

18th November, 2014

DURSLEY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the PROCEEDINGS at the MEETING of the COUNCIL held in the Methodist Church Rooms, Castle Street, Dursley at 7.30pm on Tuesday, 18th November, 2014.

Action Summary:

9297 Payment of Dursley in Bloom grant

PRESENT

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

Councillors: J Bird, S Creswick, N Grecian, V. Harding, P Hayes, M Laybourne, B Marsh and A Stennett.

Also present: Mrs H Bojaniwska, Town Clerk and Mr B Edwards, Apprentice (up to item 9298.1).

Absent: Councillor R Blackwell-Whitehead

TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE 9291

Apologies for absence were accepted from Councillors T Frankau (personal), L Patrick (personal), F Firth (personal) and M Nicholson (personal).

MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST 9292

The Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillors Creswick and Marsh declared a personal interest in agenda item 8.2 as trustees of the Youth Centre Management Committee (Minute 9298.2)

The Mayor declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in agenda item 8.2 as an employee of Dursley Community Centre (Minute 9298.2).

Councillor Harding declared a personal interest in agenda item 7.1 as a member of Dursley In Bloom (Minute 9297).

MEMBERS' REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS 9293

None were requested.

VACANCIES IN THE OFFICE OF TOWN COUNCILLOR FOR HIGHFIELDS WARD 9294

No applications were received.

ADDITIONAL MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST OR REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS 9295

None were necessary.

REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC 9296

There were no representations from the public.

MATTERS RELATING TO GRANTS 9297

A revised grant request from Dursley In Bloom was considered. Councillor Harding provided an explanation of the proposed use of the grant. IT WAS RESOLVED TO award a grant of £500 from the Council's grants reserve. The Mayor expressed pride in the work done in the town by Dursley In Bloom.

BUSINESS RELATING TO COUNCIL FINANCE 9298

9298.1 Council's Accounts 2014/15

- (i) A report on income and expenditure for the financial year 2014–2015 was reviewed and noted.
- (ii) Members considered the Clerk's report on the use of reserves for expenditure and IT WAS AGREED.
- (iii) It was noted that a replacement internal auditor will be needed. The Clerk will find a replacement and report to the next Council meeting for approval.

Mr B Edwards left the meeting.

9298.2 Budget for the financial year 2015-2016

- (i) The Staff Committee's recommendation regarding office staffing was reviewed. A small change in the hours for one of the positions was made and the new structure, to be phased in from 1st April 2015, WAS APPROVED.
- (ii) A draft budget for youth services WAS APPROVED.
- (iii) Draft estimates of Council's income and expenditure for the financial year 2015–16 were reviewed and a number of changes made.

The Mayor left the meeting.

Members discussed the Policy and Finance committee's recommendations for large grants to be paid in April 2015.

4th November, 2014

Council

It was noted that Dursley and District Community Association are not included in the proposed schedule of grant payments, pending completion of a review of progress against an agreed action plan. Members felt that unless significant progress can be demonstrated no award would be made in 2015–16.

The Mayor re-joined the meeting.

Members considered a number of options for reducing expenditure and agreed to use Council reserves for some projects planned for 2015–16.

The revised draft budget WAS APPROVED, and will be confirmed in January 2015 when the level of Localisation of Council Tax Support grant and tax base are known.

The meeting closed at 9.30 p.m.

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Town Mayor

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Date