendance at the meeting being recorded.

32. THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed, subject to the Complaints Committee being amended to read Councillor Langan in the place of Councillor Cowie.

RESOLVED that the report on window cleaning be produced as soon as possible.

33. POLICE -UPDATE

The Chairman welcomed PC Rob Mellenthem and PC Jason Mole to the meeting. The crime statistics were given and updates on issues raised at the last meeting, in particular the community speedwatch operation that had ran – with only a 6% result, (15% was needed to get action from Headquarters), although this would continue to operate. With the issue of parking at Acre Rigg School fixed penalty

notices had been issued.

The Leader gave several items for attention:-

- Reo the ice cream van pulling off Manor Way into Granville Road creating problems with parking and traffic movements, noise and litter. It was asked if the school could be approached to see if the van could pull into their grounds/car park;
- Basingstoke Road problems with a vehicle speeding and then parking awkwardly causing problems in the cul de sac;
- HGV using Lowhills Road as a route to the nearby industrial estates causing a noise problem for residents;
- Wheelie bins being set alight in Hatfiled Place and other anti social behavior from youths, drinking in the Dene, littering;
- Police response times
- Chapel Hill Road – incident/report on cars being tampered with.

The Chairman thanked the Officers for their attendance.

34. THE REPORT OF THE HELFORD ROAD WORKING PARTY OF THE 24TH MAY 2010 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

35. THE REPORT OF THE SHOW COMMITTEE OF THE 27TH MAY 2010 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

36. THE REPORT OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE OF THE 14TH JUNE 2010 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

Matters Arising

(i) Minute Number 5 – Proposed Skate Park – Working Party

Members were advised that the Town Council had been asked to put up a stall at the next meeting of the AAP to be held at Blackhall on Thursday 15th July 2010, promoting this proposal.

RESOLVED that membership of the Working Party be agreed at the Finance & General Purposes Committee.

(ii) Minute No 26 – Castle Eden Dene – Memorandum of Agreement & Terms of Reference

The Deputy Town Clerk advised that she had received confirmation from Natural England that the amount requested from the Town Council had been reduced to bring the contribution inline with that of Durham County Council. It had always been the intention that the Town Council would not increase its contribution until the other agencies reached their level; it had never been muted that they would reduce it at any time.

RESOLVED that no objections or comments be offered on these documents and the contribution towards the costs of operating the Nature Reserve as requested be made.

37. THE REPORT OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE OF THE 14TH JUNE 2010 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

Matters Arising

Minute Number 3 Planning Applications

RESOLVED that it be confirmed that the Town Council would support the petition being gathered by local residents.

38. THE REPORT OF THE ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEE OF THE 14TH JUNE 2010 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

39. THE REPORT OF THE PAVILION MANAGEMENT BOARD OF THE 15TH JUNE 2010 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

Matters Arising

Minute Number 8 it was noted that an update had been given by the Facilities Manager regarding bar use and consideration was given to those using the bar at the facility.

RESOLVED that alter be sent to all users asking for their support

in patronizing the Facility before/after their sessions in the building.

40. THE REPORT OF THE CLERK'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE 21ST JUNE 2010 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

Matters Arising

(i) Minute Number 5(i) – Shotton Hall School – Request for financial assistance – Outdoor residential - Northumberland

RESOLVED that consideration be given to this request when the supporting information had been received.

(ii) Minute Number 7 – Concessionary Use of Hill Rigg house Community Spirit **RESOLVED that a balance sheet be requested form this organization.**

41. THE REPORT OF THE INFORMATION CENTRE COMMITTEE OF THE 21ST JUNE 2010 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

Matters Arising

(i) Minute Number 3(b) Staff – Seasonal & Maternity Cover

RESOLVED that approval be given for this post to be advertised as requested.

(ii) Minute Number 3(e) About Town - Advertising

RESOLVED that each request for advertising in the Town Councils Newsletter About Town, be considered on it's own merits.

