

8th September 2020

Policy and Finance

DURSLEY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES and REPORT of the MEETING of the POLICY AND FINANCE COMMITTEE of the Council held online at 6:30p.m. on Tuesday 8th September 2020 for presentation to the Council on the 6th October 2020.

PRESENT

Councillors: S Creswick (Chair), M Woodward, P Hayes, N Grecian, S Ackroyd, W Thomas, L Patrick (Vice Chair), A Stennett, M Stennett, J Rubin & T White.

In Attendance: Town Clerk, J Kay and Deputy Clerk, L Wellings.

Absent: A Whitwell.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were no apologies for absence.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Thomas declared a pecuniary interest as her partner is an employee of a grant applicant (Agenda Item 6(b)). Cllr Ackroyd declared a pecuniary interest as a director of the Chantry Centre (Agenda Item 6(b)).

3. REPRESENTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were no members of the public present.

4. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Policy and Finance Committee held on the 16th June 2020 were approved as a true record and signed by the Chair.

5. REGARDING 2019/20 ACCOUNTS

It was noted that External Audit Report and Certificate had been received from PKF Littlejohn. There were no actions or matters that needed to be reviewed.

6. REGARDING SMALL GRANTS 2020/21

Cllr Patrick joined the meeting.

IT WAS RESOLVED to recommend to Council on the 6th October 2020 that the following applications be approved:

Applicant	Brief Description	Amount	Conditions/Notes and Abstentions
Dursley In Bloom	Plants, Planters etc	£500	None
Cotswold Vale Talking Newspaper	Updating publicity material	£200	None
Dursley & District Good Neighbours	Administration costs including mileage allowance	£500	None

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IT WAS AGREED that the application from Home Start – Stroud District could not be considered as the organisation had not provided financial details. The Town Clerk to contact the applicants and give them the opportunity to provide details for the October meeting of Council.

IT WAS AGREED that the grant application from Festive Dursley could not be considered as the financial information had not been provided. The applicant was to be advised that the current application was likely to be rejected as the Councillors feel that it should be volunteering rather than paid work. More detail is required on the finance, hire of equipment and the software purchases included in the grant before the application can be considered. Cllr Woodward abstained.

IT WAS AGREED that the applications from Dursley Town AFC, Stepping Stone Pre-School and Dursley Town Boys Football Club could not be considered as the organisation had not provided financial details prior to the agenda being issued. The applications are to be considered at Council on 6th October 2020.

7. REGARDING REVENUE GRANTS 2020/21

IT WAS RESOLVED to recommend to Council on the 6th October 2020 that the following applications be approved:

Applicant	Brief Description	Amount	Conditions/Notes and Abstentions
GL11	Health & Safety Consultant	£1,800	1 year agreed, years 2 and 3 to be confirmed that contact remains in place by applicant. VAT not included in grant. Cllr Thomas abstained.
Chantry Centre	Funding Shortfall due to Covid-19 restrictions	£6,000	None. Cllrs A Stennett abstained. Cllr Ackroyd temporarily left the meeting while grant was discussed, and vote took place.
Cam, Dursley & Uley Joint Woodlands Committee	Woodland Management	£1,000	Award to be reviewed annually. Cllr M Stennett abstained.
Twinberrow Foundation	Woodland Management	£3,000	None

IT WAS AGREED that the applications from Great Western Air Ambulance Charity and Dursley & District Community Association could not be considered as the organisations had not provided financial details. The Town Clerk to contact the applicants and give them the opportunity to provide details for the October meeting of Council.

IT WAS AGREED that a representative(s) from Kingshill House to be invited to attend the October meeting of Council to answer queries on the grant application before Councillors consider the application.

8. REGARDING CAM, DURSLEY AND ULEY JOINT WOODLANDS COMMITTEE

IT WAS AGREED to invite the Chair of the Council and the committee representatives from Uley Parish Council and Cam Parish Council to a meeting to discuss the future of the Joint Woodlands Committee.

9. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON INVESTMENTS

The investments on 1st September 2020 and the low levels of interest were noted. The Town Clerk confirmed that the administration and signatories had now been updated with the CCLA.

IT WAS AGREED to enquire with the CCLA (Public Sector Deposit Fund) what the current investment rates and savings options are available for an investment of no less than £100k. The Town Clerk and Chair to have the delegated authority to decide on potential investment and report back to the next meeting of the Policy & Finance committee.

The meeting closed at 7:25pm.

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Chair
20.10.20
Date

