



Dursley Town Council



Annual Report 2017/18



Town Clerk: Mr John Kay

Jacob's House, Castle Street,
Dursley, Gloucestershire, GL11 4BS
Telephone: 01453 547758

Email: clerk@dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk
www.dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Mayor's Overview

It has been a privilege to serve Dursley as the Town Mayor for 2017/18 and I am pleased to have been re-elected to the role on 8th May 2018 for 2018/19.

The Council has achieved a great deal in the last year, as we continue to serve the community in changing and challenging times. This report will highlight many of these achievements which would not have been possible without the help and support of the local community and key partners.

During 2017/18 we have seen several changes within the Town Council.

Councillor Suzi Abraham was elected as Deputy Mayor for 2017/18 and made a significant contribution to the town in this role. Councillor Abraham decided not to stand for re-election in May 2018, due to other commitments, but continues as a Town Councillor. I am pleased to announce that Councillor Mandy Woodward was elected as Deputy Mayor for 2018/19. I very much look forward to working alongside her and my fellow Town Councillors over the coming year.

We welcomed Councillor Wayne Paice and Councillor Adrian Whitwell to the Council and both are already making an important contribution.

In November 2017, Councillor Fiona Firth decided to step down. Fiona had been a Town Councillor since 2009 and had made a significant contribution to the Council and the community, in particular on the Town Improvements Committee.

The past year has been a busy one and we have embarked on many improvement projects for the town including:

- Installing new goal posts, zip wire and signage at Highfields Play Area, as well as making improvements to the youth shelter and holding a community day.
- Employing an extra grounds person to help us manage and maintain our green spaces and town improvement commitments.
- Installing a new noticeboard at Kingshill Cemetery and continuing to review and make improvements to Cemetery practices.
- Refurbishing benches and noticeboards in the town centre.
- Supporting the new 'Welcome to Dursley' Information Brochure developed by Dursley Business Inclusive and working with them to tackle anti-social behaviour.
- Carrying out the 'Regulation 14' consultation for the Neighbourhood Development Plan (NDP), alongside the NDP Steering Group, in readiness for its submission to Stroud District Council and future referendum.
- Supporting Dursley in Bloom and Dursley Welcomes Walkers with their activities.
- Awarding a substantial sum in grant money to a wide variety of groups and organisations offering support to Dursley residents, including the Citizens Advice Bureau and the Dursley & District Community Association.

Of course, our biggest project for the town in 2017 has been the successful purchase of the Reliance House site on Long Street to develop a public car park. This is a major project moving forward into 2018/19 and we hope to see the car park open to the public in October 2018.

To be able to continue improving the town and to plan for the future Council has to set a budget. Details relating to the 2017/18 budget are outlined in the Policy and Finance section of this report. At the beginning of 2018 Council agreed, after careful thought, to increase the 2018-2019 budget by an average of £47.58 per household per annum or 92p a week. Our share of the overall Council Tax bill is very small and this year's total budget is £602,107 of which £435,616 will be met from Council tax (Council 2018/19 budget attached as Appendix 1).

The budget will enable the Council to continue with a range of important projects already in hand or planned. 2018/19 is going to be a busy and exciting year for the Town Council as we continue with the car park project, look at enhancements to improve the appearance of Castle Street and investigate and undertake projects that benefit the community. We will see the result of the Future Dursley project and the outcome of the



Neil Grecian
Town Mayor 2017/18

Neighbourhood Development Plan referendum. We will also continue to support a number of local community groups and events through grants.

I have had many invitations to join in celebrations of different groups over the year and I have enjoyed them all greatly. The civic engagements I have attended are listed below.

Dursley has much to be proud of. The combined effort of local organisations, traders, dedicated volunteers and the Town Council, has led to many achievements over 2017/18.



The Dursley Walking Festival continues to go from strength to strength, drawing a greater number of walkers and visitors to the event year on year. The 2017 walking festival took place on Thursday 5TH October to Sunday 8TH October and was the most successful yet. There were 27 different walks to enjoy, including a Nordic taster walk.

2017 saw the Dursley in Bloom team retain their Gold award and, for the first time, were announced as the Winners of the Small Town Category. A fantastic achievement following the hard work and support of local volunteers and for this we are immensely proud. Our sincere thanks go to all the volunteers, their supporters and sponsors, for making our town more attractive throughout the year. The 'in Bloom' team is always looking for extra hands, so if you are interested in helping, please contact the Council office. The Council continues to support the group with grant funding and plants.

The War Memorial Recreation Ground continued to be well-used by Dursley football clubs throughout the year and the playground and outside gym equipment continues to be extremely popular. The ground was also used for other events including the annual fireworks, the Dursley Carnival, a funfair and a circus.

We attended the Dursley Carnival in the summer, which was a great success. Councillors and staff spoke with many people on the day gaining views on Future Dursley and the Council's work, in particular parking issues. This year the Dursley Carnival will take place on the War Memorial Recreation Ground over 3 days Friday 13th July to Sunday 15th July 2018 and the Council has supported the event with grant funding.

The Christmas Switch-on event continues to grow year on year. The 2017 event was no exception and drew more crowds than ever. The fireworks and snow for the event made it an even greater display! The 2018 event is being organised by the Festive Dursley Working Group with help from Dursley Business Inclusive, ourselves and local organisations and will take place on Friday 30th November 2018.

We continue to work closely with the community and dedicated volunteers on the 'Future Dursley' project to develop Dursley's Neighbourhood Development Plan. In 2017 the Steering Group continued to carry out consultation on the plan and worked with students from Rednock School and Dursley Primary Academy. In November 2017 the plan went through the first formal stage of the consultation process known as 'Regulation 14'.

These events and activities could not take place without the support of committed volunteers within our community. I would like to thank all those volunteers that help to make this town such a great place to live in. This includes: Dursley in Bloom, Walkers are Welcome, the Neighbourhood Plan group, Festive Dursley and the Carnival Committee.

Alongside our Annual Report 2017/18, we have published a 'Councillor and Community Group Report' which outlines in more detail some of the work and activities taking place across the town.

Finally, it's worth mentioning that the Town Council office in Jacob's House holds a wide range of tourist and service information and residents can also view plans and report potholes, faulty street lights, etc. The office is open from 10.00am to 3:00pm Monday to Friday and regular updates are posted on the Council's Facebook page and website www.dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk.

Town Mayor's Civic Engagements 2017/18:

Town Annual Assembly	Greeting the Judges with Dursley in Bloom	Remembrance Sunday service & Parade
The Guides AGM	Opened the Tyndale Arts Trail	Judging the Festive Dursley Shop window Displays
Leslie Gale Award Presentations	GL11 AGM	Festive Dursley Christmas Lights Switch on Event
Judging the Speed posters at Dursley Academy	Opening the Walking Festival	Dursley Rugby Club/ Visit of the Weston Mayor
The Hollies Open Day	Judging the Pumpkin Competition	The launch of the Dursley Brochure
Dursley Carnival	Annual Door Celebration	Kingshill House Community Open day
Rotary Club Carol Service	Opening the Annual Fireworks	
ATC Annual Service	Launch of Gloucestershire 2050	
Unveiling of the Lister Plaque	Judging the Annual Pancake Race	
	Re-launch of the Farmers Market	
	Judge the fancy dress competition at the Hummingbird Café	

Green Spaces Committee Report

The Green Spaces Committee meets 6 times a year to deal with matters relating to Council owned and managed green spaces; this includes the War Memorial Recreation Ground, Kingshill House Play Park, Highfields Play Area, Kingshill Cemetery, Kingshill Allotments and St Mark's Burial Ground.

