

MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE OF THE 4TH
MARCH 2013

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE

FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE

ON MONDAY 4TH MARCH 2013

PRESENT: COUN R KYLE (CHAIR)

Mesdames:- L Wood, J I Measor, M Milsom & J Black

Messrs:- L Cook, T A Jones, J Alvey, H Bennett MBE, R
Curtis, C Watkins, D Langan, C J Metcalfe, R Huitson, D
Milsom, E W Hall, W M Jeffrey, C Robbins & C Austin

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

122. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted and accepted from Councillor
G Cowie & R W Jones, (ill).

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

Matters Arising

- (i) Minute Number 133 (b) Shotton Hall - Easington Constituency
Labour Party, Friday March 8th 2013

It was reported that this request had been withdrawn.

RECOMMENDED the information given, be noted.

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(ii) Minute Number 136 Unveiling of the Pavilion – Further consideration

Members were asked to re consider the date of the unveiling as there had been issues in arranging the event for March. The options were given to Members of the 2nd or 7th of May.

RECOMMENDED that the unveiling take place on Tuesday 7th May 2013.

(iii) Request for a Donation – County Durham Benevolent Fund

Consideration was given to further information received supporting this request.

RECOMMENDED a donation of £100.00 be awarded.

(iv) Legal Expenses Cover for Members

Members were advised that Zurich Municipal no longer offer legal expenses for Members. This occurred as they cover they provided relied wholly upon the Standards Board to initiate action, it was no longer relevant following the Localism Act becoming effective as each Council would be responsible for agreeing and administering their own Code of Conduct. They could however offer cover for libel and slander for £250,000 at a cost as given at the meeting.

A local Member commented that legal cover was included with the subscription for the National Association of Councillors. The Deputy Town Clerk advised that this Council was no longer a Member of NAC.

RECOMMENDED libel and slander cover be included in the Renewal Terms of the Town Council's Insurance cover for 2013/14 at the cost as indicated.

124. THE REPORT OF THE FINANCE SUB COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE 31ST JANUARY 2013 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were accepted.

125. MEETINGS/INVITATIONS

East Durham Community Buildings Network, Notes of the Meeting of
the 5th February 2013

RECOMMENDED that the information given be noted.

126. HAVE YOUR SAY ON MY DRAFT POLICE & CRIME PLAN

Members were circulated with details of the draft Police and Crime Plan which was available for public consultation. Details were also given with consultation on the Draft Equality Action Plan 2013-17.

RECOMMENDED any Members wishing to comment advise the Deputy Town Clerk by the response date of 8th March 2013.

127. MY COMMUNITY RIGHT ADVICE SERVICE

Members were circulated with details of an on line hub which gave information, inspiration, resources and ideas on how you could make a difference in your community as well as providing access to grants.

RECOMMENDED the information given, be noted.

128. NALC LARGER LOCAL COUNCIL COMMITTEE

Members were circulated with a comprehensive breakdown of the membership of the current NALC Larger Local Councils Committee. It was noted that there were not many members from the North of the Country and no representation from the North East.

RECOMMENDED the information given, be noted.

129. INFORMATION ON CONCESSIONARY BUS PASSES

Information regarding the replacement of concessionary bus passes which were to expire shortly was circulated to each Member for their information.

RECOMMENDED the information given be noted.

130. COUNTY DURHAM PARTNERSHIP NEWSLETTER

A copy of the January/February County Durham Partnership newsletter was circulated to each Member.

RECOMMENDED the information given be noted.

131. LITTER FREE DURHAM'S BIG SPRING CLEAN

Details were given of the Big Spring Clean being organised across the County running from March through to May 2013.

RECOMMENDED the information given be noted.

132. URBAN LEGACY PROJECT, WOODHOUSE PARK

The Deputy Town Clerk gave Members details of a grant bid that was being put together by the AAP based in Woodhouse Park.

RECOMMENDED the Town Council give its support in principle to this bid.

133. RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

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

PRIOR TO CONSIDERATION OF THE REQUEST FROM CDALC COUNCILLORS J I MEASOR, D MILSOM & W M

**JEFFREY DECLARED AN INTEREST AS
REPRESENTATIVES ON THIS BODY.**

134. DONATIONS & CONCESSIONARY USE APPLICATIONS

Consideration was given to the following requests for donations or concessionary use of the Town Council's facilities:-

Concessionary Use Applications

(a) Shotton Hall

(i) Peterlee & District Flower Club Wednesday 8th May &
Wednesday 13th November 2013

RECOMMENDED that a reduction in the normal hourly rate of hire of 50% be granted for the event in May only.

(ii) East Durham FC, Presentation Night, Wednesday 12th June
2013

RECOMMENDED free use of the Banqueting Suites be agreed for this event.

(ii) CDALC Executive Meeting

RECOMMENDED the action taken by the Deputy Town Clerk in authorising free use of the Council Chamber for this meeting, be endorsed.

(b) Eden Lane Community Community Facility

Reconnect Edenhill Groundwork, Youth Club, Tuesday evenings,
weekly

RECOMMENDED a 25% reduction in the hourly rate of hire be agreed to support this Youth Club.

(c) The Pavilion

Mental Health Awareness in Aid of Stonham, Friday 26th April
2013

RECOMMENDED a 50% reduction in the hourly rate of hire be granted for this event.

Donation

The Garage Urban Styles

RECOMMENDED that no donation be made at this time.

Letters of Thanks & Appreciation

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(i) Hartlepool & East Durham Mind

(ii) The Salvation Army Northern Divisional Headquarters

Members were circulated with copies of letters of thanks and appreciation following concessionary use being granted for these Organisations.

RECOMMENDED that the information given, be noted.

135. STOCK REPORTS PERIOD ENDING 15TH JANUARY 2013

(A) Shotton Hall

(B) The Pavilion

Consideration was given to the stock reports received for the licensed premises. The Deputy Town Clerk advised there had been a recent accident which involved a shelf collapsing and stock being lost. This would be recorded in a future stock take report. Members were concerned that this had not been risk asset and that the bars were not the subject of an asset/stock assessment.

RECOMMENDED the reports be accepted. FURTHER RECOMMENDED bar facilities be included in the Town Council's Asset Management Plan.

136. USAGE REPORTS

(a) Shotton Hall

(b) The Pavilion

Consideration was given to the usage reports received.

RECOMMENDED the reports be accepted.

137. CHANGES TO PAYROLL SERVICES FROM APRIL 2013

Members were circulated with details relating to the service provided currently by Durham County Council.

RECOMMENDED approval be given to the Service Level Agreement being signed and returned to Durham County Council by the required date of 8th March 2013.

138. PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL EVENT PLAN

Members were circulated with a suggested event plan for consideration and approval. Details were given of event running through from March 2013 to 2014 and the estimated costs and expected income from these events, based on 100 persons attending.

RECOMMENDED that the Event Plan be approved. FURTHER RECOMMENDED a variance in the budget of £7,000 be approved to cover the implementation of this Plan.

139. THE SHOW – ADVERTISING & HOSTING AND TRADITIONAL MARKET

RECOMMENDED approval be given to a Traditional Market being included within this year's event. FURTHER RECOMMENDED the price received from Company A to provide advertising and hosting at the amount given in the report, be accepted; the inclusion of the Battle of the Bands being discussed further at the next Show Meeting.

140. ROOFING WORKS TO THE ANEX BUILDING – SHOTTON HALL

RECOMMENDED the price received from Ronden Builders at the sum indicated at the meeting be accepted to make this building water tight.

141. RENEWAL OF CIVIC TAXI CONTRACT & IT CONTRACT

RECOMMENDED this item be withdrawn.