

THE MINUTES OF THE EXTRAORDINARY MEETING OF THE

DISTRICT COUNCIL OF EASINGTON

HELD ON THURSDAY, 21 JULY, 2005

Present: Councillor Mrs J Maitland (Chair)

Councillors D Armstrong, S Bishop,
Mrs G Bleasdale, B Burn, P J Campbell,
A Collinson, R Crute, R Davison, Mrs
J Freak, J Goodwin, J Haggan, H High,
A J Holmes, Mrs E Huntington, B Joyce,
T Longstaff, D Myers, A Napier, Mrs A
Naylor, Mrs M Nugent, C Patching,
G Patterson, W R Peardon, G Pinkney,
D Raine, F Shaw, D J Taylor-Gooby,
R Taylor, R J Todd and C Walker

1 BUILDING SCHOOLS FOR THE FUTURE (BSF)

The Chair advised that Bob Ward, Head of Regeneration, Durham County Council was in attendance to give a presentation on the County Council's programme, as part of the Government's initiative to improve education standards through a major secondary schools building and refurbishment programme.

He commenced by explaining that County Durham was in the third wave of the programme and Easington was in the first of four phases across the County. The funding formula was based on 50% rebuild, 35% major refurbishment and 50% minor refurbishment. There was £400 million pounds capital investment for County Durham with £105.4 million for the first phase. Building work would not commence until 2008. The primary purpose of the programme was to raise educational standards through school renewal and excellence in design, making them fit for purpose. New technology was seen to be key to this which was reflected in the allocation of 10% of the funding specifically for ICT provision.

He then proceeded to outline the objectives of the programme which were to renew or refurbish school facilities within ten to fifteen years, provide high quality, safe and secure accommodation, provide flexible learning spaces that accommodated ICT provision, support training and development of teachers and support the 14-19 Agenda including personalised learning. The programme also included working with communities to bring additional facilities to school premises for use by young people and communities as a whole. A Board had been established comprising Cabinet members, Officers and Co-optees from the community to address this.

The process was highly prescribed by Government, and was complicated and lengthy but the key components were the production of a Vision by February 2006, a strategic business case by May 2006, an outline business case by September 2006 and a final business case by February 2008. Consultation would take place on each of these prior to their implementation.

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Members were invited to ask questions. In response, B Ward advised that population trends would be taken into account in the programme but added that it was also important to consider birth rates which were falling at present. He advised that private sector partnerships would be key to the delivery of the initiatives but the percentage contribution was not yet known.

A Member made reference to the provision of careers advice to children at an earlier age in order to help in the filling of the current skills gaps. B Ward advised that this was high on Durham County Council's Agenda and an event had been arranged by Durham County Council with the Employment Service to look at this.

In terms of the funding package and whether it was enough to achieve everything desired, he advised that an assessment of the conditions of schools was being undertaken, following which Durham County Council would be in a better position to estimate how realistic the funding was.

To conclude the Leader of the Council conveyed the Council's support to the programme and acknowledged the importance of maximising the funding available to achieve the desired outcomes, emphasising the importance of partnership working to achieve this.

Following discussion it was **RESOLVED** that the information given, be noted.

2 **PROPOSED ORDER FOR THE PREVENTION OF OBSTRUCTION OF NORTH TERRACE, SOUTH CRESCENT, CHURCH STREET, SOUTH TERRACE, NORTH RAILWAY STREET, SIDE STREET BETWEEN 17 AND 18 NORTH TERRACE AND GEORGE ELMY LIFEBOAT WAY ON SUNDAY 31 JULY, 2005**

It was reported that the Council had been asked by Seaham Town Council to make an Order under Section 21 of the Town Police Clauses Act 1847 to close the roads specified on Sunday 31 July, 2005.

RESOLVED that:-

- (a) the Council hereby make an Order under Section 21 of the Town Police Clauses Act 1847 for the purposes of preventing an obstruction at North Terrace, South Crescent, Church Street, South Terrace, North Railway Street, side street between 17 and 18 North Terrace and George Elmy Lifeboat Way on Sunday 31 July, 2005 between 8.00 am and 6.00 pm as shown on the plan on display outside the Council Chamber;
- (b) authority be granted to bring the necessary procedures into effect

PRIOR TO CONSIDERATION OF THE FOLLOWING ITEM OF BUSINESS COUNCILLOR B JOYCE DECLARED A PERSONAL BUT NOT PREJUDICIAL INTEREST

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3 **PROPOSED ORDER FOR THE PREVENTION OF OBSTRUCTION OF BEDE WAY, BURNHOPE WAY, PASSFIELD WAY AND OAKERSIDE DRIVE, PETERLEE ON SATURDAY 3 SEPTEMBER, 2005**

It was reported that the Council had been asked by Peterlee Town Council to make an Order under Section 21 of the Town Police Clauses Act 1847 to close the roads specified on Saturday, 3 September, 2005.

RESOLVED that:-

- (a) the Council hereby make an Order under Section 21 of the Town Police Clauses Act 1847 for the purposes of preventing an obstruction at Bede Way, Burnhope Way, Passfield Way and Oakerside Drive on Saturday, 3 September, 2005 between 10.30 am and 11.15 am as shown on the plan on display outside the Council Chamber.
- (b) authority be granted to undertake the necessary procedures to bring the Order into effect.

4 **PROPOSED ORDER FOR THE PREVENTION OF OBSTRUCTION OF GEORGE ELMY LIFEBOAT WAY FROM SATURDAY, 24 SEPTEMBER, 2005 TO MONDAY, 26 SEPTEMBER, 2005 AND NORTH TERRACE, NORTH RAILWAY STREET AND SIDE STREET BETWEEN 17 AND 18 NORTH TERRACE ON SUNDAY, 25 SEPTEMBER, 2005**

It was reported that the Council had been asked by Seaham Town Council to make an Order under Section 21 of the Town Police Clauses Act 1847 to close the roads specified and as shown on the plan on display outside the Council Chamber.

RESOLVED that:-

- (a) the Council hereby make an Order under Section 21 of the Town Police Clauses Act 1847 for the purposes of preventing an obstruction at George Elmy Lifeboat Way from 7.00 pm on Saturday, 24 September, 2005 through to and until 6.30 am on Monday, 26 September, 2005 and North Terrace, North Railway Street and side street between 17 and 18 North Terrace from 8.00 am to 6.00 pm on Sunday, 25 September, 2005;
- (b) authority be granted to undertake the necessary procedures to bring the Order into effect.