In 2017/18 we focused on making improvements to Highfields Play Area, installing new combination football/rugby goal posts and a new zip wire.

Following incidents and reports of anti-social behaviour focusing on the Youth Shelter, we asked the community whether we should keep the shelter or remove it. After considering feedback we decided to modify the shelter and have since seen a significant drop in reports of anti-social behaviour on the site.

On 29th May 2017 we held a Community Day at Highfields Play Area. The volunteers who joined us on the day helped to clear overhanging vegetation, collected litter, repaired fences and removed weeds. We applied and successfully received a grant from the Tesco Bags for Help which we used to purchase materials, paint and hire a BBQ for the event.

We purchased and installed new signs for the War Memorial Recreation Ground and Highfields Play Area and also a new notice board at Kingshill Cemetery.

We continue to regularly review green spaces policy and practice. In 2017/18 we made amendments to our Cemetery Regulations and reviewed and agreed new hire agreement/booking forms for our green spaces.

We recognised that the work involved in maintaining and managing our greens spaces had increased in recent years, with the addition of Highfields Play Area to our remit, use of the Cemetery extension, as well as town improvements and expansion of planting support. In January 2017 we welcomed a new member of the ground staff team to help us meet these demands.

We continue to hold an annual meeting with our allotment holders and regular users of the War Memorial Recreation Ground. As a result of the meeting held in March 2018, we supplied a skip to assist allotment tenants with the removal of un-compostable rubbish from the site. We also agreed to purchase new plot numbers to improve our inspection process.

Councillor A Stennett, Chairman of Green Spaces Committee 2017/18 (re-elected for 2018/19)

Town Improvements Committee Report

The Town Improvements Committee meets 4 times a year to deal with matters relating to Council owned and managed street furniture (including benches, bus shelters and notice boards), the Broadwell area, festive lights, planters and town centre trees. The Committee also works closely with groups such as Dursley in Bloom, Dursley Business Inclusive and the Cotswold Edge & Severn Vale Tourism Network.

In 2017/18 we continued to support Dursley in Bloom with the planting scheme for the town, which won a Gold award from the Heart of England in Bloom judges and, for the first time, won the Small Town Category. The volunteers on this group devote so much time and effort into making the town look lovely and they do a tremendous job.

We continued to lead in facilitating the Cotswold Edge & Severn Vale Network for Dursley and the surrounding areas. The group continues to meet and is attracting representatives from local heritage and community groups, traders, accommodation providers, attractions and venues. We played a key role in setting up a big network event at Berkeley Castle in December 2017.

In 2017/18 we set up a new 'Visit Dursley' page on our website, which we continue to develop, and started to look at improvements to sign posting in the town. We also starting investigating the possibility of having a formal visitor/tourist information centre located in the town.

We continued to support the Festive Dursley Working Group to plan and co-ordinate the successful 24th November 2017 switch on event. We also supported the new Welcome to Dursley Information Brochure launched by Dursley Business Inclusive in February 2018.

We carried out several improvement works in the town centre. We refurbished the benches, painted street furniture and fixed the notice board in the Link area. We also supported the purchase and installation of a new Lister Plaque on the Priory.

Councillor J Burdge, Chairman of Town Improvements Committee 2017/18 (re-elected 2018/19)

Policy & Finance Committee Report

The Policy and Finance Committee meets 6 times a year to deal with the Council's financial matters; most notably to draft the Council's budget which we do in consultation with the other committees.

We try to plan the budget with a view to a stable future with a 3 year forward plan and we work with the other committees to carefully consider work programmes. Planning in this way, allows us to consider the impact of reduced funding from government and local needs.

At the beginning of 2018 Council agreed, after careful thought, to increase the 2018-2019 budget by an average of £47.58 per household per annum or 92p a week. Our share of the overall Council Tax bill is very small and this year's total budget is £602,107 of which £435,616 will be met from Council tax (Council 2018/19 budget attached as Appendix 1). Income and expenditure for the 2017-2018 budget is outlined in the charts below/overleaf.

We also continually look at new and existing policies and the way Council works. In 2017/18 we agreed a policy for routine monthly inspections by Councillors, we reviewed the Council's Standing Orders, Financial Regulations, Committee Terms of Reference, Data Protection Policy, Procurement Policy and Co-option Policy.

On 10th April 2017 we were visited by an assessment panel who went on to award us a 'Gold' status in the Local Council Award Scheme (LCAS). The award is the highest that a Council can receive, it gives us the opportunity to show that we meet the standards set by the sector and demonstrates that as a council we are at the forefront of best practice and achieves excellence. We were the first Council in the Stroud District to receive this level of award and the second in Gloucestershire.



We run a grants programme. Each year we allocate an amount of money to support local organisations who specifically provide services to the residents of Dursley.

In 2017/18 we approved grant awards totalling £36,436 to local voluntary and community organisations

Emergency Grants	
Transition Cam & Dursley	£500
Chantry Centre	£1020
Dursley & District Good Neighbours Scheme	£500

Large Grants	
Carnival Dursley	£6000
Citizens Advice Stroud & Cotswold District	£4790
Dursley & District Community Association	£7000
Town Trust	£1000
Vale Vision	£500
Twinberrow Foundation	£3000
GL11 Invisible Illness Group	£950
Vale Hospital Allotment Project	£2,760
Dursley Welcomes Walkers	£500
1 st Dursley Scout Group	£3308

Small Grants	
Great Western Air Ambulance Charity	£234
Henlow Court Care Home OSJCT	£1000
Friday Lunch Club for the Elderly	£350
Townsend Residents Association	£500
Cotswold Talking Newspaper	£200
Churches Together in Cam, Dursley & District	£100
Dursley Women's Institute	£175
Dursley Out of School Club	£500
Cam & Dursley Transportation Group	£599
2 nd Dursley Brownies	£500
Dursley in Bloom	£500

Requests and applications for funding are welcome from all organisations who operate in the town. Applications for the next round of funding must be received before **31st August 2018**.

We require all those who are successfully awarded a grant to submit an evaluation form so that we can review how the money has benefited Dursley.



