

PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE

ON MONDAY 16TH AUGUST 2010

PRESENT: COUN. L WOOD (CHAIR)

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

Messrs: C Robbins, W M Jeffrey, H Bennett MBE, J Alvey, R Curtis, R Kyle, T Jones, J Hardy, D Milsom, C J Metcalfe, R W Jones, C Watson & R Huitson

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.

72. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted and approved on behalf of Councillors E W Hall, (on holiday), G Cowie, (asthma), C Austin, (on holiday).

73. POLICE -UPDATE

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

reports on some of the issues raised at the last meeting.

The Leader gave the following items for attention:

- Problems with parking in Basingstoke Road, details of the cars causing the problem were given;
- Area to the rear of the Norseman/North Blunts Dene – littered with used needles and rubbish;
- Any progress with Reo ice cream van before the school term began;
- Taxi drivers, driving dangerously;
- Parking on footpaths – especially outside the Methodist Church.

The Police confirmed that they did inter link with the Agency that ran the ESME project for the replacement of needles and had spoken to them about the problems of littering. As the land was in the ownership of the Town Council the responsibility was falling to them to clean up the area which was not a satisfactory situation. It was suggested that perhaps the Town Council should take this up with ESME.

In closing the Leader gave details of operation Nimrod which he was pleased to have witnessed first hand the excellent work that the Police were doing in tackling the issue of drugs in the area. He reported it was very gratifying to see the action that was being taken and to be able to give residents the reassurance that the Police were successfully tackling this difficult issue.

The Chairman thanked PC Davies for his attendance.

74. THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.
75. THE REPORT OF THE MAYOR'S COMMITTEE OF THE 19TH JULY 2010 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

76. THE REPORT OF THE SHOTTON HALL SUB COMMITTEE OF THE 20TH JULY 2010 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.
77. THE REPORT OF THE JOINT HEALTH & SAFETY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE 26TH JULY 2010 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

Reference was made about the non attendance of Managers at the meetings. It was stressed that Managers or their Deputy's needed to make every effort to attend the meeting or give a report to be given in their absence with the intention that every Department would be represented.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

78. THE REPORT OF THE SHOW COMMITTEE OF THE 29TH JULY 2010 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed, it being noted that Plants R Us were to be on site at the Show and those competitors who had won vouchers in the Horticulture Marquee would be able to make contact with them.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

79. THE REPORT OF THE PETERLEE SHOW WORKING PARTY OF THE 4TH AUGUST 2010 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

RESOLVED that the action taken in organizing a Special Meeting of the Working Party with members of the Round Table, be endorsed.

FURTHER RESOLVED that Councillor Ian Harrington, from Spennymoor Town Council and Vice Chairman of the Larger Local Councils Committee, be invited on the Saturday to the Show.

80. THE REPORT OF THE COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE OF THE 9TH AUGUST 2010 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member,

was agreed, subject to the report being amended to show that the representatives from PCASC, (complainant), were not present at the meeting.

RESOLVED that when received the letter from the Architect be seen by Members before it was sent to the complainant.

81. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

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

Proposed Two storey side and single storey side and rear extensions

At 124 Brougham Court

For Mr H Musgrave

Proposed Change of use of land to Open Market (retrospective)

At Broadclose/Hailsham Place

For Salford Estates

Proposed Single Storey side and rear extensions

At 15 Spire Hollin

For Mr G Watson

Proposed Bay Window

At 72 Helford Road

For Mr A Watson

RESOLVED no observations be made on the details submitted.

82. STOCKTAKE SUMMARY SHEET, SHOTTON HALL BANQUETING SUITES, PETERLEE FOOTBALL CLUB & THE PAVILION – PERIOD UP TO 12TH JULY 2010

Copies of the stock take summary sheets for Shotton Hall Banqueting Suites, Peterlee Football Club and The Pavilion were circulated to each Member.

Members made reference once again to line cleaning. It was asked

who did the line cleaning at each of the buildings.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

83. HELDFORD ROAD OLD PAVILION – ECOLOGICAL SURVEY

Members were circulated with a copy of an ecological survey carried out on the building that was to be demolished at Helford Road. Members were disappointed that this was a further item of expenditure relating to this project that could have been avoided.

RESOLVED that the action taken in commissioning this survey at a cost of £300.00 +vat through the Town Council's Architect's, be endorsed.

84. REQUEST FOR CONCESSIONARY USE OF THE PAVILION – HERITAGE OPEN DAY, DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL – SATURDAY 11TH SEPTEMBER 2010

Members gave consideration to this request for concessionary use of the Brian Joyce Suite on Saturday 11th September 2010 for the Heritage Open Day Event.

RESOLVED that 50% the normal hourly rate of hire be granted as a concession for this event.

85. DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL - TEMPORARY FOOTPATH CLOSURE – ST LEONARDS CLOSE

Members were circulated with a copy of details relating to this temporary footpath closure. Whilst they had no objections to offer on this work they were disappointed that they had not been consulted on re surfacing roadworks that had been carried out over the previous weekend which had caused havoc to local residents and users of Asda on the Sunday morning.

RESOLVED that these comments be forwarded to Durham County Council.

86. CASTLE DENE SHOPPING CENTRE – DEVELOPMENT BRIEFING – THURSDAY 12TH AUGUST 2010 AT 1.00PM

The Members that had attended this development briefing had found it very informative.

RESOLVED that further developments with this matter be awaited.

87. DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL - PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE OF COUNTY DURHAM, CORE STRATEGY – ISSUES AND OPTIONS PAPER – DRAFT SUGGESTED REPLY

Members were circulated with a copy of a draft comprehensive reply prepared by the Town Clerk in response to this consultation paper. The Leader also advised that he and the Town Clerk had attended a recent AAP Board Meeting where the Clerk had strongly voiced his opinions on this issue.

RESOLVED that the reply, as circulated, be sent to Durham County Council.

88. DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL - DRAFT LIBRARY STRATEGY CONSULTATION

Members were circulated with a copy of this consultation document.

RESOLVED that any Member with comments on this consultation document advise the Town Clerk as soon as possible and an appropriate response be forwarded on the Town Council's behalf.

89. RESIDENTIAL CARE HOMES CONSULTATION – RESPONSE FROM DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL

Members were circulated with a copy of the decision of the County Council Cabinet to accept the recommendation to close all 7 homes, which had been widely publicized. They now advised that work had started on implementing this decision in a way which minimized and managed risk to residents.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

90. DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL - TAXI LICENSING POLICY PUBLIC CONSULTATION

Members were circulated with a copy of this consultation document.

RESOLVED that any Member with comments on this consultation document advise the Town Clerk as soon as possible and an appropriate response be forwarded on the Town Council's behalf.

91. DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL - PRIVATE SECTOR HOUSING STRATEGY CONSULTATION

Members were circulated with a copy of this consultation document.

RESOLVED that any Member with comments on this consultation document advise the Town Clerk as soon as possible and an appropriate response be forwarded on the Town Council's behalf.

92. DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITIES & LOCAL GOVERNMENT - CONSULTATION ON HOLDING LOCAL REFERENDUMS TO CONTROL COUNCIL TAX/PRECEPT INCREASES

Members were circulated with a copy of this consultation document.

RESOLVED that any Member with any comments to make on this consultation document forward them to the Council Leader

for him to included in discussions at the next meeting of the Larger Local Councils.

93. 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.

94. CASTLE DENE SHOPPING CENTRE – 4 UPPER YODEN WAY –
RELEASE OF LANDLORDS COVENANTS

Members were advised of a notice from the landlord received in relation to 4 Upper Yoden Way, Information Centre. This notice was to apply for the release from landlords obligations when he transfers his interest to a new landlord. It was suggested to Members that this was a reasonable request and the Town Council should offer no objection to it.

RESOLVED that the Town Council agree to release Kenmore Capital Glenrothes Ltd from the landlord's obligations with effect from the date of transfer.

95. PROVISION OF SKATEPARK IN WOODHOUSE PARK –
PROGRESS REPORT

Members were circulated with a report outlining progress with the proposed skate park and outlining issues with soil compaction works required at the site.

RESOLVED that the amended contract sum of £135,500 be accepted, with the Town Council funding the £1,500 to complete the project.

96. TENDERS FOR WINDOW CLEANING SERVICES AT ALL
COUNCIL BUILDINGS

Consideration was given to the report prepared following the receipt of a tender for the provision of this service.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) the tender submitted not be accepted;**
- (ii) all of the Town Council's buildings be included in the service level agreement, including Hill Rigg House and Peterlee Football Club, currently cleaned in house;**
- (ii) the service be re-tendered with tenders being sent out by recorded delivery.**

97. PAYMENT TO THE DEPUTY TOWN CLERK IN RESPECT OF ADDITIONAL DUTIES

RESOLVED that consideration of this item be deferred.

98. LEADER'S REPORT

The Leader gave his report covering the following matters:-

- Skatepark at Seaham
- Discussions at the recent AAP Board Meeting
- Larger Local Councils Forum
- Representation of Parish & Town Councils on the AAP;
- Youth Shelter at South Hetton.

The Leader gave further details on the offer of the Youth Shelter currently sited at South Hetton that was to be removed. This was an offer from the Civic Pride Officer, Durham County Council. The main costs to relocate this structure were to be bourn by DCC, but there could be a minimal cost to the Town Council. It was suggested that this could be used at Eden Lane at the Peterlee Newtown Ground as a shelter for the disabled, alternatively it may be used in Woodhouse Park next to the new skatepark.

RESOLVED that the offer of the Youth Shelter be accepted and the remainder of the report be noted.