

PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE

ON MONDAY 19TH AUGUST 2019 at 6.30PM

PRESENT:- COUN T DUFFY (CHAIR)

Mesdames:- K Hawley, K Liddell, L Fenwick, S McDonnell, D Howarth & S Simpson

Messrs:- S Miles, R Moore, G Carne, A Watson, S Meikle & C Watkins

The Mayor reported on the passing of former Town Councillor and Mayor, Trevor Jones and he asked the Committee to hold a minute of silence as a mark of respect.

50. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were offered and accepted from Councillors K Duffy, M A Cartwright, S McGlen, R Kyle, S Franklin & A Wilkinson.

51. Public Participation Session

A public participation session was held to allow members of the public an opportunity to put questions to the Council. No questions were received.

52. The Project

The Chair welcomed Joanne Holloway Youth Performance Lead, Groundwork NE Cumbria and Aaron Green, Lead Youth Worker. Joanne advised this was the second year of delivery and was still going well. Sessions take place on a Thursday and Friday early evening and have between 40-60 young people attending throughout the session. It was asked if some out reach work could be done, which the representatives said was possible but would be subject to staffing levels.

RESOLVED a written report be requested from Groundwork NE & Cumbria on the Project.

53. To receive declarations of interest

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

54. Police Report
The Police were not in attendance at the meeting. It was suggested the Deputy Police Commissioner be requested to come along to the public meeting, as well as inviting the Neighbourhood Inspector to a future council meeting for the Police report item.
RESOLVED these invitations be extended as agreed.
55. Mayor's/Chair's Report
The Mayor, Councillor Terry Duffy, offered his report to Council on the civic duties he had carried out this month, (attached). **RESOLVED the information given, be noted.**
56. The Minutes of the last meeting of the 22nd July 2019 copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved and signed as a true and correct record, subject to Councillor Watkins being shown as in attendance at the meeting.
57. Speeding Traffic in Peterlee – 20's Plenty Campaign
The Mayor had requested this item be considered again by the Council. Members felt that all residential roads in the Town should be classified as 20mph; they felt in making this a blanket cover it would be more clear to motorists what the speed limit was, it was reported applying a 20mph limit not only made roads safer it improved traffic flow. It was also suggested the approach road into the Town, Burnhope Way (B1320), should be re classified to a 30mph.
RESOLVED these suggestions be forwarded to Durham County Council for their consideration.
58. Membership of the Scrutiny Working Party
RESOLVED the membership of the Scrutiny be amended with Councillor V Watson standing down and Councillor Howarth taking her place.
59. Spokesperson of the North East Party's Report
Councillor A Watson reported on the recent public meeting with the Managers of the Town Centre and overall he said he would like to think they took away from the meeting the public's concern about items including the lift, lack of investment, need for a ramp and car parking. Praxis representatives had been asked to return in 6 month's time for a progress meeting. In relation Travellers camped at Lowhills Road and advised that local ward Members were to call an extra ordinary Council Meeting to demonstrate the measures that the Council had gone to to tackle this issue. In closing he commented he was very disappointed the Police were not at the meeting tonight. **RESOLVED the information given, be noted.**
60. Spokesperson of the Labour Political Party's Report

Councillor Fenwick reported it was with sadness she reported on the passing of Trevor Jones, former Mayor and Town Councillor. He was a well respected member of the Labour Party and would be sadly missed and she passed her sincere condolences on to his family. On a happier note she said it was good to read PCSO's Walters e mail reporting on 13 young people from the Peterlee area who have recently received young hero awards for their good deeds. She also reported our MP Grahame Morris was recently at East Durham College supporting and encouraging young students in their efforts to bring awareness and funding to charities such as Teenage Cancer and One Punch Can Kill. She said it was good to come from a town with such aspiring young people.

In closing she said the playground consultation went well and the council had received some good feedback and she thanked the public for taking part. **RESOLVED the information given be noted.**

MAYOR'S REPORT AUGUST 2019

I had the pleasure of announcing and presenting the awards and prizes for the Peterlee in Bloom competition. As I said last month, Peterlee has some very talented gardeners and it was a privilege to choose the Mayors winning garden.

I nominated the six children, that I gave a Mayor's award to last month, for a Young Heroes Award and was pleased to see the media coverage of these children receiving their well-deserved awards. The flowers they planted are now well established and in full bloom and I often see the children tending their little garden. Once again, well done to them all.

I was invited to East Durham College to meet with the students that had taken part in the National Citizen Service programme this year. The students have learned valuable life skills and gained self confidence whilst raising money for good causes including Crawford House at the Royal Victoria Hospital. They have also worked with One Punch and at East Durham Trust foodbank, raising awareness and providing a donation of much needed food. The Presentation evening was well attended and it was a pleasure to award these young adults with their NCS award pack.

On Saturday I had the honour of representing Peterlee Town Council at Sunderland cenotaph during the 50th anniversary of Operation Banner. Veterans and their families attended the service to remember the servicemen that lost their lives during their deployment in Northern Ireland. Operation Banner began in 1969 and ended in 2007 and Sunderland lost at least 6 servicemen in this time. It was an honour to lay a wreath, on behalf of this council. After the service, I had the opportunity to meet up with some long-lost friends, that served in Northern Ireland, and share a Port and a great chat.