

## **DURSLEY TOWN COUNCIL**

MINUTES and REPORT of the MEETING of the GREEN SPACES COMMITTEE of the Council held in the **Methodist Church Rooms, Castle Street, Dursley** at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, 17<sup>th</sup> May 2016 for presentation to the Council on the 7<sup>th</sup> June 2016.

### **PRESENT**

Chairman: Councillor A Stennett.

Councillors: Mayor Grecian, M Laybourne, F Firth, B Cairns & B Marsh.

In Attendance: Town Clerk, J Kay.

#### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr M Nicholson, (personal) Cllr Nelmes and Cllr Ball (both illness).

#### 2. MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

#### 3. REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS

No requests for dispensations were received.

#### 4. REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no matters raised by the public.

#### 5. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Green Spaces Committee Meeting held on the 15<sup>th</sup> March 2016, having been circulated among the members, were taken as read, confirmed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

#### 6. CHAIRMAN'S VERBAL REPORT

There was no report provided.

#### 7. KINGSHILL CEMETERY SIGNAGE.

The Town Clerk provided feedback that there had been no reported issues during the six week trial of the cemetery gates being opened on weekdays.

**IT WAS RESOLVED** that the draft sign layout be used with the following amendments:

- a) to include "Dursley Town Council" under the crest,
- b) to change the vehicle access time to "Mon to Fri 9am to 3.30pm"
- c) add an apostrophe to Jacob's.

## 8. RODDING OF GRAVES

**IT WAS RESOLVED** to alter the Town Council Cemetery Regulations to allow the practise of grave rodding subject to any future requests. The Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management: Policy relating to Shallow Depth Graves shall be referred to in the regulations as the recognised practice for such investigation.

### 8.a) ANNUAL MEMORIAL INSPECTION

The Town Clerk provided an update on the ongoing “Spring Clean” inspection of the graves at Kingshill Cemetery by the Deputy Clerk and the Administration Assistant. This process has taken longer than originally anticipated but we will have a photographic log and report of all graves within the cemetery which do not meet regulations. Grave owners will shortly be contacted on the issues that do not meet our current regulations.

The Town Clerk also highlighted an ongoing issue of memorials continually being re-erected despite notices explaining they have been laid down on safety grounds.

## 9. HIGHFIELDS PLAY AREA

The Town Clerk provided an update, including that the “declaration in relation to the exclusion of sections 24-28 of the Landlord and Tenant Act 1954” had now been signed and witnessed by an independent solicitor. This was passed to our acting solicitor on the 17<sup>th</sup> May 2016, with the instruction to proceed with the transfer.

## 10. COMMUNITY PAYBACK PROJECT

The Town Clerk provided an update on the first two weeks of the project and provided details of upcoming improvements and maintenance works for the team.

**IT WAS RESOLVED** to commit to a voluntary payment of £50 per daily visit subject to the number of operatives in the gang attending and the works continuing to be carried out to the required level.

## 11. WMRG - VANDALISM AND ANTISOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

The Chair and Town Clerk provided an update on the recent disappointing vandalism of the gym equipment and other antisocial issues that have occurred on the WMRG over the last few weeks. The Town Clerk is continuing to raise the issue locally and liaising with the local police to increase patrols in the area.

**IT WAS RESOLVED** to request the police to supply a mobile CCTV camera to monitor behaviour and review the impact this has, whilst the Town Clerk obtain an estimate and suitable specification for a more permanent CCTV system for the WMRG. This item would remain on the agenda for the next meeting of the Green Spaces committee.

12. TO CONSIDER DISPOSAL OF THE OLD SKATE RAMP

**IT WAS RESOLVED** that the skate ramp could now be disposed, there was no longer a use for it due to its condition and there was no benefit to the Town Council to continue to store it at the cemetery. It was agreed to offer the old skate park to Breakheart Quarry as they collect scrap metal to raise funds for their community projects.

13. HEALTH & SAFETY ADVICE SHEET FOR ALLOTMENT HOLDERS

**IT WAS RESOLVED** to agree the information on the leaflet drafted by the Deputy Clerk and for it to be sent with an accompanying letter explaining why the Town Council had chosen to issue the advice to all allotment holders.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.59p.m.

.....  
Chairman

.....  
Date