

PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE

ON MONDAY 25TH MARCH 2019 at 6.30PM

PRESENT:- COUN A S H MEIKLE (CHAIR)

Mesdames:- K Hawley, K Liddell, K Duffy, L Fenwick, M A Cartwright, A C Long, S McDonnell & S Simpson

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

143. Apologies for Absence
Apologies for absence were offered and accepted from Councillors V Watson, J Robinson & S McGlen.
144. Public Participation Session
A public participation session was held to allow members of the public an opportunity to put questions to the Council.
PCSO A Jepson and PC D Parker from Peterlee Neighbourhood Policing Team gave a brief report and made a note of items from Members. They confirmed that representatives from the Team would try their best to attend future monthly meetings.
145. To receive declarations of interest
Members were reminded of the need to disclose any interests in items on this agenda, whether pecuniary or otherwise, none were received. Councillors Long & Moore declared an interest in item 8(a) Community Garden as they were members of this Group.
146. The Minutes of the Council Meeting of the 25th February 2019 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved.
147. The Minutes of the Resources Committee of the 4th March 2019 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were noted.

148. The Minutes of the Community & Environment Committee of the 11th March 2019 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were noted.
149. The Minutes of the Joint Health & Safety Committee of the 18th March 2019 a copy of which had been circulated to each member, were noted.
150. NEP Applications
This was the final opportunity to make a grant from Member's NEP Fund and applications had been received as follows:-
- (a) Peterlee Community Garden Group, funding towards the purchase of tools and equipment, £500.00
- RESOLVED a grant award of £500 be made to this group.**
- (b) Inspired Gymnastics Academy, funding towards their team of gymnasts representing GB at the World Gymnaestrada in Austria, £5,000 requested
- RESOLVED a grant of £3,100.00 be made towards the costs of this trip.**
- (c) East Durham Partnership, funding towards their Haven Project, £250.00 requested
- RESOLVED a grant of £610.00 be made to the Haven Project.**
151. 2018/19 Debt Write Off
Members received a report from the Town Clerk recommending the write-off of three bad debts to the value of £4,136.41 in line with the Council's Debt Recovery policy.
- RESOLVED the debts be written off as detailed in the report.**
152. Review of the use of Direct Debit, Standing Order and BACS/CHAPS payments
Members received a report from the Town Clerk seeking approval for the use of Direct Debit, Standing Order and BACS/CHAPS payments as per Financial Regulations.
- RESOLVED the continuation of the use of direct debits and BACS/CHAPS payments as outlined in the report, be approved.**
153. Review of Financial Orders
Members were asked to approve a number of amendments to the Council's Financial Regulations in line with recommendations from internal audit and general updating. A list of amendments was included in the document that had been previously circulated.

RESOLVED the amendments be approved and the new updated version of Financial regulations, be adopted.

154. Review of Officers' Scheme of Delegation

Members were asked to approve a number of amendments to the Council's Officers' Scheme of Delegation, a copy of which had been circulated. A list of amendments was included in the attached document, a copy of which had been circulated. Members suggested a number of further amendments which the Town Clerk accepted.

RESOLVED the reviewed and amended document be approved and adopted.

155. Twinning Visit – July 2019

Members received a verbal update regarding correspondence from the Chair of the Peterlee & Nordenham Friendship Association regarding the visit by Nordenham guests in 2019. There was considerable discussion on the matter and it was **RESOLVED this item be re considered at the Resources Meeting the following week.**

156. Spokesperson of the North East Party's Report

Councillor A Watson reported he had received positive comments from those who had recently visited the Apollo Pavilion for the recent light show.

He commented overall crime statistics showing crime doubled in the previous two years.

He reported following his attendance at the recent planning meeting where approval had been given to the re location of Durham County Council's headquarters to the Durham Riverside, which he felt was very disappointing. He felt this office move could have offered opportunity and investment to other areas in the County rather than Durham City. **RESOLVED the information given, be noted.**

157. Spokesperson of the Labour Political Party's Report

Councillor L Fenwick thanked those that had organised the recent Lumiere at The Apollo Pavilion. She felt the light installation had provided a great start to the 50th Birthday celebrations for the Apollo Pavilion. **RESOLVED the information given, be noted.**