DOOSC
DURSLEY OUT OF
SCHOOL CLUB

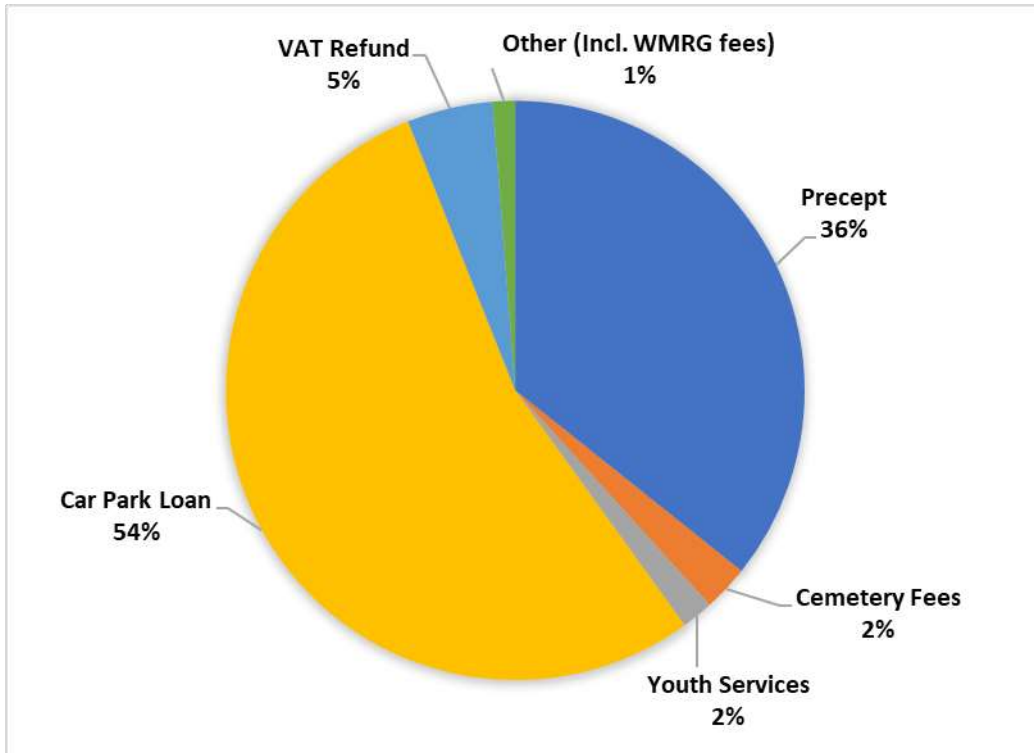


Dursley Welcomes Walkers



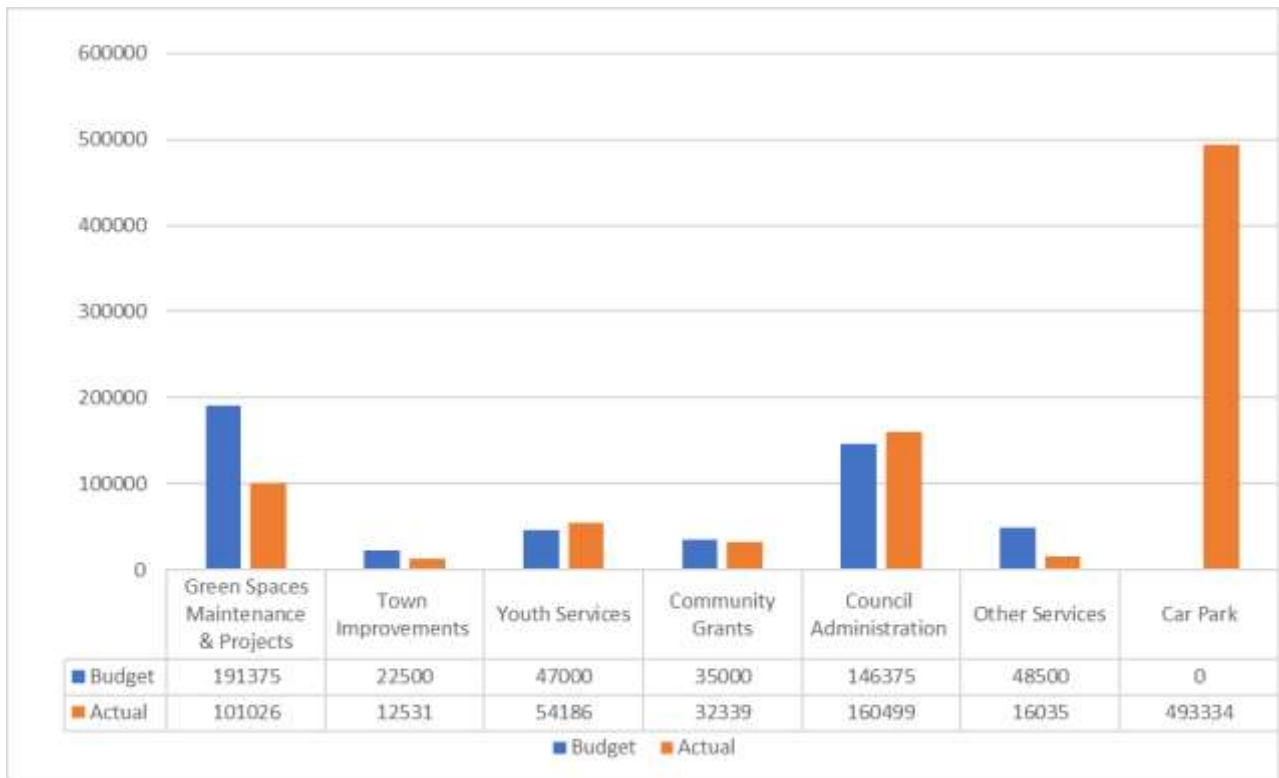
(The charts below are based upon pre-audit figures which were correct as at 1/5/18)

Actual Income 2017/18



1% Other Income includes – bank interest, allotment rents, War Memorial Recreation Ground fees, external grants, refunds and festive lighting donations.

Actual Expenditure (£) Against Agreed Budget 2017/18



Decision to purchase car park taken after 2017/18 budget agreed.

Councillor S Creswick, Chairman of Policy & Finance Committee 2017/18 (re-elected for 2018/19)

Planning Committee Report

The Planning Committee meets monthly to discuss and comment on planning issues affecting the town. These applications include the development of new dwellings, change of use, extensions, works to listed buildings and trees.

We also comment and make representation where necessary on Stroud District Council licensing, street naming and road closure consultations.

Members of the Committee take it in turns to review the plans prior to the meeting and present findings and comments on the night. Members of the public are welcome to attend and can make representations.

2017/18 was a busy year for the Committee, we deliberated and commented on 74 planning applications and 1 pre-application consultation. We attended 1 appeal hearing to make representations linked to our objection. We also considered the Long Street layout linked to the Littlecombe Development.

We often consider and comment on pre-application consultations before the actual applications are submitted to Stroud District Council. The Council signed up to the Pre-Application Community Involvement Protocol for the Stroud District Parishes back in January 2014 and we remain committed to this.

We invite people to attend Committee meetings when necessary. In 2017/18 the Planning Manager from Stroud District Council attended a Committee meeting to answer our concerns regarding the scheme of delegation, retrospective applications and the poor quality of plans generally. We also received a presentation on community led housing from the new Rural Housing Enabler from the Gloucestershire Rural Community Council.

We continue to dedicate time to respond to consultations which will shape the way local government operates in the future. In 2017/18 we considered 6 consultations and responded where appropriate, this included the consultation on the new 'Heritage Strategy for Stroud District – valuing our historic environment and assets'.

We take an active role in 'Future Dursley' and the development of a Neighbourhood Development Plan for the town, the Council's part time Project Officer helps to co-ordinate the work. We receive regular updates on the project and any issues that have arisen. The 'Regulation 14' consultation for the draft plan took place between November 2017 to January 2018 and the referendum stage is expected to take place in summer 2018. If successful, the Plan will help us when we are making comments on planning applications in the future.



In 2017 we signed up to the new town and planning support service 'Planning Local' for a small membership fee, this helps us to ensure we have all the latest planning information and advice when we need.

Councillor M Nicholson, Chairman of Planning Committee 2017/18
Councillor Ackroyd, Chairman of Planning Committee elected 2018/19

Car Park Committee Report

In November 2017, we set up a new Committee to oversee and facilitate the development and management of a new car park on the Reliance House site in Long Street, Dursley.

