

PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE

ON MONDAY 19TH JULY 2010

PRESENT: COUN L WOOD (CHAIR)

Mesdames: S McDonnell & J I Measor

Messrs: J Alvey, J Hardy, W M Jeffrey, R Curtis, C Watkins, D Langan, G Cowie, C J Metcalfe, C Robbins, R Huitson, C Austin & 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. LOCAL RESIDENTS OF THE THAMES/HELFDOR ROAD AREA ATTENDED THE MEETING. AS NO NOTICE HAD BEEN GIVEN OF THEIR ATTENDANCE THE CHAIRMAN EXPLAINED THAT ISSUES COULD BE RAISED, BUT MAY NOT NECESSARILY BE ANSWERED AS THEY REQUIRED INVESTIGATION.

At this point local residents and representatives from the PCASC Committee attended the meeting. Mr John Watson was nominated as their spokesperson and the Chairman welcomed the members of the public to the meeting.

Mr Watson explained that local residents in Helford Road were suffering from noise from people leaving functions from the Pavilion on an evening. There was noise from taxis, foul language and litter. They were also

experiencing more traffic at the site.

It was also reported that that the flood lights on the MUGA were still on at 10.40pm and there was lots of noise and foul language coming from the court causing a disturbance to residents.

The residents reported that they suffered noise and nuisance as well as lack of privacy during the Show Weekend also. It was also reported that their local postman had recently been attacked. Although they do report trouble they had not seen any Street Wardens in the area.

The Leader assured that all of the issues had been noted and where appropriate and were within the Town Council's remit, they would be investigated fully by the Town Council. He did ask that in future any complaints/issues be reported to the Town Council for attention.

RESOLVED that the action as suggested, be taken.

50. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted and approved on behalf of Councillors R Kyle, (dropped a keg on his foot), D & M Milsom, (on holiday), H Bennett MBE, (holidays), J Black, (holidays), R W Jones, (over exerted himself in the garden).

51. ELECTION OF TOWN COUNCILLOR – EDEN HILL WARD

The Chairman welcomed Mr Colin Watkins to the Town Council as a Member for the Edenhill Ward. He signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Councillor on the Town Council.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

52. POLICE -UPDATE

The Chairman welcomed PC Gooden to the meeting. An update of the statistics since the last meeting was given, along with progress

reports on issues raised at the last meeting.

The Leader asked the Police about the issues raised during the open session prior to the meeting. He referred to the letter from Royal Mail advising that there would be no post delivered in the next five days in that area. He asked if the Police had received any reports of the MUGA running late and noise from the facility. The Police said they would check their logs and advise. He also asked on progress with Eden Lane Cemetery CTTV and if this had proved effective. The Police assured they would report back on this matter.

The Chairman thanked PC Gooden for his attendance.

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

Matters Arising

- (a) Minute Number 32 – Window Cleaning

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

- (b) Minute Number 37 – Planning Applications – The Royal George

Members were advised that this application was to be considered by the Planning Panel on Tuesday 20th July 2010.

RESOLVED that the Leader of the Council along with the Deputy Town Clerk attend this meeting on the Town Council's behalf.

- (c) Minute number 48 – Lowhills Road DAHMA/ISOS – Site Cabins

The Deputy Town Clerk reported receipt of an additional offer from Isos Housing in relation to this site. A request had also been made for the siting of four cabins on Town Council land during the contract.

RESOLVED that authority be given for the Deputy Town Clerk and the Horticultural Supervisor to liaise with the Leader and Councillor Huitson on this matter and agree suitable recompense for the Town Council to allow the cabins to be sited on Town Council Land during the works.

54. THE REPORT OF THE SHOW COMMITTEE OF THE 24TH JUNE 2010 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

55. THE REPORT OF THE MAYOR'S COMMITTEE OF THE 28TH JUNE 2010 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

56. THE REPORT OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE OF THE 5TH JULY 2010 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

Matters Arising

(a) Minute Number 37 – Proposed Skate Park – Working Party

RESOLVED that Councillor Watkins be included on the Working Party.

(b) Minute Number 41 – Forming a Resident's Group in Howletch Ward

RESOLVED that the Town Council support the establishment of a Resident's Group in Howletch and any Member wishing to get involved do so.

(c) Minute Number 45 – Declaration of Result of Poll

RESOLVED that the minute be amended to read..."One Member did not agree with this course of action, rather than objected to this course of action".

57. THE REPORT OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE OF THE 5TH JULY 2010 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

Minute Number 6 – County Durham Development Plan

The Deputy Town Clerk advised that it would not be possible for the Head of Planning to come to a future meeting.

