

THE MINUTES OF A MEETING OF PETERLEE
TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL,
PETERLEE

ON MONDAY 19TH FEBRUARY 2007

PRESENT: COUN R KYLE (CHAIR)
Mesdames: AE Laing, M A Cartwright

Messrs: D Coates, C J Metcalfe, T Jones, W
M Jeffrey, H Bennett MBE, R Kyle, E W
Hall & R Huitson

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

229. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors R
Curtis, B Scott, G Calvert, J I Measor, D Milsom and M Milsom.

230. POLICE UPDATE

Sgt Steve Hawkes gave an update on activity within the Town especially on the operation "Milkshake". This had been a highly successful operation which had been intelligence lead with 12 or more agencies involved in partnership. Whilst Members were extremely pleased to hear the positive results of the operation, they felt that this could have been promoted or advertised better as members of the public were concerned at the high Police presence in the Town. This observation would be taken back to the de-briefing meeting and taken into account for the next operation.

Sgt Hawkes gave details on the recently issued ASBO explaining that prohibitions could only be imposed where evidence is gathered.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted and the invitation for Chief Inspector Bell to attend a future meeting be kept open.

231. THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.
232. THE REPORT OF THE MAYOR'S COMMITTEE OF THE 22ND JANUARY 2007, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.
233. THE REPORT OF THE SPECIAL PARKS & CEMETERY COMMITTEE OF THE 29TH JANUARY 2007, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.
234. THE REPORT OF THE BEST VALUE SERVICE REVIEW OF THE LEISURE GARDENS SERVICES OF THE 29TH JANUARY 2007, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.
235. THE REPORT OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE OF 5TH FEBRUARY 2007, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed, subject to Councillor G Calvert being shown as submitting his apologies.

Matters Arising

Minute Number 142 – Peterlee Improvement Works – Invitation to bring forward Projects, the Town Clerk asked Members once again if

they had any further projects to add other than that of improved public transport for the Town. None were given.

RESOLVED that no further projects other than that already proposed be put forward to be included within improvement works in the Peterlee Master Plan.

236. THE REPORT OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE OF THE 5TH FEBRUARY 2007 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

237. THE REPORT OF THE ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEE OF THE 5TH FEBRUARY 2007 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

238. THE REPORT OF THE CLERK'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE 12TH FEBRUARY 2007 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

Matters Arising

Minute Number 63- The Late Frank Turnbull Memorial Award & Young Citizens Award 2007 it was **RESOLVED that the rules applying to nominations be amended to read that "that no member of Amicus Committee or sitting Council Member, or their immediate family member, shall be considered for this award"**.

Minute Number 212 – Concessionary Use of Shotton Hall Banqueting Suites it was **RESOLVED that applications for concessionary use be restricted to Monday to Thursday hirings only. This would mean that concessionary use would not be granted in the month of December, Bank Holidays, or for Friday, Saturday or Sundays. The Town Clerk be given authority to waive this in exceptional business circumstances.**

Minute Number 66 Requests for Concessionary Use of Shotton

Hall Banqueting Suites it was **RESOLVED** that the following requests be refused in the light of the above policy:-
Haswell & District Mencap – Friday 25th January 2008,
Easington & Peterlee Rotary Club – Friday 15th June 2007,
Friday 9th November 2007, and Friday 7th March 2008.

239. THE REPORT OF THE PARKS & CEMETERY COMMITTEE OF THE 12TH FEBRUARY 2007 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

Matters Arising

- (a) Minute Number 78 (ii) - Mole Traps – Reimbursement

RESOLVED that the Council refuse this request for reimbursement towards the cost of mole traps stolen from **Shotton Hall.**

- (b) Minute Number 78 (f) - New Fire Regulations **RESOLVED** that approval be given for Officers to go ahead with urgent items identified within the report.

- (c) Minute Number 78 (g) – Peterlee to Horden Footpath, the Town Clerk advised that Horden Parish Council were to consider the request for financial assistance towards this work at their meeting to be held on the 1st March 2007. In the meantime, the District of Easington had offered to fund £5,000 towards the Phase III works on this footpath. The Town Clerk asked for permission to proceed with this last Phase as a matter of urgency whilst the contractors were on site, hopefully with the assistance of a financial contribution from Horden Parish Council.

RESOLVED approval be given for the Phase III of these works to be carried out, using finances available in the 2007/8 budget for footpath repairs.

- (d) Minute Number 68(j) & 77 - Poly Tunnels

Following the report of the Town Clerk it was **RESOLVED** that polytunnels be allowed to be kept on site all year round to allow the growing season to be extended. This to be on the strict understanding that the polytunnels were used for plants only and not storage etc and be kept tidy in appearance and repaired immediately if torn. It being noted the District of Easington do

not require a planning application for the polytunnels.

