

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 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, 10th October 2017 for presentation to the Council on the 7th November 2017.

PRESENT

Chairman: Councillor A Stennett.

Councillors: N Grecian (Mayor), B Cairns, P Hayes, J Burdge

In Attendance: Deputy Town Clerk, L Wellings.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies received from Councillors J Ball (personal), M Stennett (personal), M Nicholson (work) and F Firth (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. UPDATE ON BADGER ACTIVITY AT STANTHILL DRIVE/ST MARKS CHURCHYARD.

The Deputy Town Clerk reported that an email had been sent to Natural England regarding badger activity in St Mark's Churchyard/Stanthill Drive seeking a site visit and specialist advice as to the options available to the Town Council and residents. A response is awaited.

It was noted that the Deputy Town Clerk had written to residents to keep them informed and re-issued the Natural England guidance "Badger Problems: Advice to Households".

8. UPDATE ON ANY OUTSTANDING KINGSHILL CEMETERY FEES

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

It was noted that on 21st September 2017 the Town Clerk had sent a letter 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 interment; until the outstanding sums are paid no further bookings would be confirmed.

The Deputy Clerk reported that the Town Clerk is still awaiting a response from the debtor.

9. COMPLETION OF WORKS AT HIGHFIELDS PLAY AREA

The Deputy Clerk reported that the following works had been completed at Highfields Play Area:

- Installation of new junior combination goal posts.
- Installation of bollards to prevent unauthorised vehicle access.
- Removal of youth shelter panels.

It was noted that the ground staff had been instructed by the Town Clerk to fit additional bolts to the goal post sleeves to provide additional security in the ground; resident feedback on the youth shelter works, via local Facebook comments, had been positive.

10. ALLOTMENT PLOT SIGNS & POST

Members considered the purchase and installation of new allotment plot signs and posts at the Kingshill Allotment site. Options and quotations had been circulated with the agenda papers.

It was agreed that number sign options 1 and 2 were both suitable.

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Deputy Town Clerk liaise with Council ground staff and for them to decide which signs and post sizes were suitable; the costs should not exceed £200 in total.

11. FEES & CHARGES FOR 2018-2019

Members considered fees and charges for the year 2018-2019, a sheet of current fees and proposed increases of 3% and 5% had been circulated with the agenda.

IT WAS RESOLVED to recommend to Council a 3% increase on existing fees and charges for 2018-2019 (Appendix 1 details).

12. WAR MEMORIAL RECREATION GROUND TRAINING CHARGES FOR SPORTS CLUBS LOCATED OUTSIDE OF DURSLEY

The Committee considered whether to charge sports clubs located outside of Dursley to use the War Memorial Recreation Ground for training purposes, with or without the use of pavilion.

It was noted that Forest Green Rovers ladies team had recently used the ground for weekly training sessions while awaiting access to Rednock facilities; the arrangement had been a short-term agreement and Dursley football clubs had been aware.

Members were reminded that on 6th July 2016 the Council resolved not to offer a football club located outside of the town match facilities at the WMRG due to issues regarding pitch usage, safeguarding and potential timetabling conflicts. This decision still stands, the issue being discussed under agenda item 12 relates to training only, should similar circumstances to that above arise in the future.

IT WAS RESOLVED to recommend to Council that for sports clubs located outside of Dursley, the following training fees and charges are introduced for 2018-2019:

- The Council's Use of Showers Fee should apply (i.e. £23+VAT for 2018-2019) if shower facilities are used during training.
- Training sessions should be charged at half the relevant Match cost (e.g. £30.50+VAT for 2018-2019). The Use of Shower Fee above should be charged in addition if such facilities are used during the session.
- Club requests to use of the ground for training purposes should be made in advance and be considered by the Council office, referred to the Committee if required.
- Suitable explanatory text for the fees and charges schedule to be agreed between the Council office and Committee Chairman.

13. DRAFT COMMITTEE ACTION PLAN PROGRAMME

The Committee Action Plan Programme and Project Priority list 2018 – 2021, circulated with the agenda was reviewed.

The following revisions were made:

- a) Union Street Upgrade to be removed.
- b) Kingshill Play Area – New Flower Bed to be removed.
- c) WMRG – Seating/Youth Shelter to be retained as a low 2020/21 & beyond project

IT WAS RESOLVED to take the revised Committee Action Plan Programme and Project Priority list 2018-2021 to the full Council budget meeting on the 21st November 2017 for consideration.

14. DRAFT GREEN SPACES BUDGET FOR 2018-2021

The draft Green Spaces budget for the year 2018-2021, circulated with the agenda, including 3-year forward planning was considered.

It was agreed that measures should be put in place to allow any unspent money in the machinery/vehicle fund to be transferred into the associated reserve until it reaches a

total of £10,000 and no more.

IT WAS RESOLVED for the draft budget and request regarding the machinery/vehicle fund, to be presented to the full Council budget meeting on the 21st November 2017 for consideration.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7:51pm.

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Chairman

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Date

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