

2<sup>nd</sup> August 2022

## DURSLEY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the PROCEEDINGS at the MEETING of the COUNCIL held in the Community Meeting Room, Kingshill Road, Dursley at 7pm on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2022.

Action Summary:

10787.3	Commence with Spring Villa trial on the WMRG	10789.5	Award the Cleaning Contract 2-year Extension.
10789.7	Arrange the committee to oversee town Trust transfer	10790.2	Confirm the permanent appointment of Street Cleaning Operative

### PRESENT

Cllr S Ackroyd (Mayor)

Councillors: M Woodward (Deputy Mayor), S Creswick, A Stennett, J Rubin, P Hayes, T White, D Cornell, W Thomas, D Savvidou, N Grecian, L Patrick and M Stennett.

Also present: John Kay, Town Clerk; Special Constable Steve Lindsay.

### TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE 10778

Apologies were received from Councillors M Nicholson, D Horn and T Kinnison (all personal).

### MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST 10779

There were no declarations on interest.

### REPRESENTATIONS FROM COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS 10780

Cllr Thomas had supplied a written report prior to Council, highlighting that representatives from Stagecoach West will be attending the Cam & Dursley Transportation Group meeting to discuss the bus situation on Saturday 6 August at 10.30am in the Parish Centre behind St James Church.

Concerns were raised about the condition of the route to be used Tour of Britain cyclists in September with lots of potholes and defective ironwork needing repaired. The Town Clerk was requested to highlight the concerns on Dursley Road, Cam to Cllr Brian Tipper (GCC Cllr for Cam area).

Cllr Patrick reported she was now one of the Armed Forces Champion for the District and had attended a site meeting at Rednock Drive about the impact of the neighbouring development.

Cllr Cornell reported that she had stepped down as leader of Stroud District Council but continued to be a District Councillor. There is to be a meeting

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regarding the footpath access from Littlecombe to the town centre and has requested that the Town Council are invited. Cllr Cornell is also enquiring on the decision timescale of the Dursley Garage development and suggested that the Town Council is represented at the garden café of Saturday mornings at the Chantry Centre.

Cllr Hayes requested an update on the trees on Littlecombe who after several years still the protective plastic have attached which is causing the area to be quite untidy. Cllr Patrick has raised this with SDC officers and will continue to speak to the officers to ensure it is cleared up. This site could possibly become an area maintained by the Stroud Valleys Project.

UPDATE FROM DURSLEY NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICE TEAM 10781

Special Constable Steve Lindsay updated Council on PCSO Mark Lifton leaving the role, a replacement has not been identified. Steve is not aware of any current plans to relocate from the existing Dursley police station due the numbers of staff located, and parking required, although the building and equipment does need upgrading. The staff located in Dursley include 20% of the Special Constables within the Gloucestershire Constabulary and two permanent officers recently relocated to improve response times in the Cam, Dursley, Berkely, Wotton areas. The station now has a 24-hour presence. Crime levels in the Dursley area remain low, with good local support and vigilance from local residents.

UPDATE FROM THE TOWN MAYOR 10782

The Mayor reported he had attended the leaving event for PCSO Mark Lifton prior to the Council meeting, and the Deputy Mayor would be attending the annual Flower & Produce show 27<sup>th</sup> August.

REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC 10783

There were no members of the public in attendance.

MINUTES 10784

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> July 2022 were not available for signing and would be approved at the September meeting of Council.

BUSINESS RELATING TO COUNCIL FINANCE 10785

Council's accounts for the financial year 2022/23:

- (i) **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the schedule of payments since the last Council meeting be authorised and signed by the Mayor.
- (ii) **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the bank reconciliation be authorised and signed by the Mayor. Cllr A Stennett and the Town Clerk had

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discussed the dates of information being added to the financial database at the recent internal control review meeting.

- (iii) The income received since the last Council meeting was noted including an allotment rental payment. The Town Clerk would confirm if this was a renewal or new tenancy payment.
- (iv) The updated income/expenditure summary reports were noted.

TOWN IMPROVEMENTS AND AMENITIES

10786

10786.1 To receive the Minutes of the Town Improvements Committee Meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> July 2022

**IT WAS RESOLVED** to adopt the minutes of the meeting.

10786.2 Report of the Chair of the Town Improvements and Amenities Committee

The Chair had no matters to report.

10786.3 To receive an update on Tourism Projects

The Town Clerk reported that the Stroud Market Town Councils Tourism Brief Project has been issued to tender via the Contracts Finder and Council's website.

The Deputy Clerk is continuing to populate the trials app but had been disappointed by the amount of editing being carried out with no prior warning, which had resulted in key information being omitted.

