

PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE

ON MONDAY 18TH JULY 2011

PRESENT: J HARDY (CHAIR)

Mesdames: S McDonnell, L Wood & S McDonnell

Messrs: T A Jones, D Milsom, C Austin, C J Metcalfe, C Robbins, W M Jeffrey, J Alvey, D Langan, G Cowie, C Watkins, R Kyle, E W Hall & 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.

AT THIS POINT 37 MEMBERS OF PETERLEE CRICKET CLUB CAME INTO THE MEETING WITH BOB GARAGHAN AS THEIR SPOKESPERSON.

Points made at the meeting included:-

The turn out demonstrated the interest shown by its members in coming along to represent their Club;

Theirs was a social club and a “not for profit” enterprise and they felt there had been significant and in their opinion unnecessary delays with staff being made redundant and significant loss of revenue;

The fire was behind the smoking shelter and not in the smoking shelter structure and the shelter had not required planning permission;

They are not in competition to the Pavilion, they are a small organization;

They pay rates for the cricket square and they needed to reach an amicable solution to the 2012 rent review. They felt it was unacceptable that the Council had asked for membership details of the Club;

The Metropolis Act was relevant to the case and they were surprised the Town Council had lost its copy of the lease;

They did support the cricket and sponsored football teams.

In summary they asked for the Club to be reinstated as soon as reasonably practicable. They wanted the Club to re open and they wished the Town Council to consider this question “When would the Club be re-opening”, this was the question they wanted an answer to.

The Mayor thanked the representatives for their attendance.

56. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted and accepted on behalf of H Bennett, MBE on holiday & J I Measor, (school business).

57. POLICE – UPDATE

The Chairman welcomed PCSO’s Jepson and Willis to the meeting.

The Beat Officers present at the meeting gave updates on issues raised at previous meetings.

The Leader gave the following issues for attention:-

- Parking on grass verges at Shotton Hall School
- Inconsiderate parking at Basingstoke Road
- Corner of Fulwell Road/manor Way – parking on the corner causing a dangerous blind spot
- Off road motorbikes causing a danger to sports players at

Helford Road

- Problems with Youths at Helford Road
- Positive news with the work of the Park Rangers however continuing issues at Woodhouse Park
- Leisure Gardens – problems at Lowhills Road robberies
- Taxi drivers inconsiderate driving practices.

RESOLVED that the information given be noted.

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

59. THE REPORT OF THE MAYOR'S COMMITTEE OF THE 20TH JUNE 2011 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was approved.

RESOLVED civic boundaries be retained as they were at present.

60. THE REPORT OF THE JOINT HEALTH & SAFETY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE 27TH JUNE 2011 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was approved.

61. THE REPORT OF THE HELFORD ROAD WORKING PARTY OF THE 30TH JUNE 2011 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was approved. Mention was made on the matter of Architectural Services following the death of Mr T Burns of Burns Architects.

62. THE REPORT OF THE SHOW MEETING OF THE 30TH JUNE 2011 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was approved.

63. THE REPORT OF THE SHOTTON HALL SUB SUB COMMITTEE OF THE 1ST JULY 2011 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was approved.

64. THE REPORT OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE OF THE 4TH JULY 2011 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was approved.

Matters Arising

- (i) Minute Number 20 – Nominations for CDALC Executive Committee & Motions for Discussion

RESOLVED no nominations be made to the executive but a motion be submitted on double taxation.

- (ii) Minute Number 24 – Peterlee - Town Centre Clock

Further to discussions it had been reported the frame housing the bell for the clock was in a serious condition and a site visit had been held.

RESOLVED a report be commissioned from the engineers that maintained the clock and prices be obtained for the two options that were open to the Town Council, to either repair the “A” frame holding the bell for the clock or alternatively to take the bell down and have no chime for the clock.

65. THE REPORT OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE OF THE 4TH JULY 2011 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was approved.

66. THE REPORT OF THE ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEE OF THE 4TH JULY 2011 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was approved.

Matters Arising

- Minute Number 15 – Closure of Peterlee Newtown Football Club

It was reported that several Councillors had been verbally abused by some of the former users of the bar at this Club. It was stressed that although the bar had been closed the Football Club and the building was still operating.

RESOLVED that the information given be noted.

67. THE REPORT OF THE PAVILION MANAGEMENT BOARD OF THE 5TH JULY 2011 a copy of which had been circulated to each

Member, was approved. It was requested that copies of the bar usage be circulated to Members for their information.

68. THE REPORT OF THE CLERK'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE 11TH JULY 2011 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was approved.

Matters Arising

- (i) Minute Number 17 (i) Passfield & District Community Association

It was reported further prices had been received for Pom Poms for use in their display at the Show.

RESOLVED that consideration of this request for financial assistance this be referred to the next meeting.

69. THE REPORT OF THE PARKS & CEMETERY COMMITTEE OF THE 11TH JULY 2011 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was approved.

Lowhills Road Bowls Presentation – Open Pairs Match

RESOLVED a donation of £250.00 be made towards the open pairs competition.

70. THE REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING OF THE 18TH JULY 2011 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was approved.

71. REVIEW OF POLLING DISTRICTS & POLLING PLACES

RESOLVED a comment be made at the long walk to the access to the polling booth at the new college site and a suggestion be made that a room be used closer to an entrance. It was also suggestion that on line voting should be promoted.

72. LEADER'S REPORT

The Leader gave his report which included the following items:-

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- Cricket Club – it was interesting to see members come along to the meeting and he did not believe he had ever passed comment on the membership of the club;
- Minutes and exempt information, Code of Conduct and the Standards Board – he reminded Members of the protocols and behavior expected of both Officers and Members and he felt this needed to be made very clear and discussed in detail at a future meeting;
- AAP – Members had been circulated with a report detailing how the money had been spent and on what schemes;
- Town Centre Car parking charges – he was concerned that charges would drive shoppers away from the Town and he understood Graham Morris had taken this issue up;

RESOLVED that:-

- (i) a report be prepared by the Clerk on the Code of Conduct and the Nolan Principles and this be considered at a Special Meeting;**
- (ii) the remainder of the report be noted.**