In the summer of 2017 we agreed to purchase the site with the aim of creating a long stay car park for the town, subject to planning permission being obtained.

We recognised the negative impact the 2015 closure of the former temporary long stay car park located in Long Street at the back of the property had.

Our planning application to demolish the existing building and create the car park received much support and was approved in September 2017. The sale was completed in December 2017.

The Committee meets on a regular basis and has appointed key consultants in property, health and safety and design to assist us. A demolition contractor was agreed on 1st May 2018.

The car park is a major project for 2018/19, the aim is to have it open in October 2018.

Councillor S Ackroyd, Chairman of Car Park Committee 2017/18 (re-elected for 2018/19)

Staffing



The Town Clerk, John Kay, is employed by the Council to provide professional advice, management and administration support for the Council's activities.

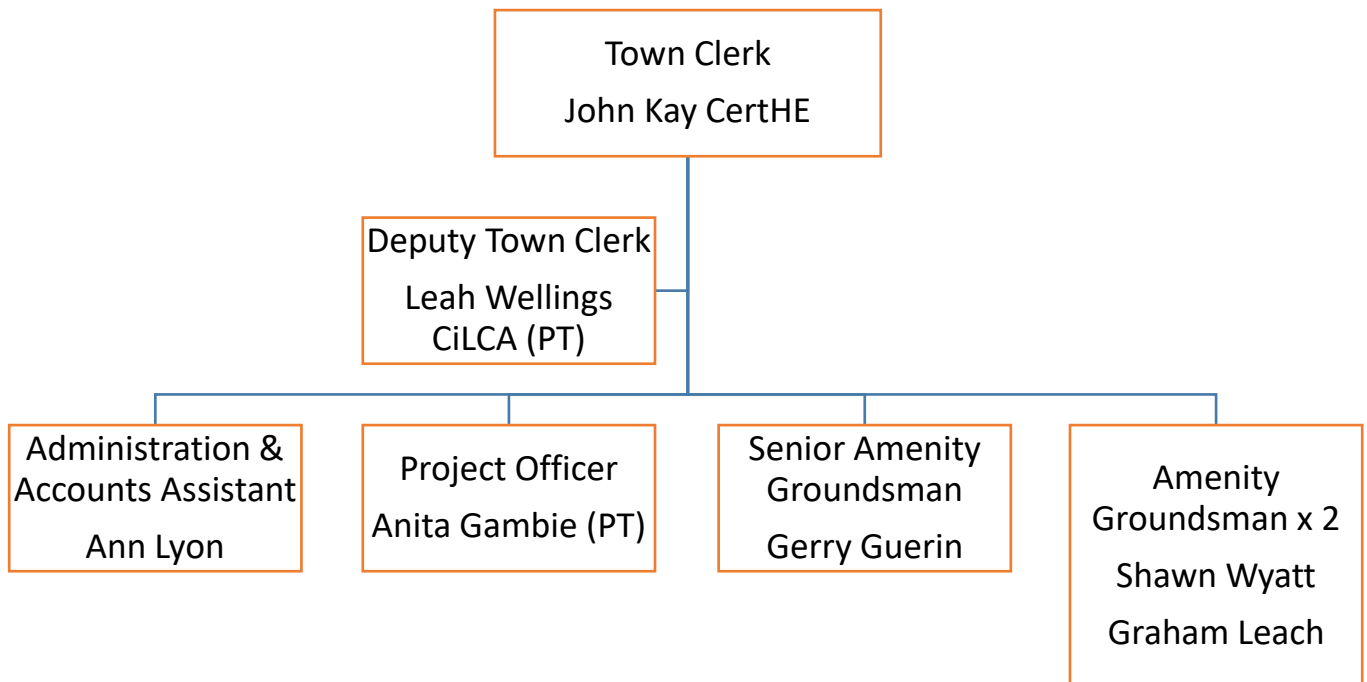
The activities undertaken by the Clerk are very broad and include organising meetings, issuing agendas and recording minutes, project and property management, managing risk and insurance, managing data and records, dealing with electoral matters, public relations and managing contractors and staff.

The Clerk is also the Council's Responsible Financial Officer, managing financial affairs in accordance with regulations, taxes and proper practices.

The Staff Committee meets when required to discuss issues relating to employment.

Town Council Staff Structure

The Town Clerk is supported by a team of full and part-time Council employees who assist with activities:



Staff Training

We recognise the benefit of having a trained workforce and continue to invest in and support staff to undertake training relevant to their job and the Council.

During 2017/18, the Town Clerk successfully achieved the *Community Governance Level 4* qualification and now holds a Certificate of Higher Education in Community Governance. This is an advanced qualification, tailored specifically to the needs of local council officers who work within local communities, it is highly relevant to the Council's work and is recognised in law as a qualification for clerks.

The Town Clerk also attended training in *Data Protection* as well as *Gloucestershire Association of Parish & Town Council Clerk Networking* meetings.

The Deputy Town Clerk attended training in *Risk Management Demystified* and the *ROSPA Routine Playground Inspection Course*, which included passing the level 1 RPII exam for inclusion on the register of play inspectors.

The Senior Ground Staff attended ROSPA training on *RPII Operational Inspection of Children's Playgrounds* which included passing the level 2 RPII exam for inclusion on the register of play inspectors; *COSHH* and the *Memorial Management* course run by the Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management (ICCM).

Ground Staff attended training on *COSHH* and the *ROSPA Routine Playground Inspection Course*, which included passing the level 1 RPII exam for inclusion on the register of play inspectors.

In January 2018 Graham Leach was recruited to join the Ground Staff team, as a new starter Graham received a staff *induction* with the Town Clerk and Senior Grounds man and was kitted out with a staff uniform and relevant PPE.

Staff Appraisals are carried out each year and reviewed by the Staff Committee.

Council Office

The Council office is based at Jacob's House, Castle Street, Dursley and open Monday to Friday 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Address: Jacob's House, Castle Street, Dursley, GL11 4BS Tel/Fax: 01453 547758
Email: clerk@dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk **Website:** www.dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk
Facebook: www.facebook.com/DursleyTownCouncil **Twitter:** @DursleyTC



Councillor B Cairns, Chairman of Staffing Committee 2017/18 (re-elected for 2018/19)

Dursley Town Councillors (as at May 2018)



Highfields Ward
Mr W Paice
7 Bramble Drive, GL11 5PX
Tel: 07482678039
wayne.paice@dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk



Highfields Ward
Mr M Nicholson
11 Third Avenue, GL11 4NT
Tel: 544657
matt.nicholson@dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk



Highfields Ward
Mrs W Thomas
The Old School House, 4 The
Broadwell, GL11 4JE
Tel: 07570 931816
wendy.thomas@dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk



Highfields Ward
Mr N Grecian (Town Mayor)
9 Ferney, GL11 5AB
Tel: 546608
neil.grecian@dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk



Highfields Ward
Mrs S Abraham
39 Rosebery Road, GL11 4PT
Tel: 519567
suzi.abraham@dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk



Highfields Ward
Miss A Sheffield
23 Second Avenue, GL11 4PE
Tel: 07813168690
andrea.sheffield@dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk



Central Ward
Mrs J Burdge
95 Budding Way, GL11 5BE
Tel: 519702
jan.burdge@dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk



