

PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE BRANDLING SUITE, SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE

ON MONDAY 15th AUGUST 2022 at 6.30PM

PRESENT: - COUN R MOORE (CHAIR)

K Liddell, M Mc Cue, S Simpson, S McDonnell, S P Franklin, E Watson, J Black, K Duffy, T Duffy, B Fishwick, M A Cartwright & M Sanderson

44. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were offered from Councillors G Johnson, R. Burnip, K & D Hawley, D Howarth & D Quinn.

45. Public Participation Session

There were no members of the public present.

46. 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.

47. To Approve the Minutes of the last meeting of the 25th July 2022

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

48. Notes of the Finance Sub Committee of the 15th of August 2022

Members confirmed and endorsed the resolution of the Finance Sub Committee to approve BACS payments to be made for August 2022. **RESOLVED the payments be accepted.**

49. 2022/23 Budget Review

Members received a presentation from the Town Clerk on the potential impact of economic inflation pressures on the current and future years' budgets. In considering this the Clerk also referred to a range of social data relating to the town with a particular focus on young people and incomes and suggested a need for the Council to challenge assumptions and priorities when considering the budget from September onwards.

RESOLVED the information given, be noted and these discussions continue at future meetings.

50. Spokesperson of the North East Party's Report

Councillor Cartwright reported on the new DCC (Durham County Council) waste clearance teams being used which were part of the wider wardens network. Councillors T Duffy and Fishwick had a local walkabout to identify issues in their ward. A group including Councillors McDonnell, Duffy, Duffy and Fishwick had carried out some volunteering work in the Bannatyne Lodge Care Home's garden following a request made to them for help. She commented on the negative comments on social media about the Fiesta Fun Weekend to be hosted by Nobles. She spoke about the damage to the Oakerside Play area which was extremely disappointing. She commended council officers for organising a wonderful day at the Teddy Bears Picnic held in Woodhouse Park. She asked for help with the school uniform recycling scheme she was running with the help of Praxis who had provided a shop unit in Castle Dene. In closing she commented on the wildflower meadow planting being undertaken opposite the college site. **RESOLVED the information given, be noted.**

51. Spokesperson of the Labour Political Party's Report

Councillor McCue congratulated the Neighbourhood Services Team on attaining and retaining Green Flag status for Woodhouse Park and the Cemetery. She commented on how well the Council organised and provided the many well-attended community events. She felt that being as open and transparent as possible was the only way to respond to pressures from the public about the tough economic times that were being experienced and were to come. She suggested the best way to find out what the public wanted was to get their direct feedback in some form. She spoke about informal meetings of Members that had taken place recently which had been productive with significant amounts of consensus across wards. She passed on her appreciation for the Council's staff who were continuing to do remarkably well delivery services in difficult conditions. **RESOLVED the information given, be noted.**