

PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE

ON MONDAY 24th JULY 2023 at 6.30PM

PRESENT: - Cllr D Howarth (Chair)

K Liddell, S Simpson, R Burnip, S McDonnell, R Moore, D Hawley, R Scott, K Duffy, T Duffy & M A Cartwright

39. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were offered from Councillors A Stockport, J Black, B Fishwick, K Hawley, A E Laing, M Sanderson, S Franklin & E Watson. **RESOLVED Council note the apologies that had been submitted.**

40. Public Participation Session

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

41. To receive declarations of interest

Members were reminded of the need to disclose any interests in items on this agenda, whether pecuniary or otherwise. Please seek advice from the Town Clerk or Deputy Town Clerk **prior to the meeting** if in doubt. Members were reminded that they could check their published declaration of interests here: <https://bit.ly/2wVyeLA>

42. To Approve the Minutes of the last meeting of the 26th June 2023

The minutes of the previous meeting were attached for consideration and approval as a true and correct record.

43. Police

The Chair welcomed Acting Sergeant Aimee Brown to the meeting. Members relayed their concerns over the substantial vandalism being experienced in the Town Council's play areas, especially at the Oakerside play area. A/S Brown confirmed that there were regular visits to that area by Beat Officers including evenings and weekends. The Town Clerk suggested that a campaign regarding the financial and human cost of this vandalism could be co-ordinated with various partners including the Community Safety Team and the Police and this was agreed as a good idea. Several other issues were reported and discussed and the Chair thanked A/S Brown for her attendance at the meeting.

44. Notes of the Finance Sub Committee of the 12th June 2023
Members confirmed and endorsed the resolution of the Finance Sub Committee to approve BACS payments paid.
45. The Minutes of the Community & Environment Committee of the 10th July 2023
The notes of this meeting were attached for information. **RESOLVED the minutes be noted.**
46. The notes of the Health & Safety visit to Eden Lane on Friday 14th July 2023
The notes of this meeting were attached for information. **RESOLVED the contents be noted.**
47. Policies
The following policies had been updated and were presented for review, consideration and approval:-
- (i) Attendance Management Policy
 - (ii) Attendance Management Guidance for Managers
 - (iii) Cemetery Policy – Procedure for Memorial
 - (iv) Grievance Policy
 - (v) Recruitment Policy
- RESOLVED the policies be reviewed, accepted and adopted immediately.**
48. Spokesperson of the Independent Party's Report
The spokesperson was not present and no report was given.
49. Spokesperson of the North East Party's Report
Councillor Cartwright expressed sincere condolences for a member of staff who had recently lost a close relative. She reported on the CALM CiC open day which had gone very well. She thanked Councillors Mr & Mrs Duffy for their help and support following a fire at Denehouse School. She said she was looking forward to hearing the work of the local schools in writing a song to celebrate the Town's 75th Birthday. Cllr Cartwright congratulated families whose sons/daughters had recently graduated from school or college. She warned and alerted everyone to the dangers of Asian Giant Hornets that were being reported. She reported that she had attended a recent County Council meeting which had been an eye-opener for her and noted that their meetings are very different to the Town Council's meetings. She congratulated Mencap on their opening of a community and sensory garden. In closing Councillor Cartwright wished everyone a great summer break. **RESOLVED the information given, be noted.**

50. Spokesperson of the Labour Political Party's Report

Councillor Scott congratulated everyone that had helped to deliver an excellent Over 60s afternoon tea event. He wished everyone a relaxing stress free six weeks summer holiday.

RESOLVED the information given, be noted.