

PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE

ON MONDAY 21<sup>ST</sup> JULY 2014

PRESENT:- COUN D MILSOM (CHAIR)

Mesdames:- K Liddell, S Simpson, C Baty, L M Wood &  
V Watson

Messrs:- S Miles, D Sillito, W M Jeffrey, C Watkins, L Cook,  
R J Curtis, R Kyle, J Alvey, G Cowie, C J Metcalfe &  
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.

Mr Walker, local resident, came along to the meeting to address Members and voice his opinions and observations about the Hampshire Place Play Area. The Mayor welcomed Mr Walker to the meeting and handed over to him. Mr Walker explained that older youths, (aged around 15 – 20 years), were getting into the Park and playing football and there had been a few near misses with the football and younger children. Youths were getting access to the Park after it had been locked for the night, they were drinking and being noisy, there was broken glass, bottles and other debris left in the Park after they had been in. He felt that the signage in place was grossly out of date and that the play area was not suitable for anyone under 12 years of age. Mr Walker also suggested if new signage was put in place it should specify no dogs, no cycles and no drinking. He also felt that the opening and closing times should be specified and applied

ie dusk for closing. He suggested that if the signage could be updated and the age range specified, this would give the Police a base line to work to. He felt that the play area caused problems as it was a focal point even in the winter for youth gathering after hours and the Police needed the power to be able to move them on and improved signage would help them. A Local Member circulated photographs around the meeting of problems the weekend previous and he felt improved signage would help make rules clear to both the Police, residents and users of the facilities. It was suggested that the sign should say that the Play Area was for children aged 12 and under and it would be closed at eight o'clock in the summer and earlier in the winter.

**RESOLVED new signage be put in place at the park in Hampshire Place and the area continue to be monitored.**

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

18. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been submitted and accepted on behalf of Councillors M Milsom and F Price, (ill).

19. POLICE - UPDATE

The Police were no present at the meeting. It was asked if an invitation could be extended to the Hackney Carriage/Licensing Officer and one of the Parking Enforcement Officers to come along to a future meeting to allow Members the opportunity to voice their concerns about issues with taxis in and around the Town.

**RESOLVED this invitation be extended to Officers.**

20. THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF THE 16<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2014 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.

Matters Arising

(i) Minute Number 5 – Policies for your Council

It was asked if a meeting of this Working Group could be arranged to make progress. The Deputy Town Clerk assured she would schedule a meeting as soon as possible. It was noted that Councillor A Watson would make up the Group to five, Councillors L Cook, C Baty, W M Jeffrey & C J Metcalfe.

**RESOLVED a meeting of the Policy working group be held as soon as possible.**

(ii) Minute Number 19 - Town Clerk's Grievance

**RESOLVED the minute be amended to include "The Town Council were not paying the Town Clerk's legal fees."**

21. THE REPORT OF THE MAYORS COMMITTEE OF THE 16<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2014 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.

22. THE REPORT OF THE SHOTTON HALL SUB COMMITTEE OF THE 23<sup>RD</sup> JUNE 2014 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.

23. THE REPORT OF THE SHOW COMMITTEE OF THE 26<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2014 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.

Matters Arising

(i) Minute Number 27 – Fireworks

It was **RESOLVED a further sentence be included in this minute as follows:- "Councillor Watson questioned why some Members thought this was a Health & Safety issue for a fireworks display in November, and not at the Peterlee Show in August"**.

(ii) Health & Safety Support

Details were given in relation to the cost of support for the event and it was **RESOLVED this be considered in more detail at the Show Meeting on 31<sup>st</sup> July 2014.**

24. THE REPORT OF THE JOINT HEALTH & SAFETY JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE 30<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2014 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.

Matters Arising

- (i) Minute Number 1 – Apologies for Absence

**RESOLVED the membership of this Committee be amended to now include all Members.**

- (ii) Minute Number 7 – Town Clerk’s absence

It was reported a further four week sick note had been received for the Town Clerk. Members asked that the Council’s best wishes and a Get Well Card be sent to Mrs Russell on behalf of the Town Council Members and staff.

