

THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE SCRUTINY COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, SHOTTON HALL, PETERLEE
ON FRIDAY 15th MARCH 2024

PRESENT: COUN K HAWLEY (CHAIR)

D Hawley, A Laing, D Howarth, R Scott, W Fishwick, R Burnip, M A Carwright & R Moore

12. Apologies for Absence

There had been no apologies submitted.

13. The Minutes of the Last Meeting held on 1st March 2024

The minutes of the previous meeting were attached for consideration and approval as a true and correct record. It was noted that the filling of the vacancy at The Pavilion had been agreed at the Resources Meeting. **RESOLVED the minutes be accepted and signed as a true record.**

14. Exclusion of the Press & Public

RESOLVED in view of the confidential nature of the items to be discussed, the committee passed the formal resolution to exclude the press and public from the meeting, pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 & the Local Government (Access to Information) Act, Part 1, paragraphs 11.

15. The Pavilion, Helford Road

The Interim Town Clerk reported receipt of a request for flexible retirement and he provided the detail for Members. Members gave full consideration to the request and asked for clarification on certain points. **RESOLVED this unfortunately the request be refused.**

In considering this matter it was asked that the delegated powers policy be reviewed and re considered by Council.

It was felt the services and building were not advertised enough and this needed to be increased. Perhaps with a campaign targeted at increasing community footfall with new groups, young people etc. It was agreed that when the vacancy was filled a new rota be implemented immediately with an aim to have the building open more. It was suggested that perhaps there could be a type of “re launch” of the building a discounted room hire rates be considered. It was asked could the charges for MUGAs around the area be obtained to compare with our prices. It was suggested promotional events be held eg Euros 24 being

promoted and made available on the big screens. It was asked that the use of the various rooms in the building be re considered and re configured where possible.

For the Bistro there was several ideas including having Macmillan coffee mornings etc considering a franchise/CIC/ community or sports groups, volunteers etc running the Bistro.