

PETERLEE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the **Town Council** meeting held on **Monday 20th October 2025** at 6.30pm in the Council Chamber, Shotton Hall, Peterlee.

Present: Councillor R. Moore (Mayor) and Councillors, P. Brown, M.A. Cartwright, P. Cartwright, B. Fishwick, ML Franklin, S Franklin, K. Hawley, D Howarth, A. Laing, D. Meadows, I. Pygall, H Pygall, S. Simpson, M Tough and D Wright

Also Present: Ian Hall (Chief Officer and Town Clerk), Deborah Woodhall (Resources Manager), and David Anderson (Locum Democratic Services Manager), Wayne Harriman (Neighbourhood Services Manager) and Louise Hudson (Democratic Services Assistant)

C.102/25 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors, J Black, D Burrell, D Hawley, H Pygall and M Sanderson.

RESOLVED: That the apologies be noted.

C.103/25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No interests were declared.

C.104/25 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No Public were present.

C.105/25 MINUTES

a. Council Meeting held on 6th October 2025

Minute no. C.100/25

Members wished it to be noted that it had been reported at the meeting that the former Councillor had indicated that they would burn the Santa Claus costume rather than return it to the Council.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the above meeting be approved, subject to the inclusion of the above amendment.

C.106/25 DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL BUDGET CONSULTATION

Consideration was given to a report of the Town Clerk, which had previously been circulated, to advise Members of two current Durham County Council (DCC) consultations concerning its Medium-Term Financial Plan (MTFP) 2026/27–2029/30 and associated Council Tax proposals, and to invite Member comment for a corporate response from Peterlee Town Council.

Councillor S Franklin, who was also a County Councillor, advised that he would be attending a briefing meeting later in the week regarding this and would give an update at the next Council meeting.

RESOLVED: 1. That the item be deferred, pending an update being received at the next Council meeting.

C.107/25 PLAY AREA REPORT

Consideration was given to a report of the Neighbourhood Services Manager, which had previously been circulated, regarding the growing vandalism issues affecting the Town's play areas and open spaces. The report proposed that a long-term investment strategy be developed to protect and enhance the facilities.

- RESOLVED:**
1. That a Play Areas Working Party be established with all Members be invited to participate.
 2. That meetings be held on a Wednesday at 10.00 am.

C.108/25 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: That in view of the confidential nature of the items to be discussed, the Council passed a 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, due to the commercial and personal information contained in the report.

C.109/25 PETERLEE CRICKET CLUB LEASE – AUTHORISATION FOR ADDITIONAL FACILITIES AND FUNDING CONSENT

Consideration was given to a report of the Town Clerk, which had previously been circulated, regarding amendments to the proposed lease of land Peterlee Cricket Club.

- RESOLVED:**
1. That the proposed amendments to the lease be agreed as detailed in the report.
 2. That the Chief Officer & Town Clerk be authorised to issue a formal Letter of Landlord Consent confirming the Council's support for the Club's funding applications to develop new cricket-related facilities on the land to be leased.
 3. That the Town Council retains full ownership of the site and landlord control through the terms of the lease.
 4. That the final lease and revised site plan be presented to Council for approval prior to final sign-off and execution.

C.110/25 COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER APPLICATION: LAND AT LOWHILLS ROAD - UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report of the Town Clerk which had previously been circulated, updating Members on the progress of the Community Asset Transfer (CAT) proposal submitted by Peterlee Town Junior Association Football Club (PTJAFC) for the land at Lowhills Road.

Detailed consideration was given to the area of land to be leased. It was suggested that further discussion take place with PTJAFC to ensure that their development proposals could be accommodated with the site.

- RESOLVED:**
1. That Peterlee Town Junior Association Football Club Business Plan 2026-2031 be noted.
 2. That further discussions take place with Peterlee Town Junior Association Football Club to ensure that development proposals can be accommodated within the requested site.
 3. That the continued progression of the CAT process be endorsed, including appointment of Align Property Services and WBD Solicitors to act on behalf of the Council.
 4. That a draft lease and supporting documents be presented to Council for final approval prior to completion.

C.111/25 FUNDAY LIMITED (ROLLER RINK)

Consideration was given to a report of the Town Clerk, which had previously been circulated, regarding the roller rink provided by Funday Ltd.

Councillor D Howarth moved to accept the offer of a 50% goodwill refund and the motion was seconded by Councillor A Laing.

Following a vote taking place, the motion was agreed (For 10, Against 2, Abstained 3)

RESOLVED: That Option 1, as detailed in the report, be approved.