

PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE

ON MONDAY 16TH FEBRUARY 2009

PRESENT: COUN T JONES (CHAIR)

Mesdames: S McDonnell, L Wood,
L Douglas & J Black

Messrs: R Kyle, J Alvey, H Bennett MBE,
J Hardy, W M Jeffrey, R W Jones, G Cowie,
C J Metcalfe, C Robbins, R Huitson 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.

207. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted on behalf of Councillors E W Hall and M A Cartwright.

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

209. POLICE -UPDATE

The Chairman welcomed Sergeant S Hawkes and PC Goodman (the Eden Hill Beat Officer).

The Police representatives gave Members a crime statistics update, and a progress report in relation to the following matters:-

T Junction at Eden Lane
Taxis doing U Turns
Footpaths – Parking on
ASDA – Vehicle Parking

The Leader of the Council, advised that the problem at the “T Junction” at Eden Lane still remained. The following matters were also raised:-

- Parking at the College – article in the Hartlepool Mail;
- Reporting of cars with No tax – This can reported to D.V.L.A. or directly to the Police;
- Lidl Store – Bus parking at entrance to Lidl Store;
- Methodist Church – Cars parking on paths;

Sergeant Hawkes advised he would raise the issue of parking on paths as a priority.

The Leader also raised concerns over the last music event at the College and the need to ensure that future events were managed in a way to minimise any disruption to neighbours. The Police representatives advised that a meeting was to be held with the organisers, the Licensing Committee and the Police to identify how these issues could be alleviated.

The Chairman thanked Sergeant Hawkes and PC Goodman for their attendance.

RESOLVED that the information given be noted.

210. THE REPORT OF THE MAYOR’S COMMITTEE OF THE 26TH

JANUARY 2009 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

211. THE REPORT OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE OF THE 2ND FEBRUARY 2009 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

Matters Arising

i) Minute No 261 – Traffic Issues at East Durham College – The Town Clerk had circulated to each Member a copy of a letter from Mr Prescott, the Principal / Chief Executive regarding resident's complaints regarding parking and the youth event. A Local Member made reference to an article in the Hartlepool Mail.

RESOLVED that the information given be noted and progress awaited.

212. THE REPORT OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE OF THE 2ND FEBRUARY 2009 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

213. THE REPORT OF THE ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEE OF THE 2ND FEBRUARY 2009 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

214. THE REPORT OF THE CLERK'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE 9TH FEBRUARY 2009 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

PRIOR TO CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEM COUNCILLOR C AUSTIN DECLARED AN INTEREST AND TOOK NO PART IN THE DISCUSSION WHICH ENSUED.

Matters Arising

i) Minute No 68 – Frank Turnbull Memorial Award and Young Persons Award – The Town Clerk has circulated to Members a report setting out suggestions for enhancing the appeal of these awards. A Local Member advised that the Council's partners in these awards UNITE, (formerly AMICUS), had agreed to increase their financial support and would totally fund these awards.

RESOLVED that the information given be noted, and the proposed changes to these Awards be agreed.

ii) Minute No 69 – Learning and Development – NAC – Protecting Our Environment – Blackpool – 27th February – 1st March 2009
RESOLVED that the invitation to attend be accepted, and two Members from the Conference Rota attend on the Council's behalf.

215. THE REPORT OF THE INFORMATION CENTRE COMMITTEE OF THE 9TH FEBRUARY 2009 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

Matters Arising

Minute No 17 (c) – Work in Progress – St George's Day Event

RESOLVED that as part of the liaison with schools enquiries be made into the feasibility of a poster competition being held, with posters being displayed at Shotton Hall.

216. THE REPORT OF THE PARKS & CEMETERY COMMITTEE OF THE 9TH FEBRUARY 2009 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

Matters Arising

(i) Minute no 102- The Pavillion – Official Opening & Naming of Rooms

RESOLVED that this matter receive further consideration at the next meeting of the Helford Road Working Party, with consideration also being given to the holding of a reception/sportsman's dinner on the evening following the opening.

(ii) Minute No 103 – Post of Sports Development Officer

RESOLVED that this post be agreed and arrangements be made to fill the post.

PRIOR TO THE CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLOWING ITEM COUNCILLOR S McDONNELL DECLARED AN INTEREST AND TOOK NO PART IN THE DISCUSSION WHICH ENSUED.

(iii) Minute No. 107 - Lease of Hill Rigg House

RESOLVED that the use of the building be granted to Community Spirit Community Group.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the other possible tenant be offered any other Council premises which may be available.

217. STOCKTAKE SUMMARY SHEET, SHOTTON HALL BANQUETING SUITES & PETERLEE FOOTBALL CLUB – PERIOD UP TO 3RD FEBRUARY 2009

Consideration was given to the Stocktaker's Reports for the period up to 3rd February 2009. Details on the line cleaning and wastage were given.

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

218. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Details of planning applications received were circulated to Members for their consideration. One further application had been received as detailed below:-

Proposed: Rear Extension
At: 8 Willerby Grove
For: Mr J Horlock

RESOLVED that no objections be made to the applications submitted.

219. AREA ACTION PARTNERSHIPS - WAYS OF WORKING, FUNCTION GOVERNANCE & BUDGETS – CONSULTATION DOCUMENT – DECEMBER 2008

The Town Clerk had circulated to Members a copy of the report put before the Cabinet at Durham County Council on 22nd January, 2009. Members were also advised that a Special meeting had been arranged with Mr R Chapman of North Peterlee Pathfinder on 3rd March, 2009, to discuss neighbourhood governance. The Council had also received a request from Mr J Murphy, the L.S.P. Manager at the District of Easington, to meet and discuss options for neighbourhood governance arrangements.

RESOLVED that the meeting be held with Mr Chapman of the Pathfinder, and a subsequent meeting be arranged with Mr Murphy.

220. LEADER'S REPORT

The Leader gave his report covering the following items:-

i) Apologies for absence – that in future apologies for absence should be phoned in to the Office and the Clerk/Deputy would report these to the meeting. Only in exceptional circumstances would apologies be received at the meeting, and it was up to the Chairperson whether these were accepted.

ii) Attendance at Conference – The Leader advised that the Council needed to review its policy on Members attendance at conferences and asked for an appropriate item to be placed on the Councils A.G.M agenda.

iii) NAC Conferences – The Leader gave details of a recent discussion with a NAC representative.

THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 16TH FEBRUARY 2009

iv) Area Action Partnerships – The meeting was advised that the Leader had been informed from two separate sources that the structure of A.A.P.'s could be reviewed after six months and not the 2-3 years as initially indicated.

v) Community Spirit – Members were advised of an open invitation to attend the launch of Community Spirit at Hill Rigg House on Friday, 20th February, 2009 between 10.00am – 2.00pm.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted.