

PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE

ON TUESDAY 18TH APRIL 2017 at 6.30PM

PRESENT:- COUN M A CARTWRIGHT (CHAIR)

Mesdames:- S McDonnell, S Simpson, K Liddell & K Hawley

Messrs:- G L Carne, C Robbins, L Cook, S Miles, C Watkins, W
M Jeffrey, G Cowie & A Watson

175. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been submitted from Councillor L M Wood.

RESOLVED the Council approve the reasons submitted for the absences received on the grounds where given above, and the Councillor's apologies for absence be recorded.

176. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION SESSION

A public participation session was held to allow Members of the public an opportunity to put questions to the Council. There were several members of the public in attendance at the meeting and the Chair welcomed them to the meeting; they did not wish to speak on any issues.

RESOLVED the information given, be noted.

177. THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF THE 20TH MARCH

2017 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved.

Matters Arising

Parking Charges, Peterlee Community Hospital

The Deputy Town Clerk read out the contents of a reply received from the Chairman of the North Tees and Hartlepool NHS Foundation Trust following representations made to him regarding parking charges at the Community Hospital car park in the Town.

Members felt that the collaborative work being undertaken reducing car parking tariffs was not acceptable and firmly believed parking should be free at the site.

RESOLVED this feedback be given to the Chairman.

178. THE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE OF THE 3RD APRIL 2017 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved.

179. THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE OF THE 3RD APRIL 2017 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved.

Matters Arising

Members were advised the use of land as car wash at Peterlee Lodge Hotel, Bede Way had now been approved with conditions attached to it. Members were disappointed that the application had been approved and felt the conditions should have been met fully prior to approval being considered. Reference was also made to permissions granted by the landlord of the Peterlee Lodge public house. It was stressed the Dene Parks site needed to be closely monitored and any issues reported immediately for to Planning enforcement if necessary.

RESOLVED Durham County Council be notified further of the Town Councils concerns with this proposal.

180. THE MINUTES OF THE ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEE OF THE 3RD APRIL 2017 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved.

181. THE MINUTES OF THE PARKS & CEMETERY MEETING OF THE 10TH APRIL 2017 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved.

182. PURCHASE OF A NEW TELEPHONY SYSTEM FOR PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

Members considered the report, a copy of which had been previously circulated to each Member seeking approval for the award of a three year contract for a new telephony system and telephone/broadband lines supply for the Town Council.

RESOLVED approval be given to the award of a 36 month contract for a new telephone system as detailed in this report to Russell Telecom, and:

- (i) Agree an up-front payment of £4,995 for the purchase of the telephony system hardware;**
- (ii) Agree the transfer of all of the Council's landlines and broadband connections to Russell Telecom;**
- (iii) Town Clerk be granted plenary powers to progress the installation and commissioning of the new system with Russell Telecom.**

183. ASSETS OF COMMUNITY VALUE

Councillor A Watson had requested this item be placed on the agenda for Council to consider and discuss the process and powers that were available to PTC to protect Assets of community value in local communities. At the meeting he explained this in more simple

terms and spoke about the Hearts of Oak public house being part of the Passfield community for over 50 years and its importance as one of the only remaining licensed premises in the area.

RESOLVED this item be considered at the first meeting of the Resources Committee in June 2017.

184. REVIEW OF COMMITTEES

Members were asked to note the proposed revised committee structure and provide feedback prior to its presentation to the new Council in May 2017. Members of the Scrutiny Committee gave further details for Council and gave their full support to the suggested changes and congratulated Officers on this piece of work.

RESOLVED the new committee structure be presented to the new Council on 9th May 2017 at an induction session, prior to its adoption at the AGM on 15 May 2017.

185. COMPLAINTS POLICY

Members considered a copy of the Complaints Policy produced by the Town Clerk, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member.

RESOLVED the contents of the report be noted and the complaints policy be adopted with immediate effect.

186. SPOKESPERSON OF THE LABOUR POLITICAL PARTY'S REPORT

Councillor Jeffrey advised it would be his last meeting, and assured it was not because of an ongoing problem over the last three years. He said he had been on the Town Council since 1972 and had never lost an election and had really enjoyed his time on the Council. He

wished everyone all the best and that their hopes come to fruition.

The Mayor thanked Councillor Jeffrey for his years of dedication to the Town and the Council. She also thanked Councillor Cowie for his years of service and friendship during his time with the Town Council.

RESOLVED the information given, be noted.

187. SPOKESPERSON OF THE NEP MEMBER'S REPORT

Councillor A Watson thanked both long serving Members for their years of service and also made mention of those colleagues not in attendance at the meeting including Councillor Wood, Curtis and Metcalfe. He wished colleagues success in the forthcoming local council elections.

RESOLVED the information given, be noted.