

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