Central Ward
Mr A Whitwell
1 Orchard View, Tilsdown, Cam
GL11 5QN Tel: 07894434932
adrian.whitwell@dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk



Central Ward
Mrs S Creswick
3 The Slade, GL11 4JX
Tel: 548123
sue.creswick@dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk



Central Ward
Mr P Hayes
1 Cedar Drive, GL11 4EB
Tel: 546009
peter.hayes@dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk



Central Ward
Mr S Ackroyd
36 Woodmancote, GL11 4AQ
Tel: 07477404056
symon.ackroyd@dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk



Central Ward
Mr B Cairns
45 Champions Court, GL11 4BE
Tel: 07407702074
brian.cairns@dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk



Kingshill Ward
Ms M Laybourne
28 Oak Drive, GL11 4DX
Tel: 549813
mel.laybourne@dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk



Kingshill Ward
Dr A Stennett
28 Oak Drive, GL11 4DX
Tel: 549813
alex.stennett@dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk



Kingshill Ward
Mrs M Woodward
(Deputy Town Mayor)
41 Severn Road, Woodfield, Cam
GL11 6NG Tel: 07807236353
mandy.woodward@dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk



Kingshill Ward
Mrs L.V. Patrick
30 Oak Drive, GL11 4DX
Tel: 546995
loraine.patrick@dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk



Kingshill Ward
Mrs J.A. Ball
109 Woodview Road, Cam,
GL11 5SD Tel: 545563
jane.ball@dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk

Boundary Wards

Dursley Town Council covers the Parish Boundary of Dursley and is sub-divided into three wards (Kingshill, Central and Highfields). There are 17 members of Council split over the 3 wards.

A ward boundary map is attached as Appendix 2. For a list of Street Names and Ward Locations in the Dursley Town Council boundary please visit our website www.dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk or contact the Council office.

Overview of Councillor Changes during 2017/18

There were no Town Council elections held in 2017.

In May 2017 we co-opted Councillor Wayne Paice to join the team and Councillor Neil Grecian was re-elected as Mayor for 2017/18. Councillor Suzi Abraham was re-elected as Deputy Town Mayor for 2017/18.

In November 2017 Councillor Fiona Firth decided to step down as a Councillor. Fiona had been a Town Councillor since 2009 and had made a significant contribution to Dursley Town Council and the community.

In January 2018 we co-opted Councillor Adrian Whitwell to join the team and fill the remaining vacancy on Council.

All 17 positions will be up for election in May 2020.

Councillor Attendance at Meetings

Councillors have a responsibility to:

- Attend meetings when summoned to do so.
- Consider, in advance of the meeting, the agenda and any related documents.
- Take part in meetings and consider all the relevant facts and issues on matters which require a decision including the views of others expressed at the meeting.
- Take part in voting and respect decisions made by the majority of those present and voting.
- Ensure, with other councillors, that the council is properly managed.
- Represent the whole electorate, and not just those who voted for them.

The 2017/18 attendance data for Councillors is attached as Appendix 3. The agendas for forthcoming Council meetings are published on our website www.dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk along with the minutes of the meetings.

Inspection & Internal Control Programme

We have an inspection programme in place. As well as commissioning independent inspectors to carry out checks and audits for us, for example on our finances and playgrounds, Councillors are responsible for carrying out monthly inspections of each of our main sites, our street furniture by ward and internal financial controls.

A Councillor inspection rota is issued at each full Council meeting. The 2017/18 inspection data for Councillors is attached as Appendix 4. Councillors can, and do, raise issues at any time in between inspections.

Councillor Training

We recognise the benefits of training and continue to invest in and support Councillors to undertake training relevant to their role on the Council.

All new Councillors receive a starter pack and attend an induction meeting with the Town Clerk.

Youth Services

We support the young people of the town by managing the 'Vibe' Youth Centre. We share use of the space with the Dursley Tabernacle and work in partnership with them to maintain and manage the centre.



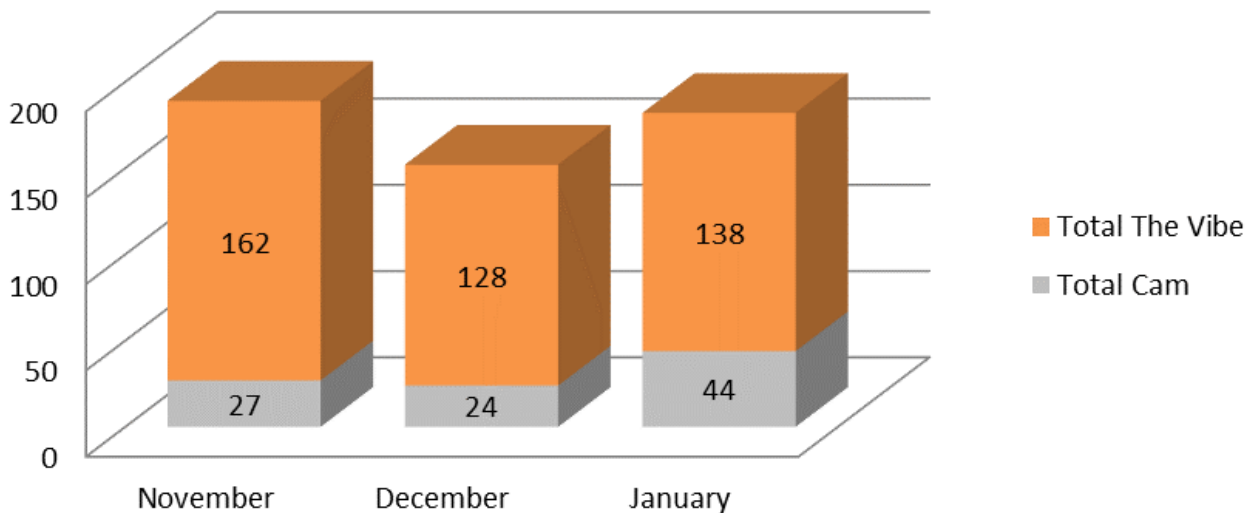
In 2015 we jointly commissioned youth services with Cam Parish Council. 'The Door' was appointed to provide youth sessions and support out of Vibe and the Cam Youth Centre. They started in September 2015 and currently provide 4 sessions at Vibe a week. The existing contract will run until August 2018.

The Vibe Youth Centre celebrated its third anniversary on 30th January 2018 and has been successfully hosting a wide variety of youth sessions since it opened.

In 2017/18 we spent £54,186 on youth provision.

Attendance figures for Youth Sessions at Vibe November 2017 – January 2018

**Dursley & Cam
Monthly Attendance By Session 17/18**



The centre can be hired out to others when not in use. Regular hirers in 2017/18 included Teens in Crisis, The Music Works, Connectat, Hope Support Services and the Cam & Dursley Youth Forum. Many of these hirers continue to use the centre into 2018/19 and we have several new ones.

Working in Partnership with Others

We recognise that partnership working can help the Council to achieve its aims and deliver the best outcomes for the community. It offers the opportunity to save money, reduce risks and raise our profile in the community.

We continue to work in partnership with Cam Parish Council whenever possible. In 2017/18 we reviewed the contract for youth services which we jointly commission, a new 3 year tendering process started and we will select a provider together in June 2018.

We work closely with the local Police team on issues of concern. In 2017/18 we worked together on the possible introduction of additional CCTV, road safety and anti-social behaviour issues in the town.