**RESOLVED a card be sent to the Town Clerk.**

25. THE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE OF THE 7<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2014 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.

Matters Arising

- (i) Minute Number 25 – Booklet Produced to mark 150<sup>th</sup> Birthday of Peterlee

**RESOLVED that a copy be purchased for the Town Council and should Members wish to have a copy contact the office.**

- (ii) Minute Number 27 - County Durham Association of Local Council, Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of the 21<sup>st</sup> March 2014

It was noted there were several other items included in the discussions and it was asked that further information be requested on all of these items from CDALC.

**RESOLVED this course of action be followed.**

- (i) Minute Number 34 - CCTV Quote – Woodhouse Park

This item was to be considered at item 35.

(ii) Minute Number 37 - National Association of Councillors

**RESOLVED the Town Council re join the National Association of Councillors and Councillor Brian Nelson be invited to a future meeting.**

26. THE MINUTES OF THE ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEE OF THE 7<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2014 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.

Matters Arising

Minute Number 21 – Application for Re Grading

Members, whilst not against staff being re graded, felt they needed to be satisfied that the post holder's line manager or the Town Clerk had been involved with the job evaluation questionnaire which was provided to the Trade Union and NEREO to evaluate this post. It was asked that this be clarified and reported back to Members. Several Members gave instances in their own working experience where no line manager had been involved in such a process.

**RESOLVED that consideration of this item be deferred.**

27. THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE OF THE 7<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2014 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.

28. THE MINUTES OF THE EDEN LANE COMMUNITY BUILDING STEERING GROUP OF THE 8<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2014 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed, subject to the date requested for the Shape Up Challenge being altered to read 20<sup>th</sup> July 2014, and not the 22nd.

29. THE REPORT OF THE CLERK'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE 14<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2014 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.

30. THE MINUTES OF THE PARKS & CEMETERY COMMITTEE OF THE 14<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2014 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were agreed.

31. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

There were no planning applications submitted.

32. MOVE4LIFE PARTNER UPDATE – JULY 2014

It was reported the Sports Development Officer had acknowledged the support and funding received from County Councillor J Alvey and J I Measor in the Move4Life Newsletter. It was reported that the funding from the Member's Initiative Fund would be utilised to increase membership of the PACES scheme and support delivery of additional activities.

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

33. SPOKESPERSON OF THE MAJORITY POLITICAL PARTY'S REPORT

Councillor Jeffrey advised he had nothing to report this month.

34. SPOKESPERSON OF THE FAIR & INDEPENDENT PARTY'S REPORT

Councillor Watson reported that there were concerns with the Town Councils play areas with problems of anti social behavior, glass etc. He referred to a previous publicity campaign where it had been promoted with the "Abuse it and Lose it" logo/tag line.

**RESOLVED the report be accepted.**

35. RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC IN VIEW OF THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED, THE COMMITTEE

PASSED THE FORMAL RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC FROM THE MEETING, PURSUANT TO THE PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSIONS TO MEETINGS) ACT, 1960 & THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985.

36. CCTV – WOODHOUSE PARK

Consideration was given to the further report on the replacement of this system.

**RESOLVED** that a meeting be held with the Town Councils Security Contractor to discuss this in more detail with the Chairman & Vice Chairman of the Parks & Cemetery Committee, the Horticultural Supervisor and the Deputy Town Clerk and this be re considered at the next meeting.

PRIOR TO CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEM BOTH COUNCILLOR W M JEFFREY AND G COWIE DECLARED AN INTEREST.

37. TENDERS – SHOTTON HALL, SUPPLY OF BEERS, LAGERS & CIDER

Further consideration was given to the offers made by breweries for the supply of beers, lagers and cider to the Town Council.

**RESOLVED** the offer made by H.B. Clark & Co (Successors) Ltd to be the sole supplier of draught beers, lagers and ciders for a two year period, with the only price increase applied being that of duty imposed by HMRC.