

PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE

ON MONDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY 2023 at 6.30PM

PRESENT: - Cllr R Moore (Chairman)

M McCue, S Simpson, R Burnip, S McDonnell, S Franklin, A Stockport, J Black, D Hawley, K Hawley, K Duffy, B Fishwick, A Laing, D Howarth & D Quinn

98. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were offered from Councillors M A Cartwright, M Sanderson, T Duffy, K Liddell & S Meikle. **RESOLVED the apologies for absence from these Councillors be noted.**

99. Public Participation Session

There were no members of the public present at the meeting.

100. To receive declarations of interest

Members were reminded of the need to disclose any interests in items on this agenda, whether pecuniary or otherwise. Councillors K Hawley, D Howarth, D Hawley, R Moore, M McCue & A Stockport declared an interest in item 11 on the agenda, Warm Welcome Café.

101. To Approve the Minutes of the last meeting of the 28<sup>th</sup> November 2022

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

102. Notes of the Finance Sub Committee of the 16<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Members considered the accounts presented for payment for the month of January 2023 and it was **RESOLVED the payments be accepted and paid.**

103. The Minutes of the Resources Committee of the 16<sup>th</sup> January 2023

The minutes of the Resources meeting were circulated for information purposes only. **RESOLVED the record of the meeting be noted.**

104. Update from the Events Working Party held on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2023

Members were requested to consider the following events for the calendar for 2023.

It was **RESOLVED**

- (i) **The Fireworks Display Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2023 not be held this year.**
- (ii) **Remembrance Parade 12<sup>th</sup> November 2023 be supported and held.**
- (iii) **The request from Planet Circus to hold a circus at Eden Lane 18<sup>th</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> June 2023 be agreed to and the Corporate Services Manager be granted delegated authority to negotiate a fee from them for the permission to use PTC's land.**
- (iv) **Emergency Services Day, Shotton Hall, Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2023 be supported and held this year.**

105. Notice of Resignation, Councillor G Johnson

Members were advised of receipt of Councillor Johnson's resignation and it was reported the deadline had now passed for the vacancy and no requests for an election had been received. The Town Council can now proceed with co-option to fill the vacancy. Details of the usual process used for co-option were provided and Members were asked to contact the office should they wish to have an application form. Alternatively any interested applicants could contact the office directly to discuss being a councillor and receive a copy of the required form. These would then be considered at the Council Meeting to be held on 27 February 2023. The closing date would be set for 20<sup>th</sup> February 2023. **RESOLVED this vacancy be advertised via the Councils' social media channels.**

106. Nomination to the DCC Standards Committee

Members were asked to consider whether to nominate up to two Members for a vacancy on the Durham County Council Standards Committee. Nominations were only open to Town Councillors who were not County Councillors. It was **RESOLVED this item be placed on the next agenda for further consideration (deadline permitting).**

107. Peterlee Town Council draft budget and precept demand 2023/24

Members received a report from the Town Clerk with an update on the outline budget for the 2023/24 financial year and to set the precept figure for 2023/24 as detailed in the report. Following discussion it was **RESOLVED:-**

- i) **the grant awarded to both the Citizens Advice Bureau, County Durham and CEDNRR be discontinued with no grant awarded to either organisation for 2023/24;**
- ii) **To set the 2023/24 precept at £1,570,995.84 which is equivalent to a Band A households' council tax amount of £224.55 for the year, or £4.32 a week**
- iii) **that the 2023/4 charges for general council services and activities be increased by a target amount of 15%**

- iv) a budget workshop/training be offered to councilors at the start of the budget setting process for the next year's budget.

108. Warm Welcome Café

It was confirmed that a grant bid from Cllr K Hawley's Durham County Council Neighbourhood Budget allocation to establish a 'Warm Welcome Café' project in The Pavilion Sports and Community Centre had been successful and Members were asked to approve the purchase of supplies and equipment to enable the project to launch as soon as possible. During the discussion on the item Cllr Hawley suggested that the venue be changed to Shotton Hall due to issues with room and volunteer availability. **RESOLVED that the Warm Welcome Café project be approved with the venue and timings to be confirmed once logistics had been properly considered**

109. Review of Committees and Committee Cycle

**RESOLVED the Terms of Reference for the Council's Committees and also the frequency and location of meetings be reviewed at the next meeting of the Scrutiny Committee.**

110. Spokesperson of the North East Party's Report

No report was made.

111. Spokesperson of the Labour Political Party's Report

Councillor Mc Cue wished everyone a Happy New Year. She stated that she felt this year was going to be a difficult one in the community with a rise in poverty due to economic conditions. She highlighted the need to continue to support grass roots organisations and encouraged Members to keep stepping forward in supporting their local communities.

112. Exclusion of press and public

RESOLVED in view of the confidential nature of the matter to be discussed, Council exclude the press and public from the meeting for the following item, pursuant to s.1, Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960

113. Peterlee 75

Members received a report from the Town Clerk outlining proposal for a program of activity to mark Peterlee's 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary and he asked Council to agree the final submission of a grant funding bid to the Heritage Lottery on behalf of partner organisations, as outlined in the report. It was confirmed that the Passmore Pole structure would not be re located to town center land in private ownership as per the original bid proposal, and that the future location of the pole would be

considered further by the Council. **RESOLVED the final grant bid be submitted to the Heritage Lottery Fund and the Clerk and Chairman be given authority to sign it on behalf of the Town Council.**