

PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE

ON MONDAY 28TH OCTOBER 2019 at 6.30PM

PRESENT:- COUN T DUFFY (CHAIR)

Mesdames:- D Howarth, K Liddell, K J Duffy, S Simpson, K Hawley,
M A Cartwright, A C Long & L Fenwick

Messrs:- S Miles, G Carne, R Moore, S Kirkup, R Kyle, S D McGlen, S Meikle &
A Watson

78. Apologies for Absence
Apologies for absence were offered and accepted from Councillors S McDonnell, A Wilkinson & C Watkins.
79. Public Participation Session
A public participation session was held to allow members of the public an opportunity to put questions to the Council.
80. Additional Policing Resource for Peterlee
The Chairman welcomed Mr Steve White, Chief Executive of the Office of the Durham Police, Crime & Victim's Commissioner to the meeting. Mr White explained he had been appointed as Acting Commissioner until May 2020, when the next election for Police Commissioner was to be held. He intended listening and engaging with communities in County Durham and the contents of the Police, Crime and Victims' Plan covering 2016 to 2021 for County Durham and Darlington would continue unchanged and there would be continuity. Mr White then gave an overview of Durham as a force and reported on what the latest announcement from the government of an increase in funding for police may mean, with at best an increase of 200 across the County over the next three years, which he stressed would be fully warranted officers but not necessarily on the Beat. The Chair then opened the meeting for questions from Members on local issues in Peterlee and wider matters such as the 101 reporting service, the precept levied by Durham Constabulary. In closing the Chairman thanked Mr White for his attendance.
81. Police Report
PCSO Simon Walters reported the off road bikes section had been carrying out further patrols in Peterlee and stressed the importance of intelligence reporting. **RESOLVED the information given, be noted.**

82. Mayor's/Chair's Report

"This month I have been to Seaham to attend the Mayors at home event where I met with their councillors for a very pleasant afternoon tea.

I have been busy with Haswell council too as I judged and presented the awards for their brilliant Scarecrow competition. The competition was a super event, with many excellent entries, that really created a feel-good community spirit.

I have presented cheques to successful Neighbourhood Engagement Project applicants, including the Helford Road under 7's and Peterlee Evo under 11's.

This weekend, together with Cllr Karen Hawley, Cllr Susan McDonnell, Cllr Andrew Watson, Cllr Steve Miles, Cllr Karen Duffy, Cllr Gordon Carne, Cllr Rob Moore and Cllr Karon Liddell and some fabulous volunteers I attended Asda in Peterlee to help to raise funds for Stray Aid. Together, and with the generosity of the people of Peterlee and surrounding villages, we were able to raise £847.29 for this very worthy cause. Thank you to the councillors and volunteers that took part and to those that donated so generously.

The month, as far as civic duties are concerned, was a short one for me as my most important duty of the month, took me out of the country for a fortnight to walk my daughter down the aisle on her wedding day."

83. To receive declarations of interest

Members were reminded of the need to disclose any interests in items on this agenda, whether pecuniary or otherwise. None were given.

84. To Approve the Minutes of the last meeting of the 23RD September 2019 the minutes of the previous meeting were attached for consideration and were approved as a true and correct record, subject to the amendment suggested at the meeting relating to the item on Acre Rigg Social Club being made.

85. The Minutes of the Resources Committee of the 7th October 2019 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were noted.

86. The Minutes of the Community & Environment Committee of the 14th October 2019 a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were noted.

87. Minutes of the Scrutiny Meeting of the 4th October 2019 – Shotton Hall a copy of which had been circulated to each Member, were noted.

The Town Clerk offered his apologies and would make a verbal update on progress from to a future meeting. **RESOLVED the report on Shotton Hall outlining the various options, be awaited.**

88. Spokesperson of the North East Party's Report

Councillor A Watson thanked the public for donating and those who had taken part in the recent back pack in Asda in support of Stray Aid. He commented that it was excellent news that the retail park development had received the green light. He was pleased to see progress with the Christmas Tree to be installed on the Post Office roundabout. He said it was fantastic news the Peterlee Community Garden had won the Community Partnership Category Winner, DCC Environment Awards 2019 and he offered his congratulations to those involved. **RESOLVED the information given, be noted.**

89. Spokesperson of the Labour Political Party's Report

Councillor Fenwick was happy to report the Scouts, Cubs and Beavers had been involved with a litter pick and were taking pride in their local area. She was pleased that the planned retail park was to go ahead and hoped it would have a positive impact on the Town Centre. She congratulated those involved with the Community Garden for their Award. **RESOLVED the information given, be noted.**