

PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE

ON MONDAY 20TH DECEMBER 2010

PRESENT: COUN L WOOD (CHAIR)

Mesdames: S McDonnell & M Milsom

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

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

155. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted and approved on behalf of Councillors J I Measor, (ill), R W Jones, (family illness), C Robbins, (family illness).

156. POLICE -UPDATE

The Chairman welcomed PCs Neil Johnson and Andy Holland to the meeting. The Police gave updates on the following issues:-

- Off road motorcycles in Pentland Close;
- The ice cream van parking on Granville Road;
- Basingstoke Road – cars being blocked in;

- Appleby Way – van parked/abandoned;
Crime statistics were given for the month and updates on actions and operations being carried out by the Police in the Town.

The Leader, on behalf of the Council Members, in reply spoke on the issues raised where there were still problems. He reported that the ice cream van was causing an obstruction to vehicles; the abandoned van on Appleby Way was causing an obstruction to pedestrians being parked half way on the footpath and he was concerned at the lack of speed in attending to this; residents at Basingstoke Road and other side streets were still being troubled by inconsiderate parking. He reported on the issue of vehicles being parked along the road side during the recent spell of bad weather, reducing the carriageway to single file traffic. He gave details of a recent break in to a factory and the action taken following this. He asked if there was a full report made following the fire at the Cricket Club and requested a copy if there had been. Speed reducing measures at Durham Way he felt may have been better managed by speed cameras. He also mentioned discussions at the recent AAP Meeting on off road motorcycles.

RESOLVED that these issues be further investigated by the Police.

The Mayor thanked the Officers for their attendance and wished them All the Best for Christmas and the New Year.

157. THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.
158. THE REPORT OF THE SHOW WORKING PARTY OF THE 18TH NOVEMBER 2010 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.
159. THE REPORT OF THE JOINT HEALTH & SAFETY CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE 22ND NOVEMBER 2010 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

160. THE REPORT OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE OF THE 6TH DECEMBER 2010 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

Matters Arising

Minute Number 116 – Parish & Town Council Sub Committee of the Standards Committee

Further information had been obtained on representation on this sub committee, a copy of which was circulated to each Member.

RESOLVED that the information given be noted.

161. THE REPORT OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE OF THE 6TH DECEMBER 2010 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

162. THE REPORT OF THE ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEE OF THE 6TH DECEMBER 2010 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

163. THE REPORT OF THE PAVILION MANAGEMENT BOARD OF THE 7TH DECEMBER 2010 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

164. THE REPORT OF THE CLERK'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE 13TH DECEMBER 2010 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

165. THE REPORT OF THE INFORMATION CENTRE COMMITTEE OF THE 13TH DECEMBER 2010 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

166. THE REPORT OF THE PARKS & CEMETERY COMMITTEE OF THE 13TH DECEMBER 2010 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

Matters Arising

(i) Minute No 74 – Enclosed Outdoor Batting & Bowling Practice Area, Helford Road – Draft Letter of Support

RESOLVED that the draft letter as circulated, be approved and the Town Council’s support be given to the scheme.

(ii) Minute No 79 – Electronic Mapping System

It was reported that due to bad weather conditions the representative was unable to attend on the 21st December but would re-arrange a visit in due course.

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted and the re-arranged date for this session be awaited.

167. THE REPORT OF THE MAYOR’S COMMITTEE OF THE 15TH NOVEMBER 2010 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

168. THE REPORT OF THE HELFORD ROAD WORKING PARTY OF THE 14TH DECEMBER 2010 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was agreed.

When considering this report the Town Clerk made reference to a letter received from Hall & Co Solicitors regarding Peterlee Cricket Club, Helford Road and the alleged continuing delay in steps being taken to rebuild their premises following the fire. They requested a copy of the insurance policy covering the building.

Reference was made to names of Trustees as detailed on a copy of a counterpart lease.

Following receipt of this letter legal advice had been taken and it was **RESOLVED that:-**

- (i) **The Trustees of the Cricket Club, as tenants, be written to and requested to attend a meeting with Town Council representatives;**
- (ii) **an appropriate response be made to Hall & Co via the Town Council’s Solicitors, and plenary powers be granted in this regard;**
- (iii) **it be noted that none of these actions slow down or deter**

the Town Council from moving forward progress with the Design Team etc.

169. PROPOSED BUS SHELTER – PENINE DRIVE

Members were circulated with details of a request to provide a new bus shelter at the bus stop at Pennine Drive and the County Council wished to establish whether Peterlee Town Council may have funding available to assist.

RESOLVED that the County Council be advised that unfortunately the Town Council had no funds available to assist with this request but did suggested that should there be any shelters that were surplus to requirements/not used, then perhaps these could be re-located.

170. THE BIG DEBATE: THE ROLE OF THE CITIZEN

Members were circulated with an invitation to attend an event to be held on Thursday 20th January 2011 in Durham.

RESOLVED that four places be reserved on this event for Councillor Metcalfe, Langan, Hardy and Jeffrey.

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

172. LOWHILLS ROAD – PROPOSED ADDITONAL DRAINAGE

Consideration was given to the proposal made by ISOS Housing to

pay the full costs of drainage works required at this site, of £33,743. This would mean however that they were unable to carry out works to the bowling green.

RESOLVED the offer from ISOS Housing, be accepted and an application be made for Section 106 funding towards the works required for the bowling green.

173. INFORMAL CIVIC RECEPTION – FRIDAY 28TH JANUARY 2011

Members were circulated with an invitation from Seaham Town Council to this event. Numbers were limited to 12 due to the capacity of their premises and Members that were interested in going along gave their names at the meeting.

RESOLVED that the invitation be accepted and the Members that had shown an interest attend on the Town Council's behalf.

174. PLANNING APPLICATION

The Town Clerk reported on receipt of a planning application as follows:-

Proposed Two Storey Rear Extension

At 1 Church Close, Peterlee

For Mr T Jones

Members had no objections to make on this proposal although they had concerns when previous works were being carried out at possible damage to the footpath when works were being carried out.

RESOLVED that no comment be made on this application.

175. DURHAM WAY – TRAFFIC CALMING

A Local Member advised that he had been approached by a local resident about the proposal for Durham Way complaining that neither she nor people she had spoken to on the Oakerside Estate, had been consulted on this matter.

RESOLVED that this complaint be passed on to Durham County Council and the relevant Unitary Council Members.

176. REQUEST TO GRIT FOOTPATH

A Local Member reported that he had been approached by a resident asking that the footpath between O'Neill Drive and Adrian/Hatfield Place be gritted by the Town Council. The Councillor had explained that this was not possible.

RESOLVED that this request be passed on to Durham County Council.

177. GRANT APPLICATION – NEIGHBOURHOOD CHALLENGE

The Town Clerk reported on his trip to London with grant funders.

RESOLVED that whilst accepting there was a total moratorium on spending, the Town Council agree for this application to proceed to Stage 2 of the process, which would cost in the region of £1,000, to be submitted by 18th January 2011 with the hoped for outcome being a grant approval in the order of £150,000.

178. LEADER'S REPORT

The Leader gave his report which covered the following issues:-

- AAP Meeting & Forum – discussions on off road motorcycles; a second programme of engineering apprenticeships; snow clearing and parish partnerships and the AAP priorities for the next year.

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- Information Centre – a telephone call from a resident where the offer had been made for her to come along to the open session prior to the Council meeting, whilst she was satisfied with the reply from the Leader she suggested that an ice rink being built would be an asset to the Town.

In closing the Leader wished everyone a Happy Christmas and prosperous New Year.

RESOLVED that the content of the report be noted.