

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE

ON MONDAY 9<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2006

PRESENT: COUN R KYLE (CHAIR)

Mesdames : M A Cartwright, M Milsom

Messrs: B Scott, D Coates, R Curtis, H Bennett,  
W M Jeffrey, C J Metcalfe, R Huitson,  
D Milsom.

**MEMBERS WERE REMINDED OF THE NEED TO DISCLOSE ANY INTEREST, PREJUDICIAL OR PERSONAL, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CODE OF CONDUCT.**

131. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors G Cowie, R Jones, E W Hall, A Lowden, A E Laing, J I Measor and C J Robbins.

132. THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved.

133. THE REPORT OF THE FINANCE SUB COMMITTEE OF THE 9<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2006, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was adopted.

134. THE DISTRICT OF EASINGTON CENTRAL AREA FORUM – WEDNESDAY 18<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2006 – REQUEST FOR ITEMS

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Members were asked to give consideration to submitting items for discussion at the next meeting of the District of Easington Central Area Forum. The Leader had previously supplied items to the Town Clerk covering fly-tipping and rubbish left by bin men and Premier Waste which had already been submitted.

No further items were given at the meeting.

**RECOMMENDED that the information given be noted.**

135. EASINGTON PCT – VARIOUS EVENTS, SHOTTON HALL BANQUETING SUITES

Members were advised of invitations to attend several events to be organised over January and February by the PCT.

**RECOMMENDED that the invitations be accepted and the Town Council be represented by the following Members:-**

- a) Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> January – Cllrs B Scott and D Milsom
- b) Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> January – Cllr H Bennett
- c) Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February – Cllr H Bennett

136. ALLC CONFERENCE & EXHIBITION 2<sup>ND</sup> – 5<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2005 – DELEGATE'S REPORT

Members were circulated with a copy of the delegate's report following their attendance at the above event. The Leader reported that he had been elected Chairman Elect and as such was attending a meeting of the ALC Management Committee in London on the 16<sup>th</sup> January 2006 on the Town Council's behalf.

**RECOMMENDED that the information given be noted.**

137. REPORT FOLLOWING ATTENDANCE AT THE PCT ACUTE SERVICES REVIEW ON THE 21<sup>ST</sup> NOVEMBER 2005

Members were circulated with a copy of the delegate's report and questions submitted by the audience at the PCT event held on the

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**RECOMMENDED that the information given be noted.**

138. MINUTES OF THE COUNTY DURHAM ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THE 26<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2005, COUNTY HALL, DURHAM

Members were circulated with a copy of the minutes following the above meeting.

**RECOMMENDED that the information contained within the minutes be noted.**

139. ITEMS FROM MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF THE DISTRICT OF EASINGTON

a) Audit Committees – Practical guidance from the Chartered Institute of Public Finance & Accountancy

Members were circulated with an extract from the Minutes of the District of Easington. The Town Clerk confirmed that the Town Council already have a Finance Audit Sub-Committee as suggested in the guidance.

**RECOMMENDED the information given be noted.**

b) Durham Coalfields Housing Marketing Update and Peterlee Masterplan Phase II

An extract was circulated from the District of Easington minutes along with further information received on the Peterlee Phase II Brief from English Partnerships a copy of which was circulated to each Member.

**RECOMMENDED the information given be noted.**

140. STANDARDS OF CONDUCT IN ENGLISH LOCAL GOVERNMENT – THE FUTURE

Members were circulated with information received from the Standards Board.



**RECOMMENDED that the information given be noted.**

141. DISTRICT OF EASINGTON STANDARDS COMMITTEE – STANDARDS BOARD CASE REVIEW

Members were circulated with details received from the District of Easington regarding the Standards Board Case Review.

**RECOMMENDED the information given be noted.**

142. LAND REGISTRY – REQUEST FOR THE COUNCIL TO REGISTER LAND VOLUNTARILY

Members were circulated with details of a request received from the Land Registry at Durham for the Town Council to register its land with them voluntarily. The Town Clerk advised that it was likely that registration would become compulsory in due course and he felt that there were definite benefits to having land registered.

**RECOMMENDED that the Town Council register its land interests with the Land Registry at a cost of approximately £700.00.**

143. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE REFORM OF THE NALC LARGER LOCAL COUNCILS COMMITTEE

Members were circulated with details regarding the proposed appointment of an Officer and a Forum to concentrate on issues for Larger, (Band C), Local Councils.

**RECOMMENDED that the information given be noted and that the recommendations be supported.**

144. QUALITY COUNCILS – OPEN DAY EVENT 18<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, COUNTY HALL, DURHAM

Members were advised of an invitation received to attend the above event.

**RECOMMENDED** that further details be obtained of the timing of the event and the invitation be re-considered upon receipt of this information.

145. VERGE HARDENING - EASINGTON DISTRICT

Members were circulated with details received from Durham County Council regarding verge hardening proposals for the financial year 2006/07. A list of possible sites within Easington District were circulated with the information for Member's consideration. Members were asked if they had any further sites they wished added to this list. Following discussion, it was **RECOMMENDED** that the list be accepted and no further areas be added.

146. RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC IN VIEW OF THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED THE COMMITTEE PASSED TO THE FORMAL RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC FROM THE MEETING PURSUANT TO THE PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSIONS TO MEETINGS) ACT 1961 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1972.

147. REVIEW OF CAPACITY AND DIRECTION – A PROPOSAL FROM SOLACE ENTERPRISE

Members were asked to give consideration to a proposal made by Solace Enterprise. This organisation had recently carried out such a review at Great Aycliffe Town Council and it was suggested that they be invited to carry out a similar exercise at Peterlee Town Council.

**RECOMMENDED** that the document received from SOLACE be circulated to Members and this item then be considered at the Council meeting.



148. COMPULSORY PURCHASE AND COMPENSATION

A Local Member advised that he had obtained a copy of the document 'Compulsory Purchase and Compensation' which had been published by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister. He was concerned at how potentially the compulsory purchase and compensation regulations may be used in the implementation of a regeneration framework and asked if the Town Clerk could clarify the situation regarding compulsory purchase orders.

**RECOMMENDED that the Town Clerk write to the Chief Executive and Leader of the District Council requesting clarification on this point.**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'JLB', located below the recommended text.