

PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE

ON MONDAY 17<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2007

PRESENT: COUN M A CARTWRIGHT (CHAIR)

Mesdames: L Wood, J Measor, M Milsom, J Scott

Messrs: R Kyle, T Jones, H Bennett MBE,  
W M Jeffrey, J Hardy, R Curtis,  
D Langan, G Cowie, C J Metcalfe,  
R Huitson, D Milsom,  
E W Hall and C Austin

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

PRIOR TO THE MEETING, A 15 MINUTE “OPEN SESSION” WAS HELD TO ALLOW MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC AN OPPORTUNITY TO PUT QUESTIONS TO THE COUNCIL. THERE WERE NO MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT.

129. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were given on behalf of Councillors M A Cartwright, R Jones and G Cowie.

130. POLICE UPDATE

The Chairman welcomed the Police representative who gave an update on crime figures in the Town and responded on the matters raised at the last meeting. He gave an annual update explaining that year on year there had been a reduction of 20.1% in crime, with overall reductions in all areas of crime. He felt that this had

been achieved as a result of strong partnership working and thanked the Town Council for their role in making this happen.

Sgt Dickinson reported that the recent Peterlee Show had been one of the most successful and the Leader thanked him and his Team for the excellent support given to the event. Local Members raised a number of matters one of which was the parking of car transporters on Passfield Way, assurances were given that the Manager of the Reg Vardy Garage had already been spoken to but that this would be revisited.

**RESOLVED that the information given, be noted and a letter of thanks be sent to Sgt Dickinson and his Team's for their support and hard work over the Show weekend.**

131. AUDIT REPORT

The Chairman welcomed Mr Jim Dafter, Audit Manager who presented their ISA 260 Report.

He reported on the Audit Year 2006/07 and advised that the Council were moving in the right direction, improving, although he felt risk management required more attention. The Town Clerk had discussed and agreed measures to deal with this matter and they would be the subject of a further report to Council.

The Leader of the Council thanked the Town Clerk and his Officers for their hard work and efforts and assured Mr Dafter that the Council would attend to the matters raised in his report.

**RESOLVED that the information given, be noted and a further report be prepared on risk management.**

132. THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed, subject to it being recorded that Councillor C Austin had declared an interest in Minute Number 125 – Proposed Restructure of the Parks Department/To Establish a Panel to hear the Grievance lodged by the Estate Manager.

133. THE MINUTES OF THE MAYORS COMMITTEE OF THE 20<sup>TH</sup>

AUGUST, 2007, a copy of which had been circulated to Member, were agreed.

134. THE MINUTES OF THE SHOW COMMITTEE OF THE 23<sup>RD</sup> AUGUST, 2007, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed, subject to Councillor C J Metcalfe being included on those listed as present.

135. THE REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING OF THE 23<sup>RD</sup> AUGUST 2007, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.

136. THE REPORT OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE OF THE 3<sup>RD</sup> SEPTEMBER 2007, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.

Matters Arising

(i) Minute Number 46(i) – Installation of Sky TV, it was advised that the cost of the installation was £175.00 not £75.00 as previously given. **RESOLVED that approval be confirmed for the installation of Sky TV at the Newtown Football Club.**

(ii) Minute Number 48 – Peterlee Newtown AFC Financial Support, **RESOLVED that a Special Meeting be convened as a matter of urgency to discuss the operation of the Social Club and Football Club.**

137. THE REPORT OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE OF THE 3<sup>RD</sup> SEPTEMBER 2007, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.

138. THE REPORT OF THE ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEE OF THE 3<sup>RD</sup> SEPTEMBER 2007, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.

Matters Arising

Minute Number 22 – Work at Height Regulations, **RESOLVED that the Horticultural Supervisor arrange for all staff to be up to date with the Working at Height Regulations and training be arranged as necessary.**

139. THE REPORT OF THE CLERK'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE 10<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2007 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.

Matters Arising

(a) Minute Number 25(ii) Use of a Meeting Room on a monthly basis, 2.00pm – 4.00pm, Easington & District Citizen's Advice Bureau it was **RESOLVED that concessionary use of a meeting room be granted for the remainder of the financial year.**

(b) Minute Number 28 - Members Learning And Development **RESOLVED that any Member being interested in attending any of the courses listed below contact the office to allow a reservation to be made:-**

**(i)Time Management for Members, Half Day Workshop, Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2007, Chester le Street**

**(ii)Speed Reading & other Effective Reading Strategies, Half Day Workshop, Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2007, Chester le Street**

**(iii)Casework & Advice Surgeries, One Day Workshop, Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2007, Chester le Street**

**(iv)Chairing Skills for Elected Members, One Day Workshop, 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2007, Chester le Street**

140. THE REPORT OF THE PARKS & CEMETERY COMMITTEE OF THE 10<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2007 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.

141. STOCKTAKE SUMMARY SHEET, SHOTTON HALL BANQUETING SUITES & PETERLEE FOOTBALL CLUB – PERIOD UP TO 10<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2007

Consideration was given to the Stocktaker's Reports for the period up to 10<sup>TH</sup> September, 2007.

**RESOLVED that these Stocktaker's Reports be received.**

PRIOR TO CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING MATTER COUNCILLOR H BENNETT MBE DECLARED AN INTEREST AND TOOK NO FURTHER PART IN THE DISCUSSION WHICH ENSUED.

142. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Details of the planning applications received were circulated to Members for their consideration.

**RESOLVED that no comments or objections be made to any of the applications received.**

143. URBAN FESTIVAL – 26<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2007

Members were asked to give consideration to a request received from the Pride in Easington Officer, District of Easington, to use the grounds and the area around the MUGA at Eden Lane for the above event.

**RESOLVED that permission be given for this use but the District of Easington ensure that the appropriate insurances were taken out to cover the Event and they Liaise with the Parks Development Officer for this event.**

144. NORTH EAST INDUSTRIAL ESTATE – PRESENTATION BY THE DEVELOPER

Members were advised that a Special Joint Meeting was to be held on Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> September 2007 at 6.00pm in the Council Chamber, District of Easington and all Members were invited to attend.

**RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.**

145. LEADER'S REPORT

(i) GOVERNMENT CONSULTATION ON THE APPROACH TO IMPLEMENTING PROPOSALS FOR UNITARY LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The Leader referred to the letter received on the 14<sup>th</sup> September, requesting replies for no later than 28<sup>th</sup> September 2007 in the above regard. He felt that more time should be given to

Authorities and Members to consider such important issues to allow a full and considered reply to be made.

**RESOLVED** that authority be given for the Town Clerk to respond by the due date, in consultation with the Leader.

(ii) INVITATIONS TO COUNCIL FUNCTIONS

**RESOLVED** that in the case of single Councillors, the invitation to a Council function be extended to allow that Member to bring along a family member as their guest should they wish to do so.