

PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

HELD ONLINE USING VIDEO CONFERENCING TECHNOLOGY

ON THURSDAY 1ST APRIL 2021 at 6.00PM

PRESENT:- COUN A WATSON (CHAIR)

Mesdames:- S McDonnell, K Liddell, S Simpson, L Fenwick & K Duffy

Messrs:- S Miles, G Johnson, C Watkins, S McGlen, R Moore,

A Wilkinson & T Duffy

160. Election of Chairman for the meeting

The meeting was moved at 6.05pm. As neither the Chairman or Vice Chairman of Council were present at the meeting at this point it was moved by Cllr Moore and seconded by Cllr Miles that Cllr A Watson act as Chairman for the meeting. It was **RESOLVED that Cllr Watson act as Chairman for the meeting.**

161. Apologies for Absence

No apologies were offered to the meeting.

162. 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 offered.

Cllrs K and D Duffy joined the meeting at approximately 6.10pm

163. Exclusion of the Press & Public

RESOLVED that in view of the confidential nature of the items to be discussed, due to the confidential nature of the discussion which relates to ongoing legal proceedings, the meeting passed the formal resolution to exclude the press and public from the meeting, pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 & the Local Government (Access to Information) Act, Part 1, paragraph 11.

164. Horden Cemetery Dispute

The Town Clerk provided a verbal update on the ongoing dispute with Horden PC about contributions towards the costs of Horden cemetery.

Cllr M. Cartwright joined the meeting at approximately 6.30pm

Following a long debate on the matter, it was **RESOLVED that it be placed on record that Peterlee Town Council was deeply disappointed about the actions of Horden PC to instigate legal action at significant cost to the people of both Horden and Peterlee despite numerous attempts by Peterlee to resolve the matter through discussion and formal mediation. It was FURTHER RESOLVED that the Town Clerk be authorised to execute the proposed settlement agreement with Horden PC to avoid further unnecessary costs to local tax payers and bring the previous arrangement for voluntary contributions to an end as per the Town Council's decision in 2017.**