It is anticipated that the Town Council will complete the purchase and receive seven market stalls next week. Discussions with Sainsburys are continuing with regards locating them in the town centre on Castle Street.

The tourism officer is now in post, and she visited the Town Council office on 8<sup>th</sup> July 2022.

GREEN SPACES

10787

10787.1 To receive the Minutes of the Green Spaces Committee Meeting held on the 12<sup>th</sup> July 2022

**IT WAS RESOLVED** to adopt the minutes of the meeting.

10787.2 Report of the Chair of the Green Spaces Committee

The Chair had no matters to report.

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10787.3 Trial Period Agreement with Spring Villa for Commercial Purposes on the War Memorial Recreation Ground.

**IT WAS RESOLVED** to confirm the recommendation of the committee and agree to the trial period agreement with Spring Villa for an area of the War Memorial Recreation Ground to be used for commercial purposes.

PLANNING

10788

10788.1 To receive the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on the 19<sup>th</sup> July 2022

**IT WAS RESOLVED** to adopt the minutes of the meeting.

10788.2 Report of the Chair of the Planning Committee

The Chair had no matters to report.

10788.3 To consider Stroud District Council's Mandatory CCTV in licensed taxi and private hire vehicles consultation.

**IT WAS RESOLVED** to generally support the mandatory CCTV in licensed taxi and private hire vehicles.

POLICY AND FINANCE

10789

10789.1 To receive the Minutes of the Policy & Finance Committee Meeting held on the 21<sup>st</sup> June 2022

**IT WAS RESOLVED** to adopt the minutes of the meeting.

10789.2 Report of the Chair of the Policy and Finance Committee

The Chair had no matters to report.

10789.3 To receive any Councillor reports or attendance at meetings.

Cllr M Stennett reported that the Cam, Dursley & Uley Joint Woodlands Committee had a new Deputy Chair appointed at the recent meeting. Works ongoing with the fencing about to be changed position at the top of Cam Peak.

Cllr Thomas attended the AGM of The Dursley and District Association for the Transport of the Disabled and Elderly organisation. All officers returning and they hope passenger numbers will continue to rise following the pandemic. Fares need to rise to cover additional fuel costs.

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10789.4 To consider the committee recommendation and accept the updates to the Council's Financial Regulations

**IT WAS RESOLVED** to approve the update Financial Regulations.

10789.5 To consider the option to extend the Council's cleaning contract with Core Facilities Limited for a two-year period, ending December 2024.

**IT WAS RESOLVED** to confirm the extension to The Core Facilities Group for the period ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2024.

10789.6 To consider the allocation of CIL funding.

**IT WAS RESOLVED** to allocate the CIL funding received to date of £5,577.93 to the planned improvements at the War Memorial Recreation Ground.

10789.7 To consider the advice received on the transfer of the management function of the Town Trust to the Town Council.

**IT WAS RESOLVED** to create a new committee to oversee the transfer from the Town Trust to the Town Council and for the ongoing management the assets. Cllrs Woodward, Rubin, Hayes, Grecian, A Stennett, M Stennett and Savvidou all expressed an interest in being a committee member, the Town Clerk was asked to arrange a meeting to commence this process and for a terms of reference to be drafted for Council to approve.

#### BUSINESS RELATING TO STAFF

10790

10790.1 Report by the Chair of the Staff Committee

The Chair had no matters to report.

10790.2 To confirm the successful probationary period for the position of Street Cleaning Operative

**IT WAS RESOLVED** to confirm the permanent appointment.

#### CLERK'S REPORT

10791

The Town Clerk thanked Councillors for agreeing to the closure of the office on 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> July due to the extremely high temperatures. Staff worked successfully from home. The Town Clerk attended a VAT seminar (Zoom) on 20<sup>th</sup> July, the annual health and safety audit is taking place on 5<sup>th</sup> August and a meeting is scheduled with the new Local Highways Manager on 19<sup>th</sup> August with Cllr Hayes.

The office will be closed on 29<sup>th</sup> August for the bank holiday and a number of staff are on leave throughout August/September.

The consultation for residents of Blackboys has been completed, with the majority of residents requesting that the street name remains unchanged and request no

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further consultation. Stroud District Council to write to the residents informing them the matter is now closed.

The office has received complaints about the lorries using Long Street and a near miss was reported by a resident who had “to dive into a doorway” to avoid being driven over by a lorry who had mounted the footway to manoeuvre around a parked car. After over three years of requests the waiting restrictions still have not been re-painted by GCC and are almost invisible in places.

GCC, St Modwen’s and Smiths transport have all been informed.

INSPECTIONS

10792

The scheduled Councillor inspections and checks for August & September 2022 were noted.

The meeting closed at 8:10pm.

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Town Mayor

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Date