

PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE

ON MONDAY 29TH JANUARY 2018 at 6.30PM

PRESENT:- COUN M A CARTWRIGHT(CHAIR)

Mesdames:- A C Long, L Fenwick, K Hawley, K J Duffy & S Simpson

Messrs:- A T Wilkinson, A S H Meikle, S Kirkup, R Kyle, C Watkins, G Carne, T Duffy, R Moore, S Miles, S P Franklin & A Watson

114. Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been submitted from Councillor S McDonnell, S McGlen, (work commitments), K Liddell & J Robinson, (work commitments). **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.**

115. Public Participation Session

A public participation session was held to allow members of the public an opportunity to put questions to the Council.

The Mayor welcomed representatives from Lowhills Road Bowling Club, Mr John Lormor and Mr Colin Armitage were in attendance at the meeting to address the Council. Mr Armitage thanked the Council for the opportunity to come along to the meeting. He spoke about the current review of the lawn bowling provision being carried out by the Town Council, he commented neither he nor or any of his colleagues had any prior knowledge of this and he felt their input at the start would have been helpful. Mr Armitage then went on to detail what he felt were the real costs of the upkeep of the bowling green at Lowhills Road. The meeting was then opened for questions and answers with the representatives. In closing it was assured by the Town Council that members from both sites would be involved in consultation on this matter. Any decisions made would be communicated with as much notice as possible, in the meantime the clubs

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should carry on as normal. The Mayor thanked Mr Lormor and Mr Armitage for coming along to the meeting.

In closing the resolution made at the Community and Environment Committee held in December was confirmed in that the contents of the report be noted and approval be given to the de-commissioning of one of the lawn bowling sites owned and managed by the Town Council, with consolidation of bowls provision on the remaining site. It had been further resolved the Community & Environment Committee oversee the transition process, and consider establishing a working party to complete this task/project if required. **RESOLVED progress be awaited.**

The Mayor then welcomed two residents from Yoden Road who had come along to the meeting to speak about the issues they were having with anti social behavior which had escalated to such an extreme level it was affecting their health and well being. They were encouraged by the Council to make reports to the Police via the appropriate telephone number. It was agreed that a public meeting be called by the Town Council inviting Ron Hogg, the Police Commissioner, to the meeting.

RESOLVED contact be made with Mr Hogg to see if a public meeting could be arranged with him in attendance.

116. To receive declarations of interest

Members were reminded of the need to disclose any interests in items on this agenda, whether pecuniary or otherwise.

117. The Minutes of the Council Meeting of the 18th December 2017 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved.

An update on Peterlee Cricket Club was requested, which was given. An assurance was given a report would be made to Council soon on the fencing proposal along with other issues related to the cricket and Helford Road. It was suggested that the oval be named "The Simpson Oval" and Members felt this was something that should be supported. **RESOLVED the report be awaited.**

118. The Minutes of the Resources Committee of the 8th January 2018 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved.

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119. The Minutes of the Community & Environment Committee of the 15th January 2018 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved. In relation to litter and dog fouling it was asked if further work could be done on the suggestion that Peterlee be a pilot council to carry out enforcement action against litter and dog fouling and the Town Clerk offered to report back to a future meeting on this proposal. **RESOLVED a report be awaited.**

120. The Minutes of the Special Council Meeting of the 22nd January 2018, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved.

121. Matters Arising from the Minutes

Matters had been raised under the individual minutes.

122. Santa's Wish

Members received a verbal update from Councillor K Duffy on the success of the Santa's Wish 2017 Appeal. The Appeal had been extended from Peterlee to covering all of East Durham with collection tins, donations from local and nationwide businesses, bag packs, sale of sweets and treats, a raffle and small grants from the AAP had given a total of £4,538.83 being raised. 121 families had been helped with 285 children, 167 adults, 39 dogs and 11 cats. The reaction to the Appeal had been very positive and Councillor K Duffy thanked everyone that had been involved including the Salvation Army and Marks and Spencer. She reported it had been an ambitious project but one which had been well worth the effort.

123. Exclusion of the Press and Public

RESOLVED that in view of the confidential nature of the items to be discussed, the committee passed the formal resolution to exclude the press and public from the meeting, pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1961 & the Local Government (Access to Information) Act, Part 1, paragraphs 2 & 8.

124. Consideration of legal opinion on the issue of future Horden Cemetery contributions

The report from the Town Clerk on future contributions to Horden Parish Council relating to Horden Cemetery, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was considered. Following discussion it was **RESOLVED approval be given to the Town Clerk sending the two letters, the contents of which were detailed in the report, to Horden Parish Council. FURTHER RESOLVED Councillor Cartwright, A Watson and the Town Clerk meet with Horden Parish Council to resolve the matter on behalf of the Council.**

125. Spokesperson of the NEP Member's Report

Councillor A Watson reported he was concerned at the increase in the levels of crime, not only in Peterlee but all over the country. He then spoke on the former college site and his concern that the site would become a waste land with a high potential for becoming a crime hot spot.

126. Spokesperson of the Labour Political Party's Report

Councillor Kyle asked that his thanks and appreciation be passed on to the Park Department for making sure the grit bins were filled up over the recent spells of bad weather.

Local Members requested another grit bin for Helford Road and one for Carrock Close.