

**DURSLEY TOWN COUNCIL**

MINUTES and REPORT of the MEETING of the TOWN IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE of the Council held in the **Dursley Methodist Church Meeting Room, Castle Street, Dursley** at 7:30pm on Tuesday, 15<sup>th</sup> October 2019 for presentation to the Council on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

PRESENT

Councillors: W Thomas (Chair), J Burdge (Vice Chair), J Ball, N Grecian, P Hayes, A Sheffield and A Whitwell,

In Attendance: J Kay Town Clerk.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllrs M Woodward and S Abraham (both 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 representations from the public.

5. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meetings of the Town Improvements Committee held on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2019, having been circulated among the members were taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

6. CHAIR'S VERBAL REPORT

The Chair had no matters to report.

7. MAY LANE – BENCHES AT BUS STATION

**IT WAS RESOLVED** – To accept the design submitted by Breakheart Quarry to replace the existing benches adjacent to the bus station on May Lane. The Committee agreed to provide a donation to the Breakheart organisation of £800 to cover the expenses.

8. REGARDING TOURISM

a) To receive an update on the Visitor Information Centre Trial at Dursley Library

The final agreement had been received in the office for a signature. The Town Clerk will sign and return to Gloucestershire County Council.

b) Update on the Cotswold Edge & Severn Vale Tourism Network

It was noted that the closure of the disbanded Dursley and District Tourism Association bank account had been done. The fund is now held as an earmarked reserve by Dursley Town Council for the network to access.

c) Update on the Dursley Walking Festival 2019.

The Mayor commented on a very successful festival, despite the wet weather forecast. The

busiest walk had nearly 50 walkers in attendance, but the overall attendance had not yet been confirmed. There seems to be have been a significant number of walkers who had visited from outside the local area to attend the festival. A review and thank you meeting to be held by organisers and volunteers.

9. FESTIVE DURSLEY & LIGHTING

The Town Clerk confirmed that plans were continuing for the Festive Dursley switch on event on the 29<sup>th</sup> November. One of the planned attractions has cancelled but plans are in place to retain the winter garden at St James’ Church despite this setback. Councillor volunteers are requested to help us on the day and evening of the event.

Our contractor has commenced with works on the repairs to existing lights, new lighting features and the erection of lights/globes on the town hall.

10. TO REVIEW AND AGREE THE COMMITTEE ACTION PLAN PROGRAMME

The draft Committee Action Plan Programme 2020–2023, circulated with the agenda was reviewed.

**IT WAS AGREED** to extend the planned bus shelter replacement in 2020/21 to 2021/22 and 2022/23 and commence with a replacement programme. The shelter allocated for replacement in 2020/21 is located at Uley Road.

**IT WAS AGREED** to add a new project to the 2020/21 programme for the installation of a new World War 2 plaque at the War Memorial at St James Church. The Committee also considered it appropriate to lay a wreath at the WW2 plaque on the War Memorial Recreation Ground at 11am on the 11<sup>th</sup> November. The Mayor will lay the wreath.

**IT WAS AGREED** to add £6k to the CCTV budget in 2020/21 that would allow us to increase our system capacity.

Other possible projects in the future could be assisting property owners with painting frontages in the town centre area.

**IT WAS RESOLVED** to take the amended Committee Action Plan Programme 2020-23 to the full Council budget meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> November 2019 for consideration.

11. DRAFT TOWN IMPROVMENTS BUDGET FOR 2020-2023

The draft Town Improvements budget for the year 2020-2023, circulated with the agenda, including 3-year forward planning was considered.

**IT WAS RESOLVED** for the draft budget with the above project amendments, to be presented to the full Council budget meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> November 2019 for consideration

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8:05pm.

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Chairman

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Date