

PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE

ON MONDAY 19TH OCTOBER 2015

PRESENT:- COUN M A CARTWRIGHT (CHAIR)

Mesdames:- K Liddell, S Simpson, K Hawley, S McDonnell, L Wood, V Watson & M J Thompson

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

83. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies had been submitted from Councillor J I Measor, (family commitments), G Cowie, (ill) J Alvey, (ill) and H Bennett MBE, (other commitments).

RECOMMENDED the Council approve the reasons submitted for absence received on the grounds given above, and the Councillors’ apologies for absence be recorded.

84. POLICE – UPDATE

Unfortunately it had not been possible for Warren Edwards,

Neighbourhood Inspector for Peterlee to attend the meeting, however he would come along to a future meeting. The figures from the previous meeting had been circulated prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED the information given be noted.

85. THE MINUTES OF THE COUNCIL MEETING OF THE 21ST SEPTEMBER 2015 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved.

Matters Arising

(i) Minute Number 70, Minutes of the Establishment Committee of the 7th September 2015, Minute Number 23(ii) re the Employment Tribunal, Councillor Thompson wish for it to be recorded that she had also made comment and she also wished for it to be recorded her Solicitor had written to the Town Council's Legal Team.

RESOLVED the information given be noted.

(ii) Minute Number 70 – Policies – Mental Health & Well Being and the Grievance Policy it was asked that these be regularly reviewed.

RESOLVED all policies be regularly reviewed by the Policy Governance Sub Group.

(iii) Minute Number 81 – Spokesperson of the NEP Member's Report

It was suggested that certain issues should not have been included in the report and should have been dealt with through the election agent. A vote was taken and it was **RESOLVED the item not be removed.**

86. THE MINUTES OF THE MAYOR'S COMMITTEE OF THE 21ST SEPTEMBER 2015 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved, subject to Councillor Cook as being shown as in the Chair at the meeting.

RESOLVED copy of the complaint received about the civic service be circulated to all Members at the next meeting.

87. THE MINUTES OF THE SHOW COMMITTEE OF THE 24TH SEPTEMBER 2015 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved.

Matters Arising

Minute Number 24 – Show Co Ordinator’s report

Councillor Watson wished for it to be recorded that he put forward the option that the building be closed if access by the general public was a safety issue. He also asked for it to be recorded there had been several issues regarding the sound/quality of the background music at parts of the event.

RESOLVED the information given be noted.

88. THE MINUTES OF THE HEALTH & SAFETY JOINT CONSULTATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE 28TH SEPTEMBER 2015 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved.

Matters Arising

(i) Use of mobile phones

RESOLVED other nearby parishes be contacted for a copy of their policy, if they have one.

(ii) First Aid at Work

It was asked if all staff had the opportunity to undertake this training. It was explained that it had been and it was hoped this would be included in appraisals and an Annual Training Plan.

RESOLVED the information given be noted.

(iii) Use of Grounds & Facilities by Outside Groups

Councillor Watson requested that it be recorded that it was his view that bar b ques could be held within the necessary Regulations and Rules.

RESOLVED the information given be noted.

89. THE MINUTES OF THE SHOTTON HALL COMMITTEE OF THE 28TH SEPTEMBER 2015 a copy of which had been circulated

to each Member, were approved. It was noted that the issue of TOIL was not discussed in any details at the meeting.

RESOLVED the information given be noted.

90. THE MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE OF THE 5TH OCTOBER 2015 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved.

Matters Arising

- (i) Minute Number 51(i) – FOI Requests, Data Protection Complaint

A Local Member spoke on this matter at length. A vote was taken and it was **RESOLVED the recommendation made stand and not be amended.**

91. THE MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE OF THE 5TH OCTOBER 2015 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved.

92. THE MINUTES OF THE ESTABLISHMENT COMMITTEE OF THE 5TH OCTOBER 2015 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved.

93. THE REPORT OF THE CLERK'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE 12TH OCTOBER 2015 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved.

Matters Arising

- (i) Deaf Awareness Training – costs

Members were advised of the cost of this training at a half day bespoke training for 3 hours, £175 for up to 20 persons.

RESOLVED this session be arranged for front line staff and any Councillor wishing to attend.

- (ii) Making Social Media Work for Councillors, 4th November

Members were circulated with details of an invitation to attend.

