

3rd June, 2014

DURSLEY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the PROCEEDINGS at the MEETING of the COUNCIL held in the Methodist Church Rooms, Castle Street, Dursley at 7 pm on Tuesday, 27th May, 2014.

Action Summary:

9193.1	Attendance at Data Protection Training	9197.1	Traffic monitoring device on Woodmancote
9193.3	Lift at Dursley Town Hall	9198.1	311 Bus Services to Bristol

PRESENT

Cllr J Ball, Town Mayor
Cllr C Nelmes, Deputy Mayor

Councillors: J Bird, S Creswick, V Harding, M Laybourne, B Marsh, A Stennett, R Blackwell-Whitehead, M Nicholson, N Grecian and L Patrick.

Also present: County Councillor S Lydon, District Councillors C Fryer and G Wheeler; Town Clerk Mrs H Bojaniwska, Mrs L Wellings, Deputy Town Clerk and Daniel Chipperfield, Reporter (Gazette).

Absent: Councillor Firth.

TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE 9181

Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillor T Frankau (personal).

MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST 9182

The Mayor declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in agenda items 9.1 (Minute 9189) and 12.4 (Minute 9192.4).

Councillor Marsh declared a personal interest in agenda item 12.4 (Minute 9192.4).

Councillor Harding declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in agenda item 12.4 (Minute 9192.4).

TO CONSIDER ANY REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS 9183

No requests for dispensations were received.

VACANCIES IN THE OFFICE OF TOWN COUNCILLOR FOR CENTRAL AND HIGHFIELDS WARDS 9184

No applications had been received to fill the above vacancies.

ADDITIONAL MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST OR REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS 9185

None were received.

COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS 9186

County Councillor's Report

Councillor Lydon reported on: a meeting he is organising with Councils and the new Highways Manager, John Kay, to identify issues and discuss how to allocate the £20,000 division fund; poor performance of the ambulance service and the announcement that rural areas will receive extra resources; division funds including the new 'Active Together' fund (£40,000) and Youth Fund for under 12s (£5,000); work to convene a meeting with the Cabinet Lead and partners to look at issues at the Cam and Dursley Rail Station, including the lack of parking and poor integration of transport.

In response to questions, Councillor Lydon explained some of the current issues with management of the new Amey highways contract and the need for County to ensure that the partnership is working effectively.

District Councillors' Reports

The Mayor welcomed District Councillor Fryer to his first Town Council meeting.

Councillor Wheeler reported on: the forthcoming District Council Annual General Meeting; a review of electoral boundaries and changes to elections from 2016; the Stroud District Local Plan and the Inspector's conclusion that the District Council has co-operated with neighbouring councils, but is required to re-evaluate future housing projections to ensure they are robust before moving to the next stage of the process.

The Clerk read out Councillor Cornell's written report which covered the May elections, the forthcoming Council Annual General Meeting, the Shakespeare Road Planning Application (S.14/0966/OUT) and Local Plan.

REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC 9187

No representations had been received.

MINUTES 9188

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 6th May 2014 were signed by the Mayor.

BUSINESS RELATING TO COUNCIL FINANCE

9189

Council's Accounts 2014/15

The Mayor withdrew from the meeting.

- (i) IT WAS RESOLVED that the schedules of payments (Appendix A) be authorised and signed by the Deputy Mayor.

The Mayor rejoined the meeting.

- (ii) Income received since the last Council meeting (Appendix B) was noted.
- (iii) The monthly management/budget report was noted.

GREEN SPACES

9190

9190.1 Report of the Chairman of the Green Spaces Committee

The Committee Chairman reported on the need to repair/replace the Pavillion entrance doors; a recent meeting with the football clubs and possible grants for floodlighting on the War Memorial Recreation Ground; recent thefts from allotment sheds and an on-site Police safety surgery planned for 7th June 2014.

9190.2 To receive the Minutes of the Green Spaces Committee Meetings held on 6th May and 20th May 2014

IT WAS RESOLVED to adopt the Minutes.

9190.3 Update on Projects

- (i) War Memorial Recreation Ground play equipment upgrade – the Committee Chairman reported that the invitation to tender has been advertised and issued with a Design Brief, generating a high level of interest. A further paper was issued to contractors to answer common questions arising. The deadline is 13th June 2014.
- (ii) Lease of Highfields Playing Field – nothing to report.
- (iii) Repairs to Kingshill Play Park wall – the Clerk reported that Listed Building Consent has been granted and the builder has been instructed to complete the work.

- (iv) Transfer of ownership of Union Street Green – the Clerk reported that the draft transfer and legal documents have been received and will be reviewed.

TOWN IMPROVEMENTS AND AMENITIES

9191

9191.1 Report of the Chairman of the Town Improvements and Amenities Committee

The Committee Vice Chairman had no matters to report.

9191.2 To receive the Minutes of the Town Improvements and Amenities Committee Meeting held on 6th May 2014

IT WAS RESOLVED to adopt the Minutes.

PLANNING

9192

9192.1 Report of the Chairman of the Planning Committee

The Committee Chairman had no matters to report.

9192.2 To receive the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meetings held on 6th May and 20th May, 2014

IT WAS RESOLVED to adopt the Minutes.