Our Community Speed Watch Project is supported by the Police team and local volunteers. The group is always looking for volunteers to get involved, please contact the Council office if you are interested.

We work with the local Neighbourhood Warden, Rachel Pratt, on issues of concern.

We contribute financially towards the warden service which provides residents with help and support with anti-social behaviour, abandoned vehicles, bogus callers, home security and crime prevention, hate crime and bullying, litter, dog fouling, fly tipping and lots, lots more. In 2017/18 this contribution was £2,000.

We work closely with Dursley's District Councillors and County Councillor, receiving regular reports at our monthly Council meetings.

We work with Dursley Business Inclusive, regularly sending a Council representative to their meetings. In 2017 we worked together to publish and distribute the new Dursley Information brochure, we also worked together to tackle anti-social behaviour and vandalism in the town. We supported a banning order letter issued to the offenders by traders with help from the local Police team.

We work with Dursley in Bloom to develop and implement a planting scheme for the town. In 2017 we contributed £1180 towards planting and planters, carried out a programme of watering and helped the volunteers get the town ready for judging day. The group went on to win a Gold award for the town from the Heart of England in Bloom judges and, for the first time, win the Small Town Category.

In 2017/18 we continued to facilitate local tourism meetings for the Cotswold Edge and Severn Vale Tourism Network. We continue to work with others in the town and surrounding parishes to develop this group and a Tourism Strategy for the Cotswold Edge and Severn Vale area. We also started conversations with the Gloucestershire County Council Library team to investigate the possibility of having a formal visitor information centre located at the Library.

In 2017/18 we continued to work with the Community Payback project. The project, which involves offenders undertaking work as part of a 'community sentence', visited Dursley on a weekly basis undertaking work that we identified including weeding, clearing pathways, painting railings and similar work. This partnership has been operating successfully and continues into 2018/19.

We work with our local schools when possible. In July 2017 Rednock students assisted the 'Future Dursley' project with local research as part of work experience activities and their Community Day.

Students at Dursley CofE Primary Academy also got involved in 'Future Dursley' work and the Neighbourhood Development Plan, as well as helping to design 20mph traffic signs for the Highfields area.

The Councillor and Community Report 2017/18 includes summary reports from local organisations, Future Dursley and Dursley Town Council grant recipients.

We continue to build our website and encourage others to use our local 'What's on' and 'Community/Business Directory' sections.

Please see our Community Engagement Policy for further information about how we engage with the local community and work with other organisations and sectors.

Council Representatives on Outside Groups

Every year we agree Councillor Representatives to sit on the following local organisations/groups:

Future Dursley
Cam, Dursley & Uley Joint Woodlands
The Chantry Centre
Citizens Advice Stroud & Cotswold District
Cam, Dursley & Area Sports Network
Dursley & District Community Association
Dursley Business Inclusive
Dursley Carnival Committee
Dursley in Bloom
Dursley Town Trust
Dursley Welcomes Walkers
Cam & Dursley Joint Youth Committee
Tourism Network
Festive Dursley Working Group

Gloucestershire Association of Parish & Town Councils
Gloucestershire Chartered Parishes Group
Kingshill House
Twinberrow Foundation
Uley-Dursley- Cam Greenway
Vale Vision
Stinchcombe Hill Recreation Ground Trust
Dursley United Charities
Kingshill House Ltd
Rednock School Link Representative
Dursley & Cam Joint Emergency Plan
Police /Highways /Transport Representatives

See the [Dursley Town Council Website](http://www.dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk)
www.dursleytowncouncil.gov.uk for information about the Council
 including our Services, Councillors, Meeting Agendas & Minutes,
 What's On, Community Directory, Policies, News, Reports,
 Updates and Much More.

Sign up online to receive the 'Dursley Matters'
 Newsletter by email.

Dursley Town Council
 Serving the people of Dursley

Clerk: Mr John Kay
 Jacob's House, Castle Street
 Dursley, Gloucestershire
 GL11 4BP
 Tel: 01453 547253 | Send email

Home a Local Council Events Calendar

What's On
 We endeavour to publish local events and we always pleased to be contacted with details. We cannot accept any responsibility for external information provided for any web-site.

W	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26	27	28	29 Pleasur Fair 2017	30	31 Good Regent presents Parkin		
03	04	05	06	07 Dursley and Cam Society	08 Dursley and Cam Society	09 Dursley and Cam Society	10 Dursley and Cam Society
12	13 Dursley and Cam Society	14 Dursley and Cam Society	15 Dursley and Cam Society	16 Dursley and Cam Society	17 Dursley and Cam Society	18 Dursley and Cam Society	19 Dursley and Cam Society

Appendix 1

Dursley Town Council budget for 2018-2019

Dursley Town Council budget for 2018-2019 Dursley Town Council has set its budget for the coming financial year, continuing to invest in a range of projects to benefit Dursley.

The Mayor, Cllr Neil Grecian said “in setting this year’s budget we have considered two areas that needed to be addressed; a new town centre car park and an additional staff member for the green spaces team. This additional investment will be beneficial for the town but has meant that the Town Council require to raise the council tax to invest in the town’s facilities.

The town council’s share of the overall council tax remains very low and by agreeing a rise of council tax of less than £1 per week for each household we aim to continue to provide high quality but value for money local services”

In 2017 the Town Council took advantage of historic low interest rates by borrowing money to buy a plot of land in Long Street that will allow us to develop a long stay public car park. The demolition and construction costs are being met by spending existing Council reserves and restructuring our budgets. The additional council tax revenue will go towards this scheme and the repayment of the loan.

The Town Council in recent years have taken on additional roles within the town which has impacted the workload of the existing grounds maintenance staff. This included The Vibe Youth Centre, Highfields Play Area and the Kingshill Cemetery extension. Our grounds staff support the Dursley In Bloom volunteers by watering the floral display in the town centre and other small projects. The additional council tax will fund a third member to the grounds staff team.

We will continue to support a greater number local community groups and events through our grant budget and support innovative ways to improve tourism by increasing footfall in the town. The Town Council have supported the fledgling Cotswold Edge & Severn Vale Tourism Network, Dursley Carnival and more established groups including Dursley Welcomes Walkers and Festive Dursley. 2018 will see the completion of Future Dursley, our Neighbourhood Plan; with the finalised draft scheduled to be put to the public vote in a referendum in the summer.

The Town Council’s share of the overall Council Tax bill remains very small and this year’s total budget is £602,107 of which £435,616 will be met from Council tax. This is an increase of £47.58 per household per annum or 92p a week.

