

## **PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL**

Minutes of the **Town Council** meeting held on **Monday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2025** at 6.30pm in the Brandling Suite, Shotton Hall, Peterlee.

**Present:** Councillor R. Moore (Mayor) and  
Councillors, F.J. Black, P. Brown, D. Burrell, M.A. Cartwright,  
P. Cartwright, B. Fishwick, A. Laing, D. Meadows, H. Pygall,  
I. Pygall, L. Sanders, S. Simpson, M.T. Tough, D. Wright.

**Also Present:** Ian Hall (Chief Officer and Town Clerk), David Anderson (Locum Democratic Services Manager) and Deborah Woodhall (Resources Manager).

Two Members of the public were in attendance

### **C.15/25 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors, M.L. Franklin, S. Franklin, D. Hawley, K. Hawley, D. Howarth E. Sanders and M. Sanderson.

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

### **C.16/25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor M. Tough declared an interest in respect of Item No. 6 'Lease of Land at Helford Road to Peterlee Cricket Club' and took no part in the discussion or voting thereon.

### **C.17/25 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

#### **Provision of Devices to Members**

Robert Scott, a former Town Councillor, was present at the meeting to raise concerns regarding the decision made at the previous Council meeting to provide mobile phones and devices to councillors. He stated that there had not been a need for the provision previously and council tax payers' money could be better spent on the delivery of services for the community. He requested that the Council reconsider the decision.

Councillor Moore advised that he was uncomfortable with the decision made at the previous meeting and that he and Councillor Laing had submitted a special motion to the Town Clerk, for discussion at the next meeting, requesting that the decision be rescinded and the Town Clerk be requested to submit a full report to a future Council meeting so that Members could make an informed decision on the provision of mobile phones and devices.

The Chairman thanked Mr Scott for his attendance at the meeting.

#### **Peterlee Cricket Club**

James Pratt was in attendance at the meeting with regard to Item No 6 'Lease of Land at Helford Road to Peterlee Cricket Club' to request that the Council agree the lease to the Club. Mr Pratt advised Councillors of the history and

current activities provided by the Club and explained that the approval of the lease would help the Club apply for grant funding to improve facilities and secure its future success.

The Chairman thanked Mr Pratt for his attendance at the meeting.

#### **C.18/25 MINUTES**

- a. Council held on 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2025
- b. Events Committee held on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2025

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the above meetings be approved.

#### **C.19/25 MOTIONS ON NOTICE**

Moved by Councillor Meadows, Seconded by Councillor Fishwick,

"That Peterlee Town Council acknowledge the importance of remembering the sacrifices made by those who served in times of conflict and commit to exploring the possibility of enhancing Peterlee's War Memorial."

The motion was unanimously supported. Members noted that the Council would need to engage with relevant organisations to seek agreement to enhancing the Memorial and consult wider regarding potential alterations.

**RESOLVED** That the motion be approved.

#### **C.20/25 LEASE OF LAND AT HELFORD ROAD TO PETERLEE CRICKET CLUB**

Consideration was given to a report of the Town Clerk, which had been circulated with the agenda, with regard to the proposed lease of land at Helford Road to Peterlee Cricket Club.

Members noted the background to the Council's decision made on 26th June 2023 to grant Peterlee Cricket Club a 30 year lease of the land at a peppercorn rent.

**RESOLVED** That the decision of the Council made on 26th June 2023 (Minute No 34) to grant a 30 year lease of land at Helford Road to Peterlee Cricket Club CIC on terms contained in the report be confirmed.

#### **C.21/25 END OF YEAR BUDGET SUMMARY 2024/25**

In accordance with Financial Regulations, consideration was given to a report of the Town Clerk, which had previously been circulated, setting out a budget summary for the financial year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2025.

**RESOLVED:** That the budget summary for 2024/25 financial year be agreed.

**C.22/25 ANNUAL GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN 2024/25**

Consideration was given to the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) for 2024/25, together with the period for the exercise of public rights.

- RESOLVED:**
1. That the Annual Audit Report (page 3 of the AGAR) be noted.
  2. That the Annual Governance Statement (page 4 of the AGAR) be approved.
  3. That the Accounting Statement (page 5 of the AGAR) be approved.
  4. That the period for the Exercise of Public Rights for the year ending 31st March 2025 commence on 18th June 2025 and end on 29th July 2025.