

PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE

ON MONDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2011

PRESENT: S McDONNELL (CHAIR)

Mesdames: L Wood, J I Measor & M Milsom

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

**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.

82. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were submitted and accepted from Councillor G Cowie, (on holiday), R W Jones, (family bereavement).

83. POLICE -UPDATE

The Chairman welcomed PC Steve Rowe and Chris Woolett to the meeting. Members were given an update on issues raised at the last meeting.

The Leader raised the following issues on behalf of Members:-

- He asked had a date been set up for a visual inspection on Durham Way with the Police and a Town Council Member. There were major parking issues and traffic congestion between school picking up and dropping off times and a joint visit was requested.
- Inconsiderate parking in the Basingstoke Road Area. This issue was still ongoing and it was asked could visits be done after dark/late at night?
- Parking on yellow lines continuing to be an issue outside Gala Bingo.
- Sunny Blunts car parked on grass not taxed and also the issue of cars being placed for sale at various junctions throughout the Town on grass verges.
- It was questioned what jurisdiction did the Police have on road priority on housing estates. PC Rowe explained that right of way was down to the rules of the Highway Code. He commented that parking on estate roads had to be a matter of good manners; if cars were legally parked, fully taxed and tested then the Police's hands were tied on such issues.
- A request for Chief Inspector Coxen to attend a future meeting, as he had assured he would at his first visit.

The Police were thanked for their attendance at the meeting.

84. RETAIL PLANNING APPLICATIONS - PETERLEE

The Chairman welcomed Grant Folley and Alan Dobie, Planning Officers, Durham County Council.

The Leader of the Town Council began by asking why did it take so long for a decision to be made on the supermarket(s) for Peterlee. He felt that the content of reports that were considered at the Special Planning Meeting held at Durham, had been biased.

Officers outlined for Members an update on the decisions on the retail applications. They reported on why it was perceived there had been a delay on consideration of the applications but it was explained that all of the applications were linked and advice had been sought

that legally they should be determined at the same time. The Officers then went into detail and explained the timeline involved with considering these applications.

The meeting was opened for a question and answer session and questions were asked including:-

- When was the application for Dalton Park submitted?
- Why did the Planners not take account of public opinion?
- On the perceived delays in considering these applications;
- that no letter of support had been given to TESCO.

The Officer from the Planning Section assured that they had not misrepresented any information and did their best to present information on the application details submitted. It was advised that planning permission should be given within the next week or so. Consideration would be given to Section 106 agreements and the type of schemes would be linkage to environmental improvements such as footpaths, street lighting, CCTV etc, with a fund set up of £400,000, and would also be considered in conjunction with the Peterlee Masterplan which was expected next year.

The Chairman thanked Officers for their attendance and requested to be kept advised on retail developments for Peterlee.

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

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

Matter Arising

Minute Number 74 - Police Update

Taxis parking in the taxi rank at Aldi, doubling up and having part of their vehicle hanging out onto the road. **RESOLVED that this be noted.**

86. THE REPORT OF THE MAYOR'S COMMITTEE OF THE 15<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2011 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was approved.

87. THE REPORT OF THE HELFORD ROAD WORKING PARTY OF THE 2<sup>ND</sup> AUGUST 2011 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was approved.

88. THE REPORT OF THE SHOW MEETING OF THE 25<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2011 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was approved. It was reported that the first meeting of the Show Working Party had been held and a full and through to de briefing had been carried out and would be reported back to Council.

89. THE REPORT OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE OF THE 5<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2011 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was approved.

Matters Arising

(a) Minute Number 33(i) The Report of the Finance Sub Committee Meetings of the 14<sup>th</sup> July, 28<sup>th</sup> July and 25<sup>th</sup> August 2011

It was noted that other Members had items that needed clarification, not just the Leader.

**RESOLVED that this amendment be noted.**

(b) Minute Number 40 – Remembrance Day Parade – To advise on the change of the route

To include in the minute that the responsibility for submitting an application to the Safety Advisory Group, was up to the Royal British Legion, as Organiser of the Parade and this had been relayed to them. **RESOLVED that this amendment be noted.**

90. THE REPORT OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE OF THE 5<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2011 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was approved.

Matter Arising

Minute Number 16 – Wingate Grange Wind Farm Proposal

It was reported that public exhibitions were to be held at:-

Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> September, 2011 3.00pm-8.00pm, Wheatley Hill Working Men's Club

Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> September, Wingate Community Centre, and

Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September, Trimdon Station Community Centre.

**RESOLVED that any Member wishing to attend, do so.**

91. THE REPORT OF THE ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEE OF THE 5<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2011 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was approved.

92. THE REPORT OF THE PAVILION MANAGEMENT BOARD OF THE 6<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2011 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was approved.

93. THE REPORT OF THE CLERK'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE 12<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2011 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was approved.

Matters Arising

(i) Minute Number 27 – Request for Concessionary Use of The Pavilion, 1<sup>st</sup> October 2011, Cassie McGeehan

**RESOLVED that free use be granted for this event to raise funds.**

(ii) Minute Number 27 – Helford Road Pavilion, Trust Lodge RAOB, Sunday Evenings

**RESOLVED this concessionary use be considered further at the next meeting of the Clerk's Advisory Committee.**

94. THE REPORT OF THE INFORMATION CENTRE COMMITTEE OF THE 12<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2011 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was approved.

95. THE REPORT OF THE PARKS & CEMETERY COMMITTEE OF THE 12<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2011 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, was approved.

96. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Consideration was given to this application:-

Proposed Fascia Signs

At ASDA Stores Ltd, Surtees Road

**RESOLVED that further information be requested on this application.**

97. THE ROLE OF THE COMMUNITY FLOOD ENGAGEMENT OFFICER

A copy of information were circulated to all Members.

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

98. REQUEST FOR SUPPORT – LOSS OF CARERS’ ALLOWANCE

Members were circulated with a copy of information received requesting the Town Council’s support in contacting our Local MP to ask for them to object to the amendments proposed by Government concerning Carers Allowance.

**RESOLVED that a letter be sent to Graham Morris MP requesting his support in objecting to the proposed amendments to the carers allowance.**

99. LEADER’S REPORT

The Leader gave a brief report and made reference to the recent murder in Peterlee.

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