

PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE

ON MONDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2011

PRESENT: J HARDY (CHAIR)

Mesdames: S McDonnell, L Wood & M Milsom

Messrs: T A Jones, J Alvey, H Bennett MBE, W M Jeffrey, C Watkins, G Cowie, C J Metcalfe, C Robbins, R Huitson, D Milsom, D Langan, R Kyle, C Robbins, R W Jones & C Austin

**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. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WERE PRESENT AT THE MEETING.

The Mayor welcomed Mr Miles and Mr Carne, residents of Olaman Walk, to the meeting. They wished to express their concerns at the misuse of the car park next to the bowling green at Lowhills Road, owned by the Town Council, adjacent to their homes. The residents gave examples of the nuisance and disturbance they were experiencing and had documented these also.

The Mayor thanked the gentleman for their attendance and assured them their concerns would be investigated and that feedback would be given to them as soon as was possible.

**RESOLVED this matter be discussed at the joint meeting between County Council Officer, the Police and the Town Council to be arranged in January 2012.**

145. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted and accepted from Councillor J I Measor, (childcare commitments), and Councillor H Bennett MBE, (on holiday).

146. POLICE -UPDATE

The Chairman welcomed the Police, PC Johnson and Neighbourhood Warden to the meeting.

PC Johnson gave apologies on behalf of Jon Stoddart, Chief Constable, who was not able to attend the meeting. Various alternative methods of making contact with the Chief Constable were outlined.

Assurances were given that the anti social behavior issues were in hand at Olaman Walk. An update was given on the issue of cars being parked up on land in public ownership, displaying “For Sale” notices. Assurances given that if street Wardens were on duty they would contact the owner and request them to remove it. PC Johnson had no update on the request for an additional school crossing patrol next to Shotton Hall School.

The Leader raised the following issues on behalf of the Town Council:-

- The expressed the Council still wished to meet with Jon Stoddart Chief Constable;
- Olaman Walk – issues were still unresolved and it was requested that the Police provide a detailed information on what action they intended to take on it;
- Safety issues with car transporters unloading on Passfield Way. It was requested that the Police could speak to the Manager of the garage to avoid a serious accident happening.

**RESOLVED** the issues be noted and the Police act upon requests wherever possible and feedback to the next meeting.

147. THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF THE 21<sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER 2011 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.

Matters Arising

(i) Minute Number 129 – Finance Sub Committee

It was **RESOLVED** that the word “challenged” be replaced with “query”. **FURTHER RESOLVED** that work be initiated by the Deputy Town Clerk to establish a contractors list for the Town Council. This would initially require a schedule of services that might be suitable for external procurement to be submitted to the February meeting.

(ii) Minute Number 129 – Committee Cycle and Terms of Reference

**RESOLVED** that following discussion with relevant staff, a trial 6.30pm start and 9.00pm close, for all Council Meetings be implemented. **FURTHER RESOLVED** that a report be produced with a view to the cycle of meetings being reviewed, particularly to allow more timely and effective approval of payments.

(iii) Minute Number 33

(a) Salvation Army Horden & Easington Colliery

Following consideration of further information it was **RESOLVED** a donation of £100.00 be made and authority be given for this cheque to be issued immediately.

(b) Horizon Pool Group

**RESOLVED** no changes be made to the existing concessionary use.

148. THE MINUTES OF THE MAYOR’S COMMITTEE OF THE 21<sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER 2011 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.

149. THE MINUTES OF THE HELFORD ROAD WORKING PARTY OF THE 23<sup>RD</sup> NOVEMBER 2011 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.

150. THE MINUTES OF THE SHOW WORKING PARTY OF THE 1<sup>ST</sup> DECEMBER 2011 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed, subject to the phrase “lessons learned” being deleted and replaced with “improving arrangements”.

Matters Arising

(i) Minute Number 8 – Ideas for the 40<sup>th</sup> Show

**RESOLVED that a stand be arranged to publicize information on the Digital Switchover due to begin in September 2012.**

(ii) Minute Number 9 – Vacant Positions

**RESOLVED Councillor W M Jeffrey be appointed to the role of Parade Marshall and Councillor J Alvey, Deputy Parade Marshall.**

151. THE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE OF THE 5<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2011 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.

Matters Arising

(a) Minute Number 81(i) – Halloween Event

**RESOLVED that a full balance sheet be submitted outlining all of the staff costs.**

(b) Minute Number 81 (iii) Loss of Carer’s Allowance

A copy of the letter sent by Councillor Cooke to Grahame Morris MP was circulated to each Member for their information.

**RESOLVED that progress with this matter be awaited.**

(c) Licensing Enforcement Officer and New Civil Parking Officers

It was reported that a joint meeting was to be arranged to discuss traffic issues in the Town, with the Police also being invited to attend.

**RESOLVED that the meeting be arranged and Members be**

**advised in due course.**

152. THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE OF THE 5<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2011 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.
153. THE MINUTES OF THE ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEE OF THE 5<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2011 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.
154. THE MINUTES OF THE PAVILION MANAGEMENT BOARD OF THE 6<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2011 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.  
**RESOLVED that each month's usual Pavilion Management Board Meeting with user group representatives, be immediately followed by a more strategic discussion to consider business planning, performance management etc for the Pavilion.**

The Leader advised that he had received an e mail from Mr Cusworth, (Bar User Representative), about the bar in the Pavilion being closed on Christmas Day. This had been discussed in detail following last year's opening and it had recently been agreed that the bar would not open this year.

**RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.**

155. THE MINUTES OF THE CLERK'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE 12<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2011 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.

Matters Arising

- (i) Minute Number 50(i)(a) Age UK Winter Warmth Event – 25<sup>th</sup> January 2012

**RESOLVED that free use of the facilities at The Pavilion be granted for this event.**

- (ii) Minute Number 48 (b) and (c) Larger Local Councils Forum – 17<sup>th</sup> February 2011

**RESOLVED** it be noted that it was the Larger Local Councils Forum that planned to host two meetings at Shotton Hall on the 17<sup>th</sup> February 2012, and not the East Durham Association of Parish & Town Councils as previously indicated.

156. THE MINUTES OF THE PARKS & CEMETERY COMMITTEE OF THE 12<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2011 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.

157. TO AGREE THE SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS IN JANUARY 2012

Members were asked to agree the schedule of meetings for January 2012.

**RESOLVED** the meetings be held on 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> of January 2012 and begin at 6.30pm. **FURTHER RESOLVED** meetings of the Shotton Hall Sub be held monthly with the first on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2012.

158. LEADER'S REPORT

The Leader gave his report to the meeting:-

- New emergency telephone number for Police reports – 101;
- Leaflet from County Durham and Darlington Fire and Rescue Service on burning garden waste and controlled burns and it was asked that fires on the allotment sites be considered further;
- Road traffic safety – Passfield Way – off loading of transporters;
- Shotton Airfield Consultative Committee;
- The length of meetings and for the new start times to be implemented as soon as possible;
- Monthly meetings of the Shotton Hall Sub Committee be held.

**RESOLVED:-**

- (i) **the issue of fires on allotment gardens be discussed at a future Parks & Cemetery Meeting;**

- (ii) road traffic safety relating to transporters off loading on Passfield Way, be investigated by the Police and feedback be awaited;**
- (iii) the new emergency telephone number for the Police be circulated to all staff;**
- (iv) new meeting times be adopted and Shotton Hall Sub Committees be convened on a monthly basis.**

In closing the Leader of the Town Council wished everyone a Happy Christmas.