

DURSLEY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES and REPORT of the MEETING of the GREEN SPACES COMMITTEE of the Council held in the **Dursley Library, May Lane, Dursley** at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, 19th September 2017 for presentation to the Council on the 3rd October 2017.

PRESENT

Chairman: Councillor A Stennett.

Councillors: N Grecian (Mayor), M Stennett, M Nicholson, B Cairns and P Hayes

In Attendance: Town Clerk, J Kay.

Absent: Cllr F Firth

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies received from Cllr J Ball & J Burdge (personal).

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 representations from the public.

5. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Green Spaces Committee Meeting held on the 19th September 2017, 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

The Chairman had no matters to report.

7. BADGER ACTIVITY AT STANTHILL DRIVE/ST MARKS CHURCH YARD.

The Committee referred to the Deputy Clerk's report provided to Councillors prior to the meeting.

IT WAS AGREED due to the continued activity recorded over the summer period, to seek specialist advice from Natural England as to the options available to the Town Council and residents.

The Deputy Clerk would be requested to keep residents informed of the matter and to re-issue the Natural England guidance "Badger Problems: Advice to Households".

8. HIGHFIELDS PLAY AREA: REPAIRS & IMPROVEMENTS

The Committee reviewed the requested maintenance information and guarantees.

IT WAS RESOLVED to accept the quotation from Proludic Play & Sports Areas for a total of £13,000 to provide a new metal cableway and for safety improvements to the base of the Borneo climber.

IT WAS AGREED that the Clerk should submit a S106 application to Stroud District Council for funds from S.05/1866/FUL - Highfields, Dursley – “Upgrading of Public Open Space at Highfields, Dursley”.

9. HIGHFIELDS PLAY AREA: YOUTH SHELTER

The Committee reviewed the correspondence from PCSO Griffiths, police statistics from 2015, Facebook correspondence, emails received, comment and details of consultation from World Jungle, picture of graffiti and the up to date information on incidents reported to the police over summer period.

IT WAS RESOLVED that the police, local residents and users of the play area should be consulted on the style and location of a new shelter to replace the existing shelter.

IT WAS AGREED that in the short term the sides of the shelter be removed to make the area more open, thus making it less desirable for antisocial behaviours and to reduce to obscene graffiti which is regular drawn on the wooden panels.

10. USE OF AIRHORNS

The Clerk reported that the Town Council had received two complaints following the fairs annual visit in June 2017. Once notified by the Environmental Health team at Stroud District Council the fair management agreed not to use the airhorn.

IT WAS RESOLVED not to change Section 10 of the Hire Terms & Condition for the War Memorial Recreation Ground at this time, as there had been no history of similar complaints and the only two residents had contacted the Council this year. It was noted that nearby residents should anticipate additional noise was to be expected at this type of events and the fair management has always reacted positively to any local concerns.

11. KINGSHILL CEMETERY: OUTSTANDING FEES

The Town Clerk provided an update to the Committee on the outstanding debtors in relation to cemetery fees.

IT WAS RESOLVED that a letter be drafted to the debtor, requesting immediate payment of the outstanding sums and for all future bookings to be paid in full prior to the date of the interment. In future access to the cemetery will be restricted when outstanding sums are due.

12. UNSAFE MEMORIAL: AMENDMENT TO CEMETERY RELEGULATIONS

The Committee considered the proposed amendment to the Cemetery Regulations and considered the impact of removal.

IT WAS RESOLVED to accept the amendment; subject to confirmation that the amendment and timescale complies with the best practice of the Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management (ICCM). Any grave which have items removed must clearly display a notice providing the date of removal, date of disposal and the contact details of the Town Council.

The Committee resolved to bring the amendment to the notice of Council on the 3rd October due to the sensitivities involved.

The Chair requested the Town Clerk provide an estimation of the number of graves that could be impacted by this amendment at Council.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8:10pm.

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Chairman

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Date