

PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE

ON MONDAY 17TH FEBRUARY 2014

PRESENT: COUN R CURTIS (CHAIR)

Mesdames: C Baty, L Wood, M J Thompson, S Simpson &
V Watson

Messrs: S Miles, D Milsom, C Watkins, R Kyle, C J Metcalfe,
W M Jeffrey, J Alvey, G Cowie, D Sillito & A Watson

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 AT THE MEETING.

161. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been submitted and accepted on behalf of Councillors K Liddell & F Price, (ill)

162. POLICE - UPDATE

The Mayor welcomed PCSO Amanda Jepson to the meeting. Details were given of incidents reported since the last meeting and the ways in which the Police were dealing with for eg A.S.B. with young people by inviting

parents into the Station to watch the cctv of their children's actions. It was hoped that this type of approach would work in a positive manner. Brief details were given of burglaries and the arrests that had been made. The lead thefts taking place at Chapel Hill were reported on with the various methods that were to be used to try and combat this theft. There had been a 5% decrease in all crimes reported year to date and 11% decrease in ASB.

Updates were given on issues raised at the last meeting. It was confirmed that a horse and trap would still require the appropriate license is it was trading in scrap metal. Reg Vardy Garages on Passfield Way had been visited to discuss the issue of car transporters off loading on the carriageway. Members felt that the garages priority was clear to sell cars and not safety. Frustrations with motorists blocking footpaths when parking next to the schools was again reported to the Police. The Police assured they would continue to monitor these matters and pass them on the civil parking Officers employed by Durham County Council.

There were several reports made at the meeting relating to:-

- Damage to the football field by off road motor bikes at the Peterlee Newtown pitch;
- Waste cardboard being dumped, reported to the Street Wardens;
- Rogue builders operating in the Northumberland Place area taking advantage of OAP's;
- It was asked how many scrap dealers had been stopped and challenged and if possible could the figures be given at the next meeting?

RESOLVED that the information given, be noted and the Officer be thanked for her attendance.

163. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF THE 20TH JANUARY 2014, & SPECIAL MEETINGS ON THE 29TH JANUARY 20142013 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.

Matters Arising

Minute Number 157(ii) it was **RESOLVED that comments and concerns be expressed relating to the former use of the building as a maternity hospital, the associated site and the possible burial of still born babies.**

164. THE REPORT OF THE MAYOR'S COMMITTEE OF THE 20TH JANUARY 2014 2013 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.
165. THE REPORT OF THE SHOW WORKING PARTY OF THE 23RD JANUARY 2014 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.
166. THE REPORT OF THE SHOTTON HALL SUB COMMITTEE OF THE 27TH JANUARY 2014 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.
167. THE REPORT OF THE SHOW WORKING PARTY OF THE 30TH JANUARY 2014 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.
168. THE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE OF THE 3RD FEBRUARY 2014 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.
Matters Arising
Minute Number 106 it was **RESOLVED** that an appropriate letter be sent to Durham County Council following attendance at the meeting.
169. THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE OF THE 3RD FEBRUARY 2014 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.
Matters Arising
Minute Number 40 – Garage Plots 24 Skerne Close
Further information was given in relation to the request received for garage plots to be sold to a residents. Members were still concerned and asked if there was a waiting list for garages in the area. **RESOLVED** that information be obtained on the waiting list for garages in this area and Local Members for the Acre Rigg Ward be contacted for their comment(s) and the response be made in accordance with their wishes.

170. THE MINUTES OF THE ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEE OF THE 3RD FEBRUARY 2014 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.

Matters Arising

Minute Number 64 Absence Report it was **RESOLVED that the report not be accepted as the Town Clerk's phased return was included as a side note, and not in the main body of the report.**

It was **RESOLVED the Town Council support Councillor Thompson in taking the matter of the anonymous card sent to her, further.**

171. THE MINUTES OF THE EDEN LANE COMMUNITY BUILDING STEERING GROUP OF THE 4TH FEBRUARY 2014 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.

172. THE REPORT OF THE CLERK'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE 10TH FEBRUARY 2014 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.

Matters Arising

Minute Number 40 – Request for Concessionary Use of Shotton Hall Banqueting Suites, 18th June 2014, East Durham FC **RESOLVED free use be granted for this event.**

173. THE MINUTES OF THE PARKS & CEMETERY COMMITTEE OF THE 10TH FEBRUARY 2014 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.

Matters Arising

Minute Number 56(a) it be clarified that there was no pre meeting necessary, merely that the Officer invited be fully appraised prior to her attendance at the meeting. **RESOLVED the invitation be extended as agreed.**

174. THE MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING OF THE 11TH FEBRUARY 2014 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed. These were in draft form and were to be circulated when fully completed. Members were circulated with correspondence confirming that the capping was not to be applied this year although it was almost definite it would be next year.

RESOLVED the Budget for 2014/15 be approved at £1,493,451 to be financed by LCTSS Grant of £306,481 and an increase in the precept of 4.9%, generating a total of £1,457,637, the shortfall in meeting the expenditure required to be taken from council reserves.

Councillors Mr A Watson and Miss V Watson asked that it be recorded that they were against this 4.9% increase.

175. POLITICAL LEADER'S REPORT

The Leader reported on recent meeting attended by him where he would give a further report and updates on progress.

RESOLVED the information given be noted.

176. SPOKESPERSON OF THE FAIR & INDEPENDENT PARTY REPORT

Councillor Mr Watson had nothing to report to Members this month.

RESOLVED the information given be noted.

177. EMMERGENCY ROOF REPAIRS – EDEN LANE COMMUNITY BUILDING

Members were advised that emergency roof repairs had to be carried out at Eden Lane following recent storms to keep the building water tight and a full report would be made to the Parks Committee for endorsement of the action taken.

RESOLVED the information given be noted and a further report be awaited.