

DURSLEY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES and REPORT of the MEETING of the POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE of the Council held at Dursley Methodist Church, Castle Street, Dursley on Tuesday 14th September 2021 for presentation to the Council on Tuesday 6th October 2021.

PRESENT

Councillors: S Creswick (Chair), S Ackroyd (Mayor), M Woodward, N Grecian, A Stennett, M Stennett, P Hayes, J Rubin and D Savvidou.

Officers: John Kay, Town Clerk.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Loraine Patrick (Vice-Chair) provided her apologies (business).

2. MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Ackroyd declared a pecuniary interest as a Director of the Chantry Centre, Cllr Savvidou declared a pecuniary interest as an organiser of the Dursley After Dark; both in relation to grant applications from the relevant organisations (Minute No. 6)

3. REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no members of the public present.

4. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Policy & Finance Committee held on Tuesday 15th June were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

5. TO REVIEW THE STANDING ORDERS

IT WAS RESOLVED not to change the maximum number of meetings (four) to be held on one evening or the latest time that meetings should end (10pm) and that the Standing Orders require no revisions at this time.

6. REGARDING 2021/22 GRANT APPLICATIONSSmall Grants

The Committee considered the 2021/22 small grant applications to be paid in October 2021 and made the following recommendations to Council:

IT WAS RESOLVED:

Applicant	Amount Awarded	Notes
Homestart (Glos/Stroud)	£1,000	

Dursley In Bloom	£500	The group to be encouraged to apply for a three year grant in 2022.
D&D Good Neighbours	£500	
Cotswold Vale Talking Newspaper	£200	The group to be advised to look at no cost options for software.

IT WAS AGREED to defer the decisions to the next meeting of the Committee for the small grant applications from Dursley Town AFC, Dursley Town Ladies and Dursley Town Boys football clubs due to the late submission of the financial information.

IT WAS AGREED to carry out a review of the Grants Policy at the next Committee meeting.

Revenue Grants

The Town Clerk confirmed that two prior commitments for revenue grant applications remained valid and the committee should budget accordingly.

GL11 - £1,800 towards Health & Safety costs (Year 2 of 3)
Cam, Dursley & Uley Joint Woodlands Committee - £1,000 towards woodland management (annual award)

IT WAS RESOLVED to budget for these grants.

The Committee considered the 2021/22 revenue grant applications to be paid in May 2022 and made the following recommendations to Council:

IT WAS RESOLVED:

Applicant	Amount Awarded	Notes
Great Western Air Ambulance	£2,000	
Dursley Welcomes Walkers	£500	For three years (2022-24)
The Chantry Centre	£4,500	Cllr Ackroyd left the meeting while this application was discussed and voted on
Citizens Advice	£5,500	

Cllr Savvidou left the meeting.

IT WAS AGREED that the sum of £1,430 be included in the 2022/23 budget and for a final decision to be confirmed by the committee in April/May 2022 on submission of the groups first year financial position.

Cllr Savvidou returned to the meeting.

IT WAS AGREED that a decision on the Dursley & District Community Association be delayed until the 2020/21 grant evaluation and a breakdown of the general maintenance costs for the 2021/22 grant is provided by the applicant.

7. REGARDING POLICIES

The Committee reviewed the following policies. **IT WAS RESOLVED** to recommend to Council that the following policies be adopted:

- a) Data Protection Policy – the Clerk was requested to request where cloud data is stored and if it is outside of the UK. Under the International Data paragraph “HR-related” to be removed.
- b) Reserves Policy – The following clause to be added “Earmarked Reserves to be reviewed annually, where reserves held over three years without expenditure or a project being identified the funds are to be returned to the general reserve unless decided otherwise by Council”.
- c) Grievance Policy
- d) Risk Management

8. UPDATE ON INVESTMENTS

The investments to the 7th September 2021 were noted.

IT WAS AGREED that the Town Clerk is to review alternative online banks options, including interest rates comparison and to consider any favourable options with the Committee Chair.

The meeting closed at 19:35.



.....Chair

.....19.10.2021.....Date