Several Members expressed an interest in attending and they were asked to make a note in their diaries of the details and a place would be booked at a cost of £70 + vat per delegate.

RESOLVED places be reserved for Councillors A Watson, S Miles, W M Jeffrey, C Watkins, C J Metcalfe & M J Thompson to attend this training.

(iii) Remembrance Sunday Parade, Sunday 8th November, 10.30am – Peterlee Central Club

RESOLVED the information given be noted.

(iv) Minute Number 40 – Twinning Farewell Evening

It was asked what entertainment had been arranged for this evening and accepted that the budget did include for entertainment and hospitality.

RESOLVED the information given be noted.

94. THE MINUTES OF THE PARKS & CEMETERY COMMITTEE OF THE 12TH OCTOBER 2015 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved.

There were alterations as to which Members came and went from the meeting and at which point.

It was felt that the public participation at meetings should be better managed and follow stricter guidelines to allow for all business to be properly conducted.

Councillor Thompson asked for it to be recorded she left the meeting prior to the audit report being discussed.

The remainder of the items from the minutes were considered at the end of the meeting.

95. REQUESTS FOR COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES TO BE PART OF THEIR COMMITTEE/BOARD

Consideration was given to these requests for the Town Council to be a representative and a member of their committee.

It was suggested this would be, as with other outside bodies, as a “watching brief” only and with no delegated authority the representative would report back to Council from the meetings. It was suggested rules should be drafted on guidelines for Members in that they do not play an executive role or part on the committee and are there merely to represent the Town Council.

(i) Peterlee Pumas

RESOLVED the Mayor represent the Town Council on the Peterlee Pumas.

(ii) Peterlee Cricket Club

RESOLVED Councillor A Watson represent the Town Council at the Peterlee Cricket Club meetings.

96. DATES FOR THE MEETINGS IN JANUARY 2016

Members were requested to waive standing orders to change the schedule of meetings in January 2016 to one week later.

RESOLVED approval be given for this course of action to be taken.

97. PETERLEE PLAY AREA REVIEW – GROUNDWORK
Thursday 22nd October, 4-5.30pm, The Pavilion Invitation to attend

RESOLVED the information given be noted.

98. FREE FAMILY FUN DAY, 31ST OCTOBER 2015, 10 – 3PM,
SEDGEFIELD RACE COURSE, (PCC’S CELEBRATION OF
SUPER HEROES - RON HOGG & DURHAM POLICE & CRIME
COMMISSION)

RESOLVED the information given be noted.

99. “THAT’S WHAT FRIENDS ARE FOR”, EAST DURHAM TRUST ANNUAL CONFERENCE, 12TH NOVEMBER 2015, 10 – 3.30PM, EAST DURHAM COMMUNITY COLLEGE

RESOLVED the information given be noted.

100. PLANNING

(i) Application – 55 Grisedale Road, erection of a garage to the side of existing dwelling

RESOLVED the information given be noted and no comment be offered.

(ii) County Durham Plan – Progress

Members were circulated with an update on developments with the County Durham Plan.

RESOLVED the information given be noted and progress be awaited.

101. RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC
IN VIEW OF THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE FOLLOWING ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED, THE COMMITTEE IS ASKED TO PASS 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.

102. HEALTH & SAFETY SUPPORT

RESOLVED the price submitted by Firm C, Durham County Council, be accepted to provide Health & safety Support for the Town Council.

103. EARLY PAYMENT OF THE SECOND PART OF THE MAYOR’S PERSONAL ALLOWANCE

RESOLVED approval be given for this payment to be made immediately.

104. SPOKESPERSON OF THE MAJORITY POLITICAL PARTY'S REPORT

Councillor Jeffrey gave two items to be reported to Durham County Council Highways, the Resurfacing of Bede Way, manhole on Burnhope Way.

RESOLVED the reports be made.

105. SPOKESPERSON OF THE NEP MEMBER'S REPORT

Councillor Watson asked for flooding/blocked rain on the mini roundabout on Burnhope Way to be reported and he was urging urgent action on the development of the Tesco site.

RESOLVED the report be made.

At this point in the meeting there were only the following Councillors still in attendance at the meeting:-
L Cook, A Watson, S Miles, M A Cartwright, K Hawley, S McDonnell, K Liddell, S Simpson, V Watson & L M Wood.

106. PLGA – AUDIT

RESOLVED the outstanding action point in the first draft report be pursued and clarified as a matter of urgency.