A summary of the Council’s overall budget is shown below:

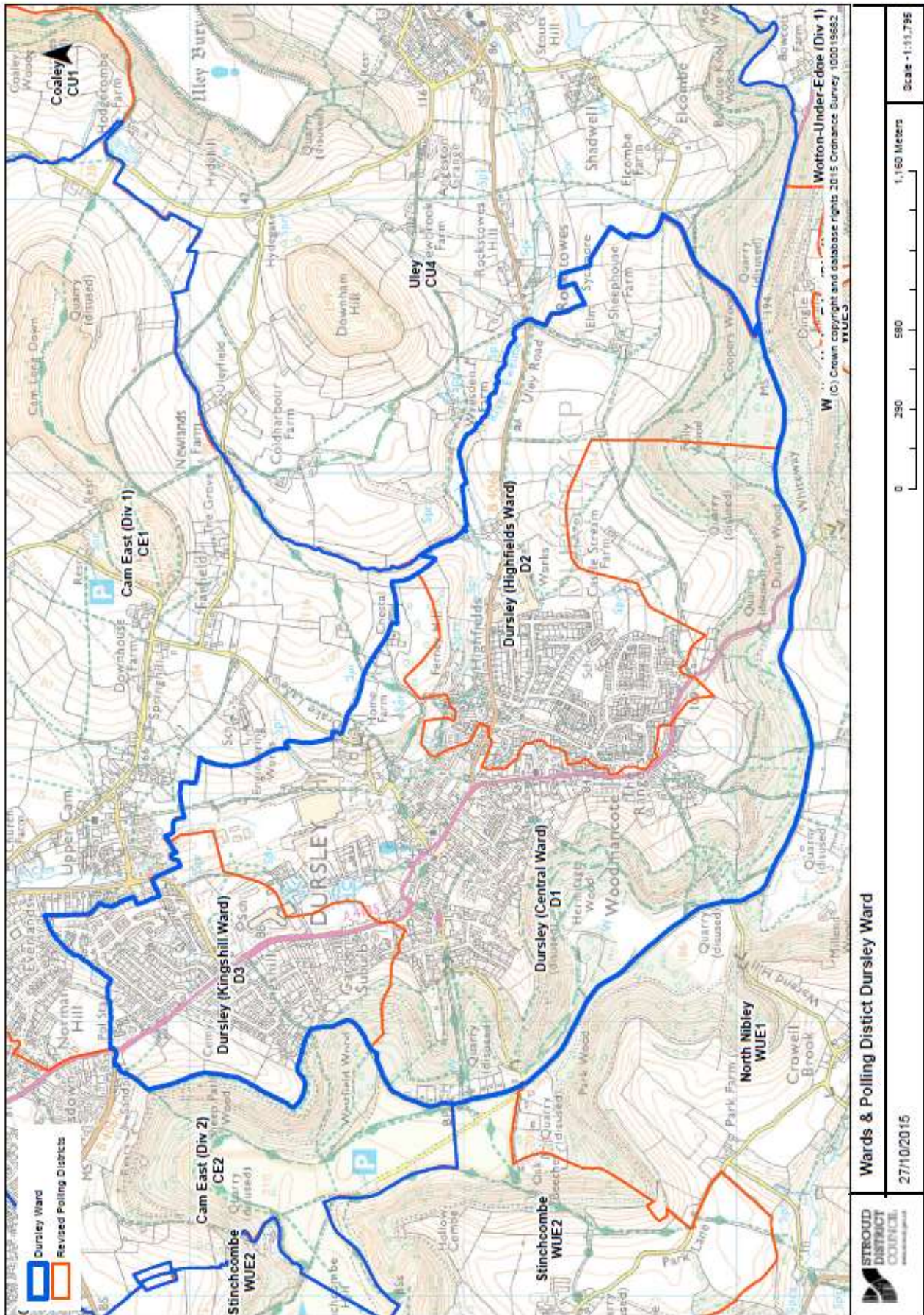
EXPENDITURE

Green spaces maintenance	£108,179
Town improvements and amenities	£24,000
Youth services	£46,000
Community grants	£35,000
Council administration (e.g. staffing, insurance and overheads)	£154,728
Other services/Car park project	£234,200
TOTAL	£602,107

INCOME

Use of reserves	£123,641
Other income	£42,850
Council tax	£435,616
TOTAL	£602,107

Appendix 2



Appendix 3

Councillor Attendance at Meetings 2017-2018

Key:

X = Attendance
CODE FOR ABSENCE
P = Personal (Holiday, Family)
T = Training
M = Meeting
B = Business/Employment
A = Absent - no apology
AR = Apologies received
Blue Block = Not on Council

Full Town Council Meetings

TOWN COUNCIL	9th May	6th June	4th July	1st August	5th Sept	3rd October	26 October	7th Nov	21st Nov	5th Dec	23rd January	6th March	3rd April	Possible	Actual		
Cllr S Abraham	X	X	P	X	X	X	X	P	P	X	X	P	X	13	9		
Cllr S Ackroyd	X	X	X	P	X	X	X	X	X	P	X	X	X	13	11		
Cllr J Ball	X	X	X	P	X	P	AR	P	P	P	X	X	X	13	7		
Cllr J Burdge	X	X	X	P	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	13	12		
Cllr B Cairns	X	B	X	X	X	X	AR	X	P	X	X	P	X	13	9		
Cllr S Creswick	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	P	X	X	13	12		
Cllr F Firth	X	X	A	A	P	P	AR	P						8	2	Resigned Nov 2017	
Cllr N Grecian	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	13	13		
Cllr P Hayes	X	X	X	X	X	P	X	X	X	X	P	X	X	13	11		
Cllr M Nicholson	X	X	X	B	X	X	AR	X	X	P	X	X	X	13	10		
Cllr W Paice	X	X	X	B	P	X	AR	X	A	X	X	X	X	13	9		
Cllr L Patrick	X	X	X	X	P	B	AR	X	X	X	P	X	X	13	9		
Cllr A Sheffield	X	X	X	X	X	X	AR	P	X	X	X	X	X	13	11		
Cllr A Stennett	X	X	X	B	X	X	AR	X	X	X	X	X	P	13	10		
Cllr M Stennett	X	P	B	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	13	11		
Cllr W Thomas	X	X	X	X	X	X	AR	X	X	X	X	X	X	13	12		
Cllr A Whitwell											X	X	P	3	2		
Cllr M Woodward	X	X	X	P	X	X	X	X	X	P	X	X	X	13	11		

Green Spaces Committee Meetings

GREEN SPACES	13th June	19th Sept	10th October	16th January	20th March	Possible	Actual		
Cllr J Ball	X	P	P	P	P	5	1		
Cllr J Burdge	X	P	X	P	X	5	3		
Cllr B Cairns	P	X	X	X	P	5	3		
Cllr F Firth	A	A	P			3	0	Resigned Nov 2017	
Cllr N Grecian	X	X	X	X	X	5	5		
Cllr P Hayes	P	X	X	P	X	5	3		
Cllr M Nicholson	X	X	B	X	X	5	4		
Cllr A Stennett	X	X	X	X	X	5	5		
Cllr M Stennett	X	X	P	X	X	5	4		

Town Improvement Committee Meetings

TOWN IMPROVEMENTS	18th	17th	9th	10th	Possible	Actual		
	July	October	Jan	April				
Cllr S Abraham	X	X	X	X	4	4		
Cllr J Ball	P	P	P	X	4	1		
Cllr J Burdge	X	X	P	P	4	2		
Cllr F Firth	X	P			2	1	Resigned Nov 2017	
Cllr P Hayes	X	X	P	X	4	3		
Cllr M Nicholson	A	X	X	P	4	2		
Cllr W Paice	A	B	A	X	4	1		
Cllr A Sheffield	P	A	P	X	4	1		
Cllr W Thomas	X	X	X	X	4	4		
Cllr M Woodward	X	X	X	X	4	4		