42. THE REPORT OF THE PARKS & CEMETERY COMMITTEE OF THE 21ST JUNE 2010 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

Matters Arising

(i) Minute Number 3 (a) Compact Tractor

RESOLVED that approval be given to purchase this piece of machinery from Greenlay, (Grass Machinery) Limited at a cost of £21,540.00.

(ii) Minute Number 3(d) Peterlee Newtown Pitch

RESOLVED that the action as agreed at the start of the meeting be agreed and further consideration be given to this matter at the Parks & Cemetery Meeting.

(iii) Minute Number 3(i) Mayor's Tree Planting

RESOLVED that it be Council Policy that the outgoing Mayor be granted the right to plant a tree in Shotton Hall Grounds. The type and position of the tree to be agreed in consultation with the Horticultural Supervisor. This tree could be up to the value of £250.00 and financed from the Mayor's budget. This policy being extended to cover previous Mayors.

43. AUDIT OPINION PLAN – AUDIT 2009/10

Members were circulated with a copy of the Audit Opinion Plan for Peterlee Town Council Audit 2009/2010, June 2010 produced by the Audit Commission. This plan set out the audit work they propose to undertake for the audit of financial statements 2009/10. The plan was based on the Audit Commission's risk-based approach to audit planning. It reflected:

- Audit work specified by the Audit Commission for 2009/10;
- Current national risks relevant to the town Council's circumstances; and
- The local risks.

RESOLVED that the report be accepted.

44. STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2010

Members were circulated with a copy of Peterlee Town Council's Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2010. The report also included a copy of the Town Council's Annual Governance Statement for 2010/11 for approval.

RESOLVED that Annual Report and Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2010, be accepted. FURTHER RESOLVED that the Statement of Corporate Governance for 2010/11, as contained within the accounts, be approved.

45. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Members were given details of two planning applications that had been submitted to Durham County Council as follows:

- (i) Proposal Rear Conservatory
At 17 Balmoral Drive
For Mrs L Maitland

- (ii) Proposal Rear Conservatory (re submission)
At 18 Balmoral Drive
For Mr S Fletcher

RESOLVED no observations be made on the details submitted.

46. ANNUAL REPORT & COUNCIL PLAN - JUNE 2010 - DRAFT

A copy of the first draft of the Annual Report and Council Plan for June 2010 was circulated for Members consideration. Members were asked to advise the Deputy Town Clerk of any comment they wished to make. A price had been obtained for the printing of the document. The Deputy Town Clerk advised that she would obtain a further price and asked for authority to organize the printing of the Plan.

RESOLVED that approval be given for the Plan to be printed and issued.

47. IAN MOWBRAY

The Deputy Town Clerk advised that Mr Ian Mowbray, Headmaster of Shotton Hall School, was to retire at the end of this school term and asked if a presentation could be made on behalf of the Town Council, by the Mayor at the Cultural Heritage Day on Tuesday 6th July 2010.

RESOLVED that Mr Mowbray be presented with a Town Council tie and civic plaque on behalf of the Town Council.

48. LOWHILLS ROAD

The Deputy Town Clerk advised that DAMHA/Isos Housing had approached the Town Council asking for permission to site 4 cabins at Lowhills Road in Town Council land until around March 2011. In return they were willing to undertake works to the bowling green at Lowhills Road and to the surface of the car park.

RESOLVED that the Horticultural Supervisor liaise with the Leader and Councillor Huitson on this matter and report back to a future meeting.

49. LEADER'S REPORT

The Leader gave his report covering the following matters:-

- Caterpillar/DJB he had the opportunity to be at the Apprenticeships Learning Centre of Light. An invitation had been extended for Members to go along and see this facility;
- Future AAP Board Meeting
- Planning Documents out for consultation by DCC - he encouraged Members to go along to the library to see the proposals for themselves as these were important issues.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.