

PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE

ON MONDAY 21ST AUGUST 2017 at 6.30PM

PRESENT:- COUN M A CARTWRIGHT(CHAIR)

Mesdames:- K J Duffy, S Simpson, K Liddell, A C Long, S
McDonnell, & K Hawley

Messrs:- S Kirkup, T Duffy, A S H Meikle, R Moore, S D McGlen,
S Miles, S P Franklin, J Robinson & A Watson

44. Apologies for Absence

Apologies had been submitted from Councillors A Wilkinson, (on holiday) & G L Carne. **RESOLVED the Council approve the reasons submitted for the absences received on the grounds where given above, and the Councillor's apologies for absence be recorded.**

45. Public Participation Session

A public participation session was held to allow members of the public an opportunity to put questions to the Council. Mrs Hewson and Mrs Hughes were in attendance at the meeting and the Chairman welcomes them to the council chamber. Mrs Hewson had attended the last meeting and she thanked the council for action with some of the items she had raised at the meeting. Mrs Hughes explained she was a volunteer at Castle Eden Dene NNR and a member of the Peterlee Walking Club, and she was, along with Mrs Hughes passionate about the problem of littering in the Town. There was discussion of the various types of initiative that could possibly

be used and it was agreed unanimously that the issue of littering needed to be tackled in schools and with young people in trying to educate and instill a sense of pride in their town. The environmental impact of increased litter was also highlighted. It was also felt that the business in the Town had a responsibility in keeping the town tidy and litter free and it was asked they be contacted for their support.

RESOLVED the information given be noted and this item be placed on the next Community and Environment agenda for further discussion.

46. To Appoint a Chairman for Peterlee Town Council

Members were asked to appoint a Chairman for the Town Council following the recent resignation of the previous Chairman, (under the powers of the Local Government Act 1972, s15).

RESOLVED Councillor M A Cartwright be appointed as Chairman for the remainder of the civic year. The Chair thanked Council for their support and assured she would do her best in the role again.

47. To Elect a Vice Chairman for Peterlee Town Council

Nominations from Councillors S Meikle, S Miles and S Kirkup were received for this position and following a vote it was **RESOLVED Councillor A S Meikle be elected as Vice Chairman for the ensuing year.**

48. The Minutes of the Council Meeting of the 24th July 2017 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were approved.

49. To consider a motion from Councillors Watson and Hawley regarding the Mayor's budget for the 2017/18 financial year

Following discussion it was **RESOLVED the Town Council incur no further expenditure against the Mayor's budget for 2017/18, with immediate effect. The Chairman's allowance to remain at £1,500.**

It was confirmed the Mayor retained the facility to have six concessionary uses of the Shotton Hall Banqueting Suites for fund raising events for her chosen charity(ies).

50. To consider adopting the General Power of Competence

It was reported the Town Council were now in a position to consider adopting the General Power of Competence (GPC) fulfilling the necessary criteria. **RESOLVED the Town Council approve the use of the General Power of Competence with immediate effect.**

51. Request for Concessionary use of the Pavilion – 29 July 2017 (retrospective), Peterlee Cricket Club, Music/Fundraiser

RESOLVED free use of the Pavilion be granted retrospectively for this event. FURTHER RESOLVED a summary report be given on what previous uses had been granted to the various sports and community groups.

52. Request for Funding – Peterlee Pumas ARLFC

Members considered this request for a grant towards the costs associated with the end of Season Awards Evening and were advised that concessionary use had already been granted for this event. Members asked that a schedule of previous concessionary uses granted for individual groups would be useful for reference when considering requests and it was agreed that this be produced.

RESOLVED a grant of £500.00 from the Town Community Initiative Fund be made towards some of the costs associated with the Peterlee Pumas End of Season Awards Evening.

53. Purchase and installation of Community Cinema equipment, The Pavilion, Helford Road, Peterlee

Members considered the report of the Town Clerk, a copy of which had been previously circulated to each Member. They felt this was a brilliant initiative for the Town Council to take forward and thanks were given to both officers for progressing this and to Durham County Council Area Action Partnership for their financial support in the form of a £3,000 grant.

RESOLVED:-

- (i) The contents of the report be noted;**
- (ii) The creation of a capital budget of £9,000 gross/£6,000 net and a revenue budget of £2,000 net for the community cinema;**
- (iii) The Town Clerk be granted plenary powers for the final negotiation and award of contract for the provision and installation of equipment for the community cinema, as set out in the report.**

54. Shotton Hall Catering Concession – Procurement Options

Members considered the report of the Town Clerk, a copy of which had been previously circulated to each Member.

RESOLVED the contents of the report be noted and approval be given to a soft market testing exercise for the future catering concession at Shotton Hall, as detailed in the report of the Town Clerk, to go forward.

55. 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, (Schedule 7a, Part 1, paragraph 6).

56. Shotton Hall Catering Concession – Alteration to existing contract

Members considered the report of the Town Clerk, a copy of which had been previously circulated to each Member.

RESOLVED the contents of the report be noted and the Town Clerk be granted plenary powers to amend the Town Council's current catering concession, as set out in the report, including the payment to Oldfields for additional services received, again as detailed in the report. FURTHER RESOLVED an update report on progress and outcomes from the revised arrangements be presented at the end of two months and then each month thereafter for the remainder of the contract period.

57. SPOKESPERSON OF THE NEP MEMBER'S REPORT

Councillor A Watson offered a short report commenting this had been a positive meeting and the Council appeared to be heading in the right direction.

58. SPOKESPERSON OF THE LABOUR POLITICAL PARTY'S REPORT

Councillor McGlen congratulated the Chairman and Vice Chairman on the appointment to their respective positions.