Policy & Finance Committee Meetings

POLICY & FINANCE	20th	12th	24th	12th	20th	17th	Possible	Actual		
	June	Sept	October	Dec	February	April				
Cllr S Abraham	X	X	X	X	P	X	6	5		
Cllr S Ackroyd	A	X	X	X	X	X	6	5		
Cllr J Burdge	X	X	X	X	P	X	6	5		
Cllr B Cairns	B	X	X	P	X	X	6	4		
Cllr S Creswick	X	P	X	X	X	X	6	5		
Cllr F Firth	A	P	P				3	0	Resigned Nov 2017	
Cllr N Grecian	X	X	X	X	X	X	6	6		
Cllr M Nicholson	X	X	X	X	X	B	6	5		
Cllr L Patrick	X	X	X	X	P	X	6	5		
Cllr A Stennett	B	X	X	X	X	X	6	5		
Cllr M Stennett	B	X	P	P	X	X	6	3		
Cllr W Thomas	X	X	X	X	P	X	6	5		

Staff Committee Meetings

STAFF COMMITTEE	13th	24th	5th	13th	Possible	Actual
	June	October	Dec	March		
Cllr S Abraham	P	X	X	P	4	2
Cllr J Burdge	X	X	X	X	4	4
Cllr B Cairns	P	X	X	X	4	3
Cllr Creswick	X	X	X	X	4	4
Cllr N Grecian	X	X	X	X	4	4
Cllr M Nicholson	X	X	P	X	4	3
Cllr W Paice	X	A	X	A	4	2
Cllr A Sheffield	P	A	A	A	4	0
Cllr A Stennett	X	X	X	X	4	4

Planning Committee Meetings

PLANNING	16th	20th	25th	2nd	22nd	19th	17th	14th	12th	16th	20th	20th	17th	Possible	Actual
	May	June	July	August	August	Sept	October	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April		
Cllr Abraham	B	X	B	P	X	P	X	X	X	X	P	P	P	13	6
Cllr S Ackroyd	X	A	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	13	12
Cllr B Cairns	X	P	X	P	X	X	X	X	P	X	X	P	X	13	9
Cllr S Creswick	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	13	13
Cllr N Grecian	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	13	13
Cllr P Hayes	P	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	P	P	X	X	13	10
Cllr M Nicholson	X	X	X	X	P	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	B	13	11
Cllr L Patrick	B	X	X	X	X	P	B	X	X	P	P	X	X	13	8
Cllr A Sheffield	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	AR	13	12
Cllr M Woodward	P	P	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	P	13	10

Car Park Committee

CAR PARK	14th	9th	6th	1st	Possible	Actual
	Nov	January	Feb	May		
Cllr Abraham	X	X	X	X	4	4
Cllr Ackroyd	X	A	X	X	4	3
Cllr Burdge	X	P	X	X	4	3
Cllr Grecian	X	X	X	X	4	4
Cllr Hayes	X	P	P	X	4	2
Cllr Nicholson	X	X	X	B	4	3
Cllr Paice	AR	X	X	P	4	2
Cllr Woodward	X	X	A	X	4	3

Appendix 4

Councillor Inspections Completed 2017-2018

Each main site and the street areas by ward should be inspected monthly. If Councillors are not available to complete their inspection arrangements should be made to swap with another councillor and inform the office. Checks include: Litter, Graffiti, Grass mown, Weeds, Vandalism, Repairs or painting needed.

MONTH	Kingshill Cemetery		Kingshill Allotment		Kingshill Play Area	
	Councillor	Completed		Completed		Completed
May-17	M NICHOLSON		S CRESWICK		S ABRAHAM	
Jun-17	J BALL		M NICHOLSON		A SHEFFIELD	
Jul-17	L PATRICK		W THOMAS	Yes	S ACKROYD	
Aug-17	N GRECIAN	Yes	B CAIRNS	Yes	M STENNETT	
Sep-17	P HAYES	Yes	J BURDGE	Yes (in Oct)	B CAIRNS	Yes
Oct-17	W THOMAS	Yes	L PATRICK	Yes	A STENNETT	
Nov-17	S ABRAHAM		M WOODWARD	Yes	N GRECIAN	Yes
Dec-17	S ACKROYD	Yes	N GRECIAN	Yes (in Jan)	P HAYES	Yes
Jan-18	M WOODWARD	Yes	P HAYES		L PATRICK	
Feb-18	J BURDGE		B CAIRNS	Yes	M STENNETT	
Mar-18	A WHITWELL	Yes	J BURDGE	Yes	B CAIRNS	Yes
Apr-18	A SHEFFIELD		L PATRICK		A STENNETT	

MONTH	War Memorial Recreation Ground		St Marks Churchyard		Highfields Play Area	
		Completed		Completed		Completed
May-17	J BALL		M STENNETT		W THOMAS	Yes
Jun-17	B CAIRNS	Yes	A STENNETT		S ABRAHAM	
Jul-17	N GRECIAN	Yes	P HAYES	Yes	W PAICE	
Aug-17	A SHEFFIELD	Yes	F FIRTH		M NICHOLSON	
Sep-17	M NICHOLSON	Yes	A SHEFFIELD	Yes	W THOMAS	Yes
Oct-17	S ABRAHAM		W PAICE	Yes	A SHEFFIELD	Yes
Nov-17	P HAYES		M NICHOLSON		B CAIRNS	Yes
Dec-17	S CRESWICK		B CAIRNS	Yes	W PAICE	
Jan-18	S ACKROYD		N GRECIAN	Yes	M NICHOLSON	
Feb-18	W THOMAS	Yes (in Mar)	S CRESWICK		W THOMAS	Yes(in Apr)
Mar-18	W PAICE	Yes (in Feb)	S ACKROYD	Yes	A SHEFFIELD	
Apr-18	J BURDGE	Yes	S ABRAHAM		B CAIRNS	Yes

MONTH	Highfields - Street Furniture		Kingshill - Street Furniture		Central - Street Furniture	
	Councillor	Completed	Councillor	Completed	Councillor	Completed
May-17	M WOODWARD		L PATRICK		B CAIRNS	Yes
Jun-17	N GRECIAN	Yes	M WOODWARD	Yes	S CRESWICK	
Jul-17	A SHEFFIELD	Yes	A STENNETT		F FIRTH	Left Nov
Aug-17	J BURDGE	Yes	L PATRICK	Yes	P HAYES	Yes
Sep-17	W THOMAS		M WOODWARD	Yes	S ACKROYD	Yes
Oct-17	B CAIRNS	Yes	J BURDGE	Yes	S CRESWICK	
Nov-17	A SHEFFIELD		L PATRICK		F FIRTH	Left Nov
Dec-17	M NICHOLSON		B CAIRNS	Yes	J BURDGE	Yes
Jan-18	W PAICE		J BURDGE	Yes	S ACKROYD	
Feb-18	N GRECIAN	Yes	M WOODWARD	Yes	A WHITWELL	Yes
Mar-18	S ABRAHAM		L PATRICK		S CRESWICK	Yes
Apr-18	W THOMAS		P HAYES	Yes	A WHITWELL	

MONTH	Internal Checks	
	Councillor	Completed
May-17	A SHEFFIELD	Yes
Jun-17	S ACKROYD	Yes
Jul-17	W THOMAS	Yes
Aug-17	J BALL	
Sep-17	M NICHOLSON	Yes
Oct-17	F FIRTH	left Nov
Nov-17	P HAYES	Yes
Dec-17	W PAICE	
Jan-18	N GRECIAN	Yes
Feb-18	S ABRAHAM	Yes (in Mar)
Mar-18	A STENNETT	Yes
Apr-18	LPATRICK	