

PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE

ON MONDAY 18TH FEBRUARY 2013

PRESENT: COUN R KYLE (CHAIR)

Mesdames: J I Measor, L Wood, J Black & M Milsom

Messrs: T A Jones, D Milsom, C Austin, C Robbins, W M Jeffrey, H Bennett MBE, J Alvey, D Langan, C Watkins, E W Hall, G Cowie & L Cook

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.

147. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been submitted and accepted on behalf of Councillors R Huitson, (on holiday) & J Hardy, (ill).

148. POLICE -UPDATE

The Mayor welcomed the PCSO Sharon Bowman to the meeting. Ms Bowman gave the crime statistics for the period since the previous meeting. She gave an update of the hot spot priorities and an update on issues raised previously. Ms Bowman outlined the new

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restorative justices approach and a copy of the newsletter giving further detail was circulated for Member's information.

Several issues/areas were given for attention:-

- Mattereddale Road/Eden Vale – young people smoking and causing a nuisance;
- Members were pleased to note action being taken with taxi drivers;
- It was asked if there were any problems in Woodhouse Park or any of the other play areas in the Town, it was advised none had been reported;
- Former College site – persons being in the building;
- Recent activity relating to contraband cigarettes and alcohol;
- The length of time it took to respond to a report made during the night about off road bikes;

RESOLVED that PCSO Bowman be thanked for her attendance and feedback on issues raised be awaited.

149. THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF THE 21ST JANUARY 2013 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.

Matters Arising

Minute Number 137

It was suggested that the minutes should be amended as it was felt this matter could not be raised under Matters Arising. It was usual practice for amendments to be made at the Council Meeting under Matters Arising, (as detailed under Standing Orders to correct an inaccuracy in the minutes of the previous meeting).

RESOLVED this be noted.

150. THE MINUTES OF THE MAYOR'S COMMITTEE OF THE 21ST JANUARY 2013 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.

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151. THE MINUTES OF THE SHOTTON HALL SUB COMMITTEE OF THE 28TH JANUARY 2013 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.

Matters Arising

- (i) Minute Number 75 Concessionary use of Hill Rigg House

It was noted that the use agreed needed to be specified ie one session, once a week for four hours.

- (ii) Minute Number 76

RESOLVED that this issue be addressed fully in the re structure report.

152. THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING OF THE 30TH JANUARY 2013 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed subject to Councillors L Wood, C Robbins, C J Metcalfe & W M Jeffrey being shown as in attendance.

There were a number of comments on the list of items as follows:-

- reference to the income from the bar being low and prices being considered;
- the contribution to burials at Horden;
- repairs to the roof of the annex building at Shotton Hall
- And the Event Plan.

Members were circulated with a document received “Removing Unnecessary Red Tape: Council Tax Setting”. This stated that councilors did not need to request a dispensation in order for them to participate in the budget setting process. It was also explained that Durham County Council were not to issue paperwork with the council tax demand this year and were to publish this on their web site, the Police and Fire Authority were to do the same and Members were asked if they would be happy for this to happen at Peterlee also. It was confirmed that this was acceptable, whilst Members wished for a press statement to be made on behalf of the Town Council in relation to the changes in the funding of the precept.

RESOLVED:-

- i) **the council tax information be published on the Town Council’s web site;**
- ii) **a press statement be made on behalf of the Town Council;**

- iii) **a meeting be held with Horden Parish Council regarding the current financial arrangement for former burials.**

153. THE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE OF THE 4TH FEBRUARY 2013 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.

Matters Arising

Minute Number 133(b) Request for Concessionary use of the Banqueting Suites – 8th March 2013

RESOLVED that the Mayor along with the Town Clerk be given authority to determine this application. It was noted that any organization could apply to the Town Council for concessionary use or a donation and each application would be considered on its merits.

154. THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE OF THE 4TH FEBRUARY 2013 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed. It was asked that the need for school places and the impact that this proposed development may have on existing schools should be recorded.

155. THE MINUTES OF THE ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEE OF THE 4TH FEBRUARY 2013 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.

156. THE MINUTES OF THE PAVILION MANAGEMENT BOARD OF THE 5TH FEBRUARY 2013 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.

Matters Arising

(i) Minute Number 83 – Re decoration of The Pavilion

RESOLVED the price received from Ray Wood Decorators in the sum of £2,700.00 be accepted and plenary powers be granted for this work to be carried out immediately. It being noted that if tenders were sought the Chairman be present to open them along with the Officer.

(ii) Budget Monitoring

RESOLVED that regular budget monitoring be carried out by the Pavilion Management Board.

157. THE REPORT OF THE SHOW WORKING PARTY MEETING OF THE 7TH FEBRUARY 2013 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed. It was noted that as this was a Working Party a quorum did not apply; members of the public could attend and also that matters of a financial nature should not be discussed there.

PRIOR TO THE CONSIDERATION OF THE ITEM RELATING TO THE LEISURE GARDENS, COUNCILOR C J METCALFE DECLARED AN INTEREST AS CHAIRMAN OF THIS ASSOCIATION, AND TOOK NO PART IN THE DISCUSSION WHICH ENSUED.

158. THE MINUTES OF THE PARKS & CEMETERY COMMITTEE OF THE 11TH FEBRUARY 2013 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.

Matters Arising

- (i) Minute Number 50 – Leisure Gardens

RESOLVED that the Gardeners not be invoiced for this work.

- (ii) Minute Number 52 - Clothing Bank

RESOLVED this be considered further at the next Parks & Cemetery Meeting with reference to planning permission being required and also the possible location within the car park.

- (iii) Minute Number 54 – Request to Purchase Land – Garage Essington Way

RESOLVED that consideration of this request be deferred.

159. LEADER'S REPORT

The Leader of the Town Council gave a verbal report on items of interest for Members. He reported on recent meetings he had attended. He made mention of the plaque that was now in situ for the former Town Clerk Mr Tommy Hunt and requested that the plaque in place relating to the bell needed to be sealed and made weather proof.

It was requested that a Special Meeting be held to consider the policy document.

RESOLVED the information given be noted, a Special Meeting be held as soon as possible and the plaque for the bell be weather proofed.