

PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND

GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE

ON MONDAY 3RD APRIL 2006

PRESENT: COUN: R KYLE (CHAIR)

Mesdames: M Milsom, A E Laing

Messrs: B Scott, R Kyle, W M Jeffrey,
H Bennett, C J Metcalfe, D Milsom,
E W Hall, B Joyce, R Huitson, R Curtis,
D Coates

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

193. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors G Cowie, G Calvert, R Jones and J I Measor.

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

Matters Arising

a) *In connection with Minute No. 150 (b) – Quality Parish Council Open Day*, the Town Clerk advised that this event had been very well patronised with John Finlay and Ken Clearly in attendance.

RECOMMENDED that the information given be noted.

b) *In connection with Minute No. 172 – Peterlee Newtown Football Club*, the Town Clerk advised that the Leader and himself had met

with the Football and Social sides of Peterlee Newtown and had a reasonable response from both sides. They were trying to find ways forward and seemed to be making some headway. There was to be further meetings and Members would be kept advised as to progress.

RECOMMENDED that the information given be noted and progress be awaited.

c) *In connection with Minute No. 188 – Outstanding Debt Shotton Hall*, the Town Clerk advised that he had spoken to District Audit and they had suggested Redcar and Cleveland Authority who used a Bailiff. Following discussion with this Authority it appeared that that was not the type of service that the Town Council required. The Town Clerk had pursued this further with the Local Government Association and apparently the IDEA had carried out work on debt recovery and he intended discussing the issue with them.

RECOMMENDED that this debt still be pursued and the Town Clerk keep Members advised as to progress.

195. THE REPORT OF THE FINANCE SUB COMMITTEE HELD ON THE 3RD APRIL 2006, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was adopted.

196. DISTRICT OF EASINGTON CENTRAL AREA FORUM – WEDNESDAY 12TH APRIL 2006 – HASWELL

Members were asked to consider items for submission for discussion at the next meeting of the Central Area Forum.

Two items were suggested and they were as follows:-

a) The amount of businesses whose employees took their vehicles home with them and parked them illegally around the town. What was the Policy ?

b) Unauthorised advertising in lay-bys by vans etc in and around Peterlee.

RECOMMENDED that these items be submitted to the District of Easington for consideration.

197. INTRODUCTION TO PLANNING SEMINAR, A HALF DAY EVENT 25TH FEBRUARY 2006 – DELEGATE'S REPORT

Members were circulated with a copy of the report from one of the delegate's following his attendance at this half day event.

RECOMMENDED that one of the Senior Planning Officers from the District of Easington be invited to come along to a future meeting of the Town Council to discuss their respective roles in planning. FURTHER RECOMMENDED that the Town Clerk advise Members as to the current status of retrospective planning representations made by the Town Council prior to this meeting.

198. APOLLO PAVILION MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE 2ND MARCH 2006

Members were circulated with a copy of the minutes of the Apollo Pavilion Steering Group held in March and also copies of the Visitor's Survey held at the DLI Museum during the Apollo Pavilion Exhibition.

During discussion Members felt the biggest concern was the maintenance of the pond, and that the Pavilion was not the main problem. It was firmly felt that the Town Council should act as a pressure group on this matter but it was accepted that finance to address the problem was the most important issue.

RECOMMENDED that the appropriate representatives from the District of Easington be invited to come to a future meeting of the Town Council to discuss this matter.

199. NOTES OF THE PETERLEE YOUTH GROUP OF THE 13TH MARCH 2006, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were accepted.

In considering the minutes reference was made to general youth provision and the Town Clerk reported on recent meetings that he had attended regarding levels of funding through other organisations and the end dates for this funding. Following considerable discussion it was **RECOMMENDED that a**

further report be prepared by the Town Clerk regarding youth activities/provision.

200. DIRECT INFORMATION SERVICE – EXTRACTS

Members were circulated with extracts from the Direct Information Service Issue No. 626 – 6th March 2006.

RECOMMENDED that the information given, be noted.

201. ENSURING A PATIENT LEAD NHS

Members were circulated with a copy of the Summary of Issues raised at the meeting on the 20th February 2006.

RECOMMENDED that the information given, be noted.

202. LIMEKILN GILL – BEACH LEVEL CAR PARK FEASIBILITY – MARCH 2006

Members were circulated with a copy of a report prepared regarding the feasibility of the construction of a beach level car park within the vicinity of Limekiln Gill. The feasibility work had been carried out purely to establish the practical restrictions on the construction of such work and did not take account of the opinion of adjacent land owners to the Durham Heritage Coast Project.

A Member that represented the Town Council at meetings on this subject and felt that the Scheme prepared went far beyond what had been originally requested which was for a car park next to the beach, he felt that the proposals were far beyond what was required.

RECOMMENDED that a letter expressing these sentiments be forwarded to the Horden Denes Project.

203. CARE AND REPAIR FOR EASINGTON

Members were circulated with details of the Care and Repair for Easington and the services provided to residents in the District who were older, had disabilities or were living on a low income.

RECOMMENDED that the information given be noted.

204. TOWN AND PARISH STANDARD: 06

Members were circulated with a copy of Town & Parish Standards issued by the Standards Board.

RECOMMENDED the information given be noted.

PRIOR TO CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEM COUNCILLORS H BENNETT, B JOYCE, B SCOTT AND C J METCALFE DECLARED AN INTEREST AND TOOK NO PART IN THE DISCUSSION WHICH ENSUED.

205. CASTLE EDEN DENE FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION 2006/07

The Town Clerk requested Members consideration of the financial contribution by the Town Council for 2006/07.

RECOMMENDED that last year's contribution of £12,012 be increased by inflation and be the contribution for 2006/07.

FURTHER RECOMMENDED the Administration Team at English Nature be reminded of the Town Council's Proper Officer and address.

206. EASINGTON REGENERATION STATEMENT

Members were circulated with details regarding the Easington Regeneration Statement.

RECOMMENDED that the information given be noted.

207. YOUTH COUNCIL EVENTS

RECOMMENDED that this item be reconsidered at the Council Meeting.

208. PETERLEE TOWN CENTRE – SCREENING OF ASDA

Members gave consideration to correspondence circulated regarding an update on the screening of Asda and following discussion it was **RECOMMENDED that the Town Clerk ask for clarification with the current position with this item.**

209. POLICY ON MODE OF TRANSPORT FOR OFFICIALS ON TWINNING VISITS

Members were asked to give consideration to this item and it was **RECOMMENDED that it be referred to the Council meeting for further discussion.**

210. RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC IN VIEW OF THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED, THE COMMITTEE PASSED FORMAL RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC FROM THE MEETING, PURSUANT TO THE PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSIONS AND MEETINGS) ACT 1961 AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985

211. RESULT OF THE THIRD PARTY CLAIM – MR J HARRISON

The Town Clerk gave Members details of a settlement made by the Town Council's Insurance Company.

RECOMMENDED the information given be noted.

212. ENQUIRY FOR THE LAND AT SHOTTON HALL

Members gave consideration to this issue and it was **RECOMMENDED that it be referred to the Council Meeting for further discussion.**

213. REQUEST FOR CONCESSIONARY USE – PETERLEE AND DISTRICT LIONS CLUB

Members were asked to give consideration to concessionary use of Shotton Hall Banqueting Suites for Peterlee District Lions Club for a President's Annual Dinner to be held on Friday 7th April 2006 with all monies raised being donated to Peterlee Charity Groups.

RECOMMENDED that free use be agreed but the Peterlee and District Lions Club be requested to pay the cleaning charge.