

PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE BRANDLING SUITE, SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE

ON MONDAY 28th MARCH 2022 at 6.30PM

PRESENT: - COUN M A CARTWRIGHT (CHAIR)

Mesdames: E Watson, D Howarth, S Simpson, K Liddell, J Black, M McCue &
S McDonnell

Messrs: - S Franklin, D Hawley, R Moore, M Sanderson, G Johnson & W Fishwick

149. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were offered and accepted from Councillors K & T Duffy, A Stockport, K Hawley & AE Laing.

150. Public Participation Session

There were no members of the public present.

151. 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 offered.

152. To Approve the Minutes of the last meeting of the 28TH March 2022

The minutes of the previous meeting were attached for consideration and approval as a true and correct record. **RESOLVED the minutes be accepted and signed as a true and correct record.**

153. Report of the Resources Meeting of the 14th March 2022

The minutes of the Resources were attached for the information of Members. **RESOLVED the information given be noted.**

154. Notes of the Finance Sub Committee of the 14th March 2022
Members confirmed and endorsed the resolution of the Finance Sub Committee to approve BACS payments to be paid on 18th March 2022.
155. Purchase of grass-cutting machinery for the Neighbourhood Services department
Members considered the proposals from the Neighbourhood Services Manager for the purchase of new grass-cutting gangs for use by the Town Council's Neighbourhood Services Department. **RESOLVED approval be given to the purchase a Wessex RMX500 from Lloyds, Bishop Auckland at a cost of £28,250 ex vat.**
156. COVID-19 Update
Members received an update from the Town Clerk on the Council's response to the COVID-19 situation. It was reported things were slowly returning to normal and restrictions were beginning to be relaxed eg for the size of exercise classes at The Pavilion. Staff were still being careful in terms of internal circulation, hygiene etc. It was reported the NHS were to be using the car park at The Pavilion for over 75s vaccinations for a four week period. **RESOLVED the information given be noted.**
157. Policies
The following policy was for consideration, approval and adoption by Peterlee Town Council Eye Care Policy and Procedure. **RESOLVED the Eye Care Policy and Procedure be approved and adopted by the Town Council.**
158. Investors in People Review
Members received an update on the recent review visit by the Investors in People Assessor. Following the annual review the Town Council had retained its standard for another year. He advised there was the opportunity to upgrade to the Silver Standard however he recommended not at this moment in time. **RESOLVED the information given, be noted.**
159. Town Council Plan and Medium Term Financial Plan
Members received an update on progress in developing the new Town Council Plan and discussed how Members would like to be involved in future activity. In considering this action the Clerk spoke about the branding being adopted for various services offered by the Council and it was suggested that perhaps a competition could be held for an updated

logo for the Town Council. It was felt that there was value in the process in having conversations with residents, partners, community groups, schools etc. **RESOLVED further progress be awaited.**

160. Spokesperson of the North East Party's Report

Councillor McDonnell reported on the re opening of the DLI Museum, the City of Culture Bid, The Sands and TV filming in Peterlee. She spoke about the multi agency group established to support Ukraine refugees with 51 matches made with families in the County so far. She said her thoughts were with the people of Ukraine. **RESOLVED the information given, be noted.**

161. Spokesperson of the Labour Political Party's Report

Councillor McCue reported her main concern was for residents of the Town and how hard they were going to be hit with rising costs of living with at least another 1 million people living in abject poverty. She said even working families were being hit hard. She said if we could find a way to support local charities that were going to be relied upon for their help even more in the future. The Town Clerk explained he was working with the Edenhill People's Centre, Bread and Butter Project to see how the Town Council may be able to help with manpower/staff. **RESOLVED the information given, be noted.**