

## PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the **Town Council** meeting held on **Monday, 19<sup>th</sup> August 2024** at 6.30pm in the Council Chamber, Shotton Hall, Peterlee.

**Present:** Councillor D. Howarth (Mayor) and Councillors J. Black, R Burnip, B. Fishwick, S. Franklin, K. Hawley, R. Moore and S. Simpson

**Also, Present:** Ian Hall, (Chief Officer and Town Clerk), David Anderson (Locum Democratic Services Manager) and Louise Hudson (Democratic Services Assistant)

One member of the public

### **C.48/24 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were offered from Councillors K. Duffy, T. Duffy, A. Laing, K. Liddell, M. McCue, S. McDonnell, M. Sanderson, R. Scott, H Stockport and S. Meikle.

**RESOLVED:** That the apologies be noted.

### **C.49/24 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members were reminded of the need to disclose any interests in items on the agenda, whether pecuniary or otherwise.

No interests were declared.

### **C.50/24 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No questions were raised during public participation.

### **C.51/24 CIVILITY & RESPECT PLEDGE**

Council at its meeting held on 22nd July 2024 agreed to formally adopt the Civility & Respect Pledge and to invite all Members of the Council and the Town Clerk to sign the pledge certificate to demonstrate their individual commitment to its principles.

Members and the Town Clerk were therefore invited to sign the Civility & Respect Pledge

### **C.52/24 MINUTES**

- a) Finance Sub-Committee held on 22nd July 2024
- b) Council meeting held on 22nd July 2024.
- c) Special Council meeting held on 30th July 2024

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the above meetings be approved as a correct record and recommendations contained therein be adopted.

### **C.53/24 APPROVAL FOR THE USE OF LAND AT EDEN LANE**

Members considered a request from The Circus for approval to use land at Eden Lane for performances during 11<sup>th</sup> May to 18<sup>th</sup> May 2025.

Members noted that, if approved, the discussions would be held with The Circus to ensure the area was suitable to them following the erection of a new perimeter fence.

With reference to the erection of the fence, Members were reminded that Resources Committee, at its meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2024, had agreed for a fence to be erected around the land known as the 'practice pitch' in an attempt to prevent damage and antisocial behaviour caused by motorcycles/quadbikes and horses. There was also a health and safety issue relating to dog fouling. (Minute No R.6/24 refers).

Members requested further discussion with regard to the use of the land at a future meeting.

**RESOLVED:** That permission be granted for The Circus to use land at Eden Lane for performances during the period 11th to 18th May 2025.

**C.54/24 PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL'S VISION, AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

The Town Clerk gave a presentation setting out the outcome of series of Member Workshops with a view to the Council formally approving its Vision, Aims and Objectives. Details of the presentation are attached at Appendix 1.

**RESOLVED:** That Peterlee Town Council's Vision, Aims and Objectives be agreed as set out at appendix 1.

## **PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL'S VISION, AIMS AND OBJECTIVES**

### **Our Vision**

"Peterlee Town Council envisions a vibrant, inclusive, and sustainable community where every resident receives excellent services. "

### **Our Mission**

"Our mission is to serve the residents of Peterlee with integrity, transparency, and dedication. We are committed to enhancing the well-being of our community by providing excellent public services, promoting economic development, and ensuring a safe and sustainable environment. Through active engagement with the public and other organisations, we strive to create a town where everyone feels connected, listened to, and proud to call Peterlee their home."

### **Our 5 Key Objectives to Deliver the Vision for Peterlee Town Council**

#### **1. Economic Development**

- Attract and support local businesses and grass root organisations
- Foster partnerships with regional and national bodies to stimulate investment.
- Promote local job creation and workforce development initiatives.

#### **2. Public Services Signposting**

- Improve the quality and accessibility of essential services such as healthcare, education, financial support and transportation to our residents
- Work with public safety and blue light services to address community safety and anti social behaviour challenges

#### **3. Community & Volunteering Engagement**

- Increase opportunities for residents to participate in decision making processes.
- Foster a sense of community through improved funding. events, programmes, and activities.
- Strengthen communication channels between the Council and residents.
- Support local arts, cultural events, and educational programs.
- Promote diversity and inclusion within the community.

#### **4. Environment**

- Implement green initiatives to reduce the town's carbon footprint.
- Promote the conservation of natural resources and green spaces.
- Encourage sustainable practices among residents and local businesses.
- Provide excellent green parks and spaces to meet current and future needs of the community.
- Maintain safe and accessible public spaces for all our residents.
- Promote health and well-being by delivering and supporting recreational and mental health services.

#### **5. Innovation and Technology**

- Drive technology to improve public services and engagement.
- Support digital literacy and access for all residents.
- Encourage innovation in local government operations and community initiatives.

## **Our 8 Key Values of Peterlee Town Council**

### **1. Integrity**

- Conduct all activities with honesty, transparency, and accountability.
- Maintain the highest ethical standards in all decisions and actions.

### **2. Community**

- Foster a sense of belonging and pride among our residents.
- Prioritise the needs and well-being of the community in all Council initiatives.

### **3. Inclusivity**

- Create an environment where everyone feels valued and respected.
- A workforce representative of the diversity of the local population

### **4. Collaboration**

- Work together with residents, businesses, and regional partners to achieve common goals.
- Encourage active residents' participation and open dialogue in decision-making processes.

### **5. Sustainability**

- Commit to environmentally responsible practices.
- Ensure that development and growth are balanced with the preservation of natural resources.

### **6. Innovation**

- Promote creative and forward-thinking solutions to community challenges.
- Apply technology and new ideas to improve public services and quality of life.

### **7. Excellence**

- Strive for the highest quality in all Council services and initiatives.
- Continuously seek improvement and efficiency in operations.

### **8. Responsiveness**

- Act promptly and effectively to address the needs and concerns of the community.
- Be proactive in anticipating and preparing for future challenges and opportunities for the residents of Peterlee.

## **Our 6 Key Competencies: we'll hold each to account against these standards**

1. Customer First: putting the customer (internal and external) at the heart of everything we do to provide an excellent service
2. Working with Others: working together to improve how we provide services and supporting each other through change
3. Communicating well: conveying information clearly and effectively, in a way which helps people understand
4. Personal Impact: being self-aware, acting pro-actively and accepting responsibility for achieving
5. Our Future: wanting to be the best and working together to achieve this. Making improvements through being efficient
6. Delivering results: continually improving performance and introducing new ideas into the Council to achieve results

## **To ensure value for money to the residents, we will:**

1. Operate a balanced budget
2. Develop and maintain a medium-term financial plan
3. Be open and transparent with our decision-making
4. Constantly seek to reduce our costs through efficiencies and innovative procurement processes