

PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE RESOURCES COMMITTEE

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE

ON MONDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2023 at 6.30PM

PRESENT:- COUN R MOORE (CHAIR)

Councillors: K Liddell, Mc Cue, S McDonnell, R Moore, K Hawley, R Scott, S Meikle, K Duffy, T Duffy, M Cartwright & D Howarth

40. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were noted from Councillors D Quinn, A Laing, D Hawley, M Sanderson, S Simpson, R Burnip, S Franklin & B Fishwick.

41. 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 disclosed.

42. To approve the minutes of the previous meeting

**RESOLVED the minutes of the previous meeting of the Resources Committee held on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2023, be approved as a true and correct record.**

43. Budget 2024/25

Members received a presentation from the Town Clerk outlining key budget issues and options for the 2024/25 financial year. Members asked questions at various points in relation to estimates on energy costs, reserves and ear marked reserves. **RESOLVED the information given be noted and further progress with budget discussions be awaited.**

44. Lawn Tennis Association funding for Eden Lane Tennis Courts Refurbishment

Members were updated with details of the award of a grant of £13,861.17 from the Lawn Tennis Association for the refurbishment of the tennis courts at Eden Lane.

**RESOLVED approval be given to the required £2,400 annual sinking fund being established to provide an earmarked reserve for future refurbishment.**

45. Neighbourhood Budget Grant Awards

It was reported to Members that the Council has been successful in being granted £1,500 towards the costs on the Peterlee Unsung Heroes Awards and £3,650 towards the Peterlee Toy Appeal. **RESOLVED the information given be noted and approval be given of in-kind support from PTC for these projects.**

46. Staff Pay Award 2023/24

**RESOLVED the Council confirm the 2023/24 NJC for Local Government Services ('Green Book') staff pay settlement of an increase of £1,925 on all NJC pay points for all employees up to pay scale point 43, and 3.88% for employees on scp 44 and above.**

47. Shotton Hall community business report

Members received and considered the report of The Plunkett Foundation regarding their research and community consultation on the potential for a community business model to secure the future of Shotton Hall as a public asset.

Plunkett were keen to see a community business project progress at Shotton Hall as they felt significant potential had been identified and they felt the community consultation had generated an exciting response. The Plunkett Team said they would be delighted to present and discuss the findings in their report, with PTC and return to the community to share their findings at an open community meeting to be build on the community's enthusiasm and momentum generated through the consultation period. They suggest a steering group be set up and a business plan be completed to progress to a full Community Ownership Fund bid

**RESOLVED:-**

- (i) a visit be arranged to The Bank at Chopwell, Gateshead;**
- (ii) the Town Clerk be given authority to discuss how Plunkett can help PTC move on with the next steps and report back to Council;**
- (ii) when the Town Clerk prepares the article to be included in the next edition of the Town's free magazine, he include a call to action for those that may wish to be involved with this work and perhaps become part of the Steering Group.**