

MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 21<sup>ST</sup> JULY 2008

PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE

ON MONDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> JULY 2008

PRESENT: COUN T JONES (CHAIR)

Mesdames: L Wood, J I Measor, M Milsom

Messrs: C J Metcalfe, J Hardy, D Milsom, C Robbins, D Langan, W M Jeffrey, H Bennett MBE, J Alvey, R Jones, C Austin, R Kyle, E W Hall & B Scott

**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.

54. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were given on behalf of Councillors G Cowie, M A Cartwright & J Black.

55. POLICE UPDATE

The Chairman welcomed the Police representatives to the meeting who gave Members an update on the crime figures in the Town since the last meeting and on action taken. Sgt Hawkes outlined the trends

and patterns of crime and the initiatives used over the last 6-7 weeks in the Town Centre.

The Leader of the Council gave details of issues on behalf of Members such as the work and remit of the street wardens; response times and follow up to crimes when reported to the Police; problems in Hale Rise with noise and abuse from youths towards elderly people and continued problems with the bus station. The comment was made the emphasis seemed to be on the motorist rather than on the person on the street.

The Police representatives answered the points raised and suggested that a joint meeting be convened with partners such as the Town Centre Management, Durham County Council, the Licensing Officer, the Street Wardens and the Police along with the Town Council to discuss in detail the issues of concern in the Town Centre.

**RESOLVED that this suggestion of a joint meeting with all of the agencies be arranged.**

56. THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.
57. THE REPORT OF THE MAYOR'S COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE 16<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2008, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed, subject to Councillor Alvey being shown as in attendance.
58. THE REPORT OF THE SHOW MEETING OF THE 26<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2008, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.
59. THE REPORT OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE OF THE 7<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2008, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member was agreed.

Matters Arising

- (i) Minute Number 32– CDALC – Nominations **RESOLVED that consideration of this matter be deferred.**
  - (ii) Minute Number 52 – Payments of Fees for Sports Pitches **RESOLVED that consideration of this matter be deferred.**
60. THE REPORT OF THE COMPLAINTS COMMITTEE OF THE 1<sup>ST</sup> JULY 2008, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member was agreed.
61. THE REPORT OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE OF THE 7<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2008, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member was agreed.
62. THE REPORT OF THE ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEE OF THE 2<sup>ND</sup> JUNE 2008, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member was agreed.  
The Deputy Town Clerk advised that the items within the Overtime Report queried at the meeting related to Attendant duties, and apologised for these not being included in the initial report.  
**RESOLVED that the information, be accepted.**
63. THE REPORT OF THE CLERK’S ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE 9<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2008, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member was agreed.  
Matters Arising
  - (i) Minute Number 15(a) – NAC – Certificate of Councillors Course  
**RESOLVED that this Member’s training be considered further when preparing estimates for 2009/2010.**
  - (ii) Minute Number 17 – Advertising Opportunities  
The Peterlee Star Guide

**RESOLVED** that an advert be placed in this G at a cost of **£750.00+vat.**

(iii) A Night in the Proms

**RESOLVED** that an advert be placed supporting this publication at a cost of **£275.00.**

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that the issue of limited circulation of the Peterlee Star in the Town be taken up with the North East Press.

64. THE REPORT OF THE PARKS & CEMETERY COMMITTEE OF THE 9<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2008, a copy of which had been circulated to each Member was agreed.

Matters Arising

(i) Minute Number 25(d)– LCCM Corporate Seminar

**RESOLVED** that as was the policy each invitation to a Conference/Seminar continue to be considered on it's own merits, but that the comments of the Members that had attended this Conference and felt that it's content was more appropriate for Officers attendance only, be taken into consideration when the invitation for this particular Seminar was received next year.

(ii)Minute Number 26 – Summer Parks Inspection – Time & sites to visit

**RESOLVED** the visit commence at 10.00 am to take in the areas given, and be followed by a second visit on a date and time to be arranged.

(iii) Minute Number 34(d)- Lowhills Road Bowls

**RESOLVED** that works be carried out “in house” as discussed at the visit to the green during the Parks Inspection held on 19<sup>th</sup> July 2008.

(iv) Minute Number 34 (a) Raymond Dilks

**RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk advise the Mayor on any arrangements relating to the retirement of Mr Dilk's from the Town Council.

65. STOCKTAKE SUMMARY SHEET, SHOTTON HALL BANQUETING SUITES & PETERLEE FOOTBALL CLUB – PERIOD UP TO 4<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2008

Consideration was given to the Stocktaker's Reports for the period up to 4<sup>th</sup> July 2008.

**RESOLVED that the reports provided by the Stocktaker, be received.**

66. INVITATION TO ATTEND THE STADTFEST NORDENHAM

Members were circulated with a copy of an invitation received for the Mayor and the Town Clerk, along with their wives to the Stadfest Nordenham from 14<sup>th</sup> – 17<sup>th</sup> August 2008.

**RESOLVED that the invitation be accepted.**

67. RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PRESS & 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 & THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985.

68. PARKS DEPARTMENT – RE STRUCTURE

**RESOLVED that consideration of this report be deferred.**

69. PETERLEE PRIMARY SCHOOL – UNADOPTED FOOTWAY BETWEEN ELLISON ROAD AND EDEN LANE

The Deputy Town Clerk asked for consideration of an enquiry received from Durham County Council as to whether or not the Town Council owned this footpath, and if so, were there any objections to the proposed upgrade and to it being offered for adoption upon completion.

**RESOLVED that no objections be offered to an upgrade on this footpath.**

70. NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COUNCILLORS, EQUALITY & OPPORTUNITY CONFERENCE, 6<sup>TH</sup> – 8<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2008

Consideration was given to a copy of the delegate's report following his attendance at this Conference.

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

71. POST OFFICE CLOSURE PROGRAMME

Members were circulated with a copy of local information and consultation events in relation to the Post Office Closure Programme.

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

72. CASTLE EDEN DENE BRIDGES

The Deputy Town Clerk reported that Natural England had advised that following a structural survey of its bridges, Dungy Pool Bridge had been closed to pedestrians for a short period of time to allow repairs to be carried out to make it safe. Natural England had commissioned surveys on both Dungy Pool Bridge and Gunners Pool

Bridge, and they feel long term the best option is to replace both bridges with new structures.

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

73. LEADER'S REPORT

The Leader passed comment on the following matters:-

Peterlee in Bloom

The Leader was concerned that a number of Members had indicated that they were coming along and the catering had been provided and then they had not attended. He felt that the Town Council should be leading the way in making savings and reducing waste at every opportunity and asked for his fellow Member's co-operation in trying to achieve this.

He asked Members to help promote the competition amongst residents as there were many beautiful gardens in the Town and this could increase participation.

Roadside Planters

It was reported that one of the road side planters had been knocked over at the weekend. It had been put back up but the plants had been removed. It was asked that these be re-planted as soon as possible.

Peterlee Show

The Leader hoped that the Show would be a success and asked for Member's support with the event.

Helford Road Re build

The Leader reported that the steelwork for the new building was going up.

Police

The Leader felt that a meeting with the Police would prove productive and assured that he would keep all Members updated.

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