

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, 12th June 2018 for presentation to the Council on the 3rd July 2018.

PRESENT

Chairman: Councillor A Stennett.

Councillors: P Hayes, J Burdge, M Stennett, B Cairns (Vice Chair)

In Attendance: Deputy Town Clerk, L Wellings; Deputy Town Clerk; Cllr A Whitwell and M Woodward; two residents representing local 'Petanque' players.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies received from Councillors J Ball (personal), M Nicholson (work) and N Grecian (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

4.1. A request to consider the introduction of a petanque court on the War Memorial Recreation Ground was considered.

Two residents representing local 'Petanque' players gave a short introduction to the game and outlined the proposal for a court and the associated benefits to the town and public (paper circulated with the agenda).

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Deputy Town Clerk would investigate the idea further with the player representatives present to establish maintenance, cost and other implications. The player representatives agreed to forward information relating to a court on a comparable public park/site. The information would be presented to the Committee meeting in September 2018.

4.2. A complaint regarding the condition of the Garden of Remembrance at Kingshill Cemetery was considered.

Concerns were expressed regarding the Garden of Remembrance and ongoing maintenance issues for the flower beds in particular e.g. weeding and pruning.

IT WAS RESOLVED that works to weed and tidy the area would be undertaken immediately and would continue on a routine basis in the short-term, with increased frequency; the Town Clerk would review frequency of works and investigate a

suitable long-term solution with ground staff which would be presented to Council. Alongside this work, the planting arrangements for the Garden of Remembrance would be reviewed in the Cemetery Regulations to see if improvements could be made for ease of maintenance e.g. pruning, size of plants allowed; consideration would also be given to local publicity and notices in relation to any changes.

5. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Green Spaces Committee Meetings held on the 20th March 2018 and 8th May 2018, 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 reported that Council's annual independent play inspections had been booked for 2018 and would be undertaken July time; some works were required to a piece of outside gym equipment, due to some movement in the ground and the tennis courts were proving to be popular with players of the sport over recent weeks.

7. TREE INSPECTION REPORT

Members received the Tree Inspection report for green spaces.

It was noted that the report was very clear and the maps very useful. This feedback would be shared with the contractor, WTC Wotton Tree Consultancy.

The works identified were considered. It was noted that some of it could be undertaken by ground staff e.g. sever ivy, remove tie; a contractor would need to carry out bigger works.

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Deputy Town Clerk would go over the report recommendations table with ground staff and programme works and obtain quotations where necessary; in relation to the tree removal works identified at Highfields Play Area, advice would be sought regarding bats.

8. SIGN FOR EDWIN BUDDING'S GRAVE, ST MARKS

A request to erect a sign highlighting Edwin Budding's grave in St Mark's Churchyard was considered.

It was noted that Edwin Budding invented the lawnmower, there could also be others of interest.

IT WAS RESOLVED that Councillor Burdge would first compile a list of notable people who are interred in St Mark's Churchyard; costs of suitable signage would then need to be investigated, as would the view of the Church.

11. UPDATE ON TURFING OF GRAVES AND MEMORIAL INSPECTIONS

The Deputy Town Clerk gave an update on the annual memorial inspection, which is currently ongoing and the recent successful turfing of graves, which included over 20 spaces.

It was recognised that the Council's Administration & Account Assistant had undertaken a significant amount of work in relation to dealing with planting and

turfing work in particular, liaising with Grant Holders in a professional and sensitive manner.

It was noted that inspection outcomes would be known by the next meeting, the inspection programme for memorials would also be reviewed at this time in line with guidance from the Institute of Cemetery and Crematorium Management (ICCM).

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20:04pm.

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Chairman

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Date