9192.3 Neighbourhood Development Plan project

Councillor Bird, Chairman of the Steering Group, gave members an update on the 14th May 2014 meeting which focused on reviewing a draft Engagement and Consultation Plan prepared by Councillor Nelmes.

9192.4 Extraordinary Council Meeting

It was noted that an Extraordinary Council meeting will be held at 7pm on Tuesday 10th June 2014, at Dursley C of E Primary Academy, to consider planning application S.14/0966/OUT; land off Shakespeare Road, Dursley: development of up to 100 dwellings including affordable housing and open space; creation of new access to Shakespeare Road and internal roads, footpaths and landscaping.

POLICY AND FINANCE

9193

9193.1 Report by the Chairman of the Policy and Finance Committee

3rd June, 2014

Council

The Committee Chairman reminded members to attend the Data Protection training at Jacob's House on 4th June 2014 at 10am; a future evening session may need to be arranged following poor attendance on 21st May 2014.

Councillors Grecian, Creswick, Patrick, Marsh, Harding and Laybourne confirmed their intention to attend.

9193.2 To receive the Minutes of the Policy and Finance Committee Meetings held on 6th May and 27th May, 2014

IT WAS RESOLVED to adopt the Minutes.

9193.3 Lift at Dursley Town Hall

A request received from Dursley Town Trust regarding provision of a lift at Dursley Town Hall was considered.

It was agreed that Council considers accessibility of a meeting venue to be more important than convenience and comfort.

IT WAS RESOLVED to write a letter of support to confirm that Council would want to use the Town Hall for meetings if improvements overcame the barriers to access.

9193.4 Guidance on Dispensations

Guidance on Dispensations from the Monitoring Officer at Stroud District Council was noted.

The Town Clerk confirmed that the Council's dispensations policy meets the guidance. Regarding the Extraordinary Council meeting on 10th June 2014, members were reminded to apply for a dispensation if required.

9193.5 Youth Centre for Dursley

i) The Clerk gave an update on the Youth Centre construction work. It was noted that construction work is progressing well and the first stage has been signed off by the Architect; the hall floor requires extra reinforcement and additional brickwork is required in one wall, the costs of which may be offset by an identified reduction in underpinning; the project is currently on time and on budget.

ii) The updated budget and risk assessment was noted.

9193.6 Our Place Project

The Clerk reported that the Our Place Project has submitted a Delivery Strategy for the "Getting Going" stage of the funding programme and an additional £10,000; unfortunately the project missed the deadline for the Police

and Crime Commissioner's Community Fund; if the project is unable to secure funding it may be possible to continue to a lesser degree with the help of volunteers and Council staff; the Clerk and Project Administrator will be attending a training course on cost benefit analysis to assist with future applications; the format for the management of the project and youth centre will be considered.

9193.7 Councillors' Reports

- (i) **Dursley Welcomes Walkers** (7/5/14) – Councillor Grecian reported that the group will be holding an Annual General Meeting at 7pm on 4th June 2014 at the Community Centre; plans for the festival in October are progressing well and a circular "Lantern Walk" is being designed.
- (ii) **Dursley United Charities** (8/5/14) – The Mayor reported that some work is required on properties; grants ranging from £200-£600 have been awarded.
- (iii) **Cam & Dursley Greenway** (17/5/14) – Councillor Blackwell-Whitehead reported that the group has started to assign sections of the route; the final route needs to be agreed; it may be possible to combine route signage with Dursley Welcomes Walkers; the next meeting will be held in July.
- (iv) **Joint Cluster Meeting** (18/5/14) – Councillor Harding was unable to attend the meeting.

BUSINESS RELATING TO STAFF

9194

9194.1 Report by the Chairman of the Staff Committee

The Committee Chairman had no matters to report.

9194.2 To receive the Minutes of the Staff Committee Meeting held on 6th May, 2014

IT WAS RESOLVED to adopt the Minutes.

HIGHWAYS

9195

9195.1 To receive a report from Council's Highways Representative

The Clerk made Council aware of an invitation from Gloucestershire County Council to attend the Local Transport Plan Review 2014 Information Event at 2pm-4pm on Thursday 3rd July 2014.

BUSINESS RELATING TO COMMUNITY SAFETY

9196

9196.1 To receive a report from Council's Police Representative

Councillor Harding as Council's Police representative had no matters to report but requested information from the Council office on the recent thefts at the allotment site.

Councillor Nicholson reported on the Community Speed Watch project including police use of a monitoring device and plans to carry out targeted action on the Uley Road; the local PCSO is looking at suitable speed watch sites on Kingshill Road and more volunteers are sought.

IT WAS RESOLVED to establish the owner and purpose of the monitoring device currently installed on Woodmancote.

BUSINESS RELATING TO PUBLIC TRANSPORT 9197

9197.1 To consider matters relating to bus services

- (i) Proposed changes to the 311 bus service to Bristol were considered.

IT WAS RESOLVED to object strongly to the changes which would see a reduction in service.

- (ii) Issues with connections at Cam and Dursley station were recognised. The news that Councillor Lydon would be taking these issues forward was welcomed (minute 9186).

CLERK'S REPORT 9198

9198.1 Clerk's Report

The Clerk's report was noted.

9198.2 Monthly Area Inspections and Audit Checks

Details of Councillors scheduled to undertake area inspections and audit checks in June/July 2014 were noted.

The meeting closed at 7.55 p.m.

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Town Mayor

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Date