The Town Council needed to make a statement on what they prefer in the consultation document. It was suggested that what was going to happen to Peterlee in terms of regeneration and growth, the road structure, and it was felt that Option B would best serve the Town Council's aspirations for the town and the surrounding villages for the next 20 years.

RESOLVED that the Town Council's preferred Option B be forwarded to Durham County Council.

58. THE REPORT OF THE ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEE OF THE 5TH JULY 2010 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

Matters Arising

Minute Number 17- Training Courses Available

Members felt that it was important to avoid duplication and get value for money with any training arranged.

RESOLVED that investigations be made into what of the course were relevant to Members learning and development and this be progressed.

59. THE REPORT OF THE PAVILION MANAGEMENT BOARD OF THE 6TH JULY 2010 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed, subject to apologies being show as accepted and it be amended that it was the Contractor's responsibility to make adjustments to the grass crete road and not the Parks Department.

RESOLVED that these amendments be noted and all Members receive a copy of the Officer's reports submitted to this meeting.

60. THE REPORT OF THE SPECIAL CLERK'S ADVISORY MEETING OF THE 7TH JULY 2010 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

61. THE REPORT OF THE FINANCE SUB COMMITTEE OF THE 12TH JULY 2010 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

62. THE REPORT OF THE CLERK'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE 12TH JULY 2010 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

63. THE REPORT OF THE PARKS & CEMETERY COMMITTEE OF THE 12TH JULY 2010 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

Matters Arising

Minute Number 18 (iii) – Luncheon Club

RESOLVED that the funding of the Luncheon Club be agreed of £325.00, subject to the situation with the volunteer assisting with the project, being clarified.

64. PROPOSED TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER – PASSFIELD WAY & DURHAM WAY – INITIAL CONSULTATION

Members were circulated with details of initial consultation with this Order.

RESOLVED that no objections be offered.

65. INVITATION TO HOUSING STRATEGY & COUNTY DURHAM PLAN EVENT

Members were circulated with an invitation to attend this event.

RESOLVED that Councillor Jeffrey and Metcalfe attend the event on 22nd July at Spennymoor and the Deputy Town Clerk attend the session at Chester le Street on the 29th July 2010.

66. PETERLEE: TOWN CENTRE CLOCK

Members were circulated with details from the company that currently service the Town Centre clock at Lee House. The Deputy Town Clerk advised that she was investigating this matter with the owners of the Office Block and would report back to the next meeting. Members asked if there was a lease on this equipment or a formal arrangement existing for the clock maintenance. The Deputy Town Clerk advised she would look into this and advise Members accordingly.

RESOLVED that this matter be considered further at the next meeting.

67. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

- (i) Proposed Roof over existing front balcony
At 17 Barnard Wynd
For Dr R Gupta

- (ii) Proposed Rear sun room/WC extension (resubmission)
At 113 Brougham Court
For Mr S Khan

RESOLVED no observations be made on the details submitted.

68. PRESS RELEASE – NORTH BLUNTS SITE

Members were circulated with a draft of a suggested press release regarding the proposed redevelopment of the former North Blunts School Site, Peterlee prepared by the Developers.

RESOLVED that the contents of this press release be agreed.

69. PETERLEE GUIDE – A-Z NORTH EAST PRESS

Members were asked to give consideration to the Town Council taking an advert, as in previous years, in the 12th Guide to Peterlee. The Guide would be hard wearing enabling people to keep in for 12 months. It would have informative editorial listings cover emergency telephone numbers including the police, ambulance, travel, transport, social services, health services, education, council numbers and information on where and when councilor surgeries would be held. It would have a classified section and also include editorial. Delivered

free to 8,000 homes throughout Peterlee the Guide provided a potential market place of over 11,5600 adult readers. It would also appear on the web site.

RESOLVED that the Town Council place a full page advert in the Guide at a cost of £350.00 +vat.

70. PAYMENT TO ABLE CONSTRUCTION

The Deputy Town Clerk reported receipt of correspondence from Able Construction regarding the Town Council withholding of payment relating to Certificate 13. It was accepted that works to the roof and any defects appeared to have been rectified and it was agreed that this payment be made. There was still the matter of the bowling mats which needed to be pursued to all parties' satisfaction.

RESOLVED that the payment of Certificate No 13 be made. FURTHER RESOLVED that the issue of the replacement of the bowling mats be pursued by the Architects.

71. LEADER'S REPORT

The Leader gave his report covering the following matters:-

- AAP Board Meeting – this was well attended and the Town Council had put on a display of the proposed skate park and there was lots of interest in the development;
- He welcomed the new Member to the Town Council. He referred to how this election had been fought and to his experiences over the years in campaigning. He was disappointed at the content of the election material that had been put out which he felt was slanderous and not factually correct however he assured that the Council would continue to work together for the good of the residents of the Town.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.