(e) Minute Number 86 – Replacement of Kubota “Ride on “ Grass Cutting Machine, the minute be amended to read “be purchased at a cost of £7,995.00 not £9,385.00”. **RESOLVED that this amount be amended.**

240. STOCKTAKE SUMMARY SHEETS, SHOTTON HALL BANQUETING SUITES – 30th JANUARY 2007

Consideration was given to the Stocktaker’s Report for the period up to and including 30th January 2007.

RESOLVED that the Stocktaker’s Report be received.

241. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Details of the planning applications relating to Peterlee were circulated as follows:-

Easington District

Proposed: New Primary School, Nursery and Sure Start facility, land adjacent to Ellison Road, Horden, Peterlee

For Durham County Council

and

Proposal: Rear Extension

At: 20 Lumley Drive

For: Mr M Rowe

RESOLVED that no objections be submitted on these applications.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Council be requested to consider, and try to accommodate, school gate parking within the new site, along with traffic flow around Eden Lane/Robson Avenue and also a suggestion be made that the road on Ellison Bank should be re-opened to assist with smooth traffic flow in the vicinity of the school.

PRIOR TO CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING MATTER COUNCILLOR D COATES DECLARED AN INTEREST AND TOOK NO PART IN THE VOTING OR DISCUSSION WHICH ENSUED.

242. PERSONNEL HEALTH & SAFETY ADVICE – DISTRICT OF EASINGTON

The Town Clerk advised that he had spoken to Officers at Durham County Council regarding this type of advice.

RESOLVED that the offer from the District of Easington to give personnel and health and safety advice at a cots of £2,400.00 be accepted initially for a one year period.

243. ASSOCIATION OF LARGER LOCAL COUNCILS – WINDING UP OF THE ASSOCIATION

Members were circulated with a copy of correspondence relating to the above. The Leader also gave a verbal update following his attendance at the meetings of the Association.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

244. DISTRICT OF EASINGTON – REVIEW OF COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES SEMINAR – 5TH MARCH, 2007

Members were circulated with an invitation to attend the above Seminar to be held on the 5th March 2007.

RESOLVED that the invitation be accepted and the Council be represented by Councillors H Bennett and C J Metcalfe.

245. REQUEST FOR CONCESSIONARY USE OF THE HERITAGE CENTRE - PRIDE HOUSE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

MEETING – SATURDAY 17TH MARCH 2007

Members were asked to give consideration to a request received for concessionary use of the Heritage Centre for a meeting of the PRIDE Management Committee to be held on the 17th March 2007.

RESOLVED that free use of the Heritage Centre be granted to PRIDE for a meeting to be held on the 17th March 2007.

246. BUCKINGHAM PALACE GARDEN PARTIES

The Town Clerk reported receipt of correspondence advising that the Garden Parties at Buckingham Palace were to be held on Tuesday 10th July, Tuesday 17th July and Thursday 19th July 2007. Nominations via NALC were requested for no later than 6th March 2007.

RESOLVED that Councillor M A Cartwright be nominated to attend.

247. EDEN HILL PLAY AREA – ADDITIONAL TREE WORKS

The Town Clerk advised receipt of recommendations from the Landscape Architect at Groundwork East Durham that the six remaining poplar trees on the site should be removed as they presented a hazard and be replaced with a type of Birch tree. The Town Clerk requested authority to proceed with this work.

RESOLVED that approval be given to carry out these additional tree works.

248. INSTITUTE OF GOUNDSMAN SEMINAR – DURHAM, 24TH – 26TH FEBRUARY 2007

The Town Clerk asked for authority for Mr J Harrison and Mr K Green to attend the above Seminar at a cost of £50.00 per person.

RESOLVED that approval be given for the Mr Harrison and Mr green to attend.

249. PERFORMANCE INDICATORS 2006/2007

Members were circulated with details of performance indicators giving the actual for 2005/06; the estimated target for 2006/07 and the actuals for April to September and April to December 2006.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

250. QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER – INFORMATION CENTRE

The Centre Manager had drafted a newsletter, a copy of which was circulated to each Member, which was a more lighthearted version of the Council's Quarterly newsletter. The Town Clerk suggested that perhaps the Council issue it's newsletter in two halves, one formal and the other more informal and light hearted.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk be given approval to take this suggestion further and develop the newsletter in this style.

251. RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND THE PUBLIC

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

252. DEED OF RELEASE – ITEC SITE

The Town Clerk advised that he anticipated that completion of this would now be after the 21st February 2007.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.

253. APPOINTMENT OF SEASONAL WORKER

Consideration was given to the report of the Estate Manager requesting permission to re-appoint, on a temporary basis, one of the Town Council's seasonal workers, on a week to week basis.

RESOLVED that approval be given to this request, and this be closely monitored for need.

254. LEADER'S REPORT

The Leader expressed his dissatisfaction with the number of Asda trolleys being abandoned and discarded in and around the Town. He asked that the Estate Manager collect and store the trolleys and charge Asda to re-claim them.

RESOLVED that a strong letter of concern be forwarded to Asda regarding the number of trolleys being abandoned in and around the Town.