

**DURSLEY TOWN COUNCIL**

MINUTES and REPORT of the MEETING of the TOWN IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE of the Council held in the **Dursley Library, May Lane, Dursley** at 7pm on Tuesday, 11<sup>th</sup> April 2017 for presentation to the Council on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2017.

PRESENT

Councillors: J Burdge (Chair), S Abraham, J Ball, A Stennett, N Grecian M Nicholson, A Sheffield and P Hayes.

In Attendance: John Kay, Town Clerk; Leah Wellings, Deputy Town Clerk and Mr Shane White.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillor F Firth (Personal).

2. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

No requests for dispensations were received.

4. REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no members of the public present.

5. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Improvements Committee held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> January 2017, having been circulated among the members were taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

6. CHAIRMAN'S VERBAL REPORT

The Chairman had nothing to report.

7. PLANTERS IN PARSONAGE STREET

The Clerk introduced Mr Shane White, a local Blacksmith who has a fledgling business in the area. Mr White had responded to the Town Clerks request for people to come forward with ideas on how to add to the "in Bloom" display featuring the Lister "camshafts" located in Parsonage Street.

Mr White provided samples of his work, and explained the method behind his idea of a three-tier planter and answered queries from the Committee.

It was expressed that not everybody would welcome the "camshafts" being used in this way due to the local history of Lister and the association with Dursley.

Mr White was thanked for his contribution and left the meeting.

8. CASTLE STREET

The committee had met in Castle Street prior to the meeting to consider improvements which could be made to enhance the appearance. The committee felt that the Sainsbury's side was considerably better than the other and efforts should be focussed on the south

Ideas that were considered included, further Cotswold stone walls at the entrance to the private carpark, decorative railings at the rear of Barclays Bank, additional bulb and/or wild flower planting in the strip of grass at the short stay carpark, hanging baskets from street light columns.

**IT WAS AGREED** that the priority option was the removal of the unsightly concrete bollards and install a replacement railing at the rear of Barclays Bank, but the Town Clerk to obtain estimates for the other schemes to allow budgeting and further prioritisation.

**IT WAS AGREED** that the Town Clerk should enquire if the raised flower beds owned by Stroud District Council could be transferred to Dursley Town Council who would oversee future planting and maintenance.

9. FUTURE OF TOWN CENTRE CONSULTATION

**IT WAS RESOLVED** that Cllr Jane Ball would represent Dursley Town Council on this consultation.

10. LONG STREET – REQUEST FOR DOG WASTE BIN

The Town Clerk update the Committee that Stroud District Council had no objection to the installation of a dog bin funded by the Town Council. However, SDC would request payment for regular emptying of the bin, at the time of the meeting the charge had not been provided to the Town Clerk

**IT WAS AGREED** that the Committee was in support of the bin, but a final decision could not be taken until any charges by SDC had been confirmed. The Town Clerk was asked to update the Townsend Residents Society.

11. WHITEWAY HILL – WOODEN PLANTER

The request to replace the planter was made by the chair of Dursley in Bloom. It was noted by the committee that the original planter had been installed by The Lions of Dursley.

**IT WAS AGREED** to request if The Lions were able to fund the replacement.

12. RA LISTER & CO – BLUE PLAQUE REQUEST

The request for a plaque to commemorate RA LISTER & Co on The Priory building had been approved by the building owner following an enquiry by The Dursley & Cam Society. The Town Clerk had confirmed there were no planning, license or building control permissions required and Gloucestershire did not have an approval process for such plaques.

**IT WAS AGREED** that on confirmation by The Dursley & Cam Society with the building owner on the information to be displayed the Town Clerk would obtain an estimate.

13. TOWN CENTRE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

**IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Committee would place on hold any consultation until more in depth study on traffic flows, speeds and parking information was available.

14. FESTIVE LIGHTING CONTRACT 2017

The Deputy Clerk provided an update on the status of the festive lighting and anchor point testing contracts and the works identified as required prior to the 2017 switch on.

**IT WAS RESOLVED** that subject to Financial Regulations to offer our existing Contractor to extend the festive lighting contract until 30<sup>th</sup> September 2018 to coincide with the end of the anchor point testing contract and to re-tender both contracts as one tender opportunity at this point for a new three-year period.

**IT WAS RESOLVED** for the identified repair works to be carried out in advance of the annual switch on event.

The meeting was closed at 8:10pm.

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Chairman

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Date