

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, 9th October 2018 for presentation to the Council on the 6th November 2018.

PRESENT

Chairman: Councillor A Stennett.

Councillors: P Hayes, M Stennett, J Ball, N Grecian & A Whitwell.

In Attendance: Town Clerk, J Kay.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies received from Councillors M Nicholson, B Cairn (both business), J Burdge & M Woodward (both 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 members of the public present, but an email regarding the use of bonfires had been received and included within the agenda papers.

a) Bonfires at Kingshill Cemetery

The Town Clerk reported that the Town Council do receive a complaint or two from members of the public when we have bonfires at Kingshill Cemetery or St Marks Churchyard, the bonfires are used to destroy green waste, normally from routine hedge cutting. They are kept to a minimum, with weather and wind conditions considered by the Senior Grounds Person and they are not held on consecutive days. It was noted that the adjacent land owner to the cemetery on occasions has bonfires of which are not linked to the Town Council.

IT WAS AGREED that the use of occasional bonfires is required by the Town Council to carry out routine maintenance of the green spaces. It was acknowledged that these were "seasonal" but were slightly more frequent when the hedge cutting is taking place both prior to and following the traditional bird nesting season. The bonfires are not left unattended at any time.

The Town Clerk was asked to investigate alternatives to bonfires, but the committee noted that alternative forms of waste removal or additional hire of equipment to mulch, chip the waste would be an additional expense. The storage of green waste and the mulch, chippings etc would be problematic due to the constraints of storage capacity available at both Kingshill cemetery and St Mark's Churchyard.

5. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Green Spaces Committee Meeting held on the 18th September 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 updated the committee on the plans construct communal compost bins on the allotment site had stalled. The Deputy Town Clerk had researched options and following discussion with Cllr Woodward it has been agreed to purchase three open slats fronted style compost bins. The slats would aid airflow around the compostable material aiding the natural degrading process and make it easier to dig the material back out of the bin. The three bins remained within the £200 budget allocated by the committee in September.

7. TO CONSIDER FEES & CHARGES 2019/20

Members considered fees and charges for the year 2019-2020, a sheet of current fees and proposed increases of 3% and 5% had been circulated with the agenda.

IT WAS RESOLVED to confirm a 3% increase for the Green Space fees and charges with the exception of bond payments for 2019/20.

8. TO REVIEW TERMS & CONDITIONS OF HIRE FOR GREEN SPACES

IT WAS RESOLVED to accept the suggested amendments as indicated on the draft version within the agenda papers.

9. DRAFT COMMITTEE ACTION PLAN PROGRAMME 2019-22

The draft Committee Action Plan Programme 2019–2022, circulated with the agenda was reviewed.

IT WAS RESOLVED to take the Committee Action Plan Programme 2019-22 to the full Council budget meeting on the 20th November 2017 for consideration.

10. DRAFT GREEN SPACES BUDGET FOR 2019-2022

The draft Green Spaces budget for the year 2019-2022, circulated with the agenda, including 3-year forward planning was considered.

IT WAS RESOLVED for the draft budget, to be presented to the full Council budget meeting on the 20th November 2018 for consideration.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7:29pm.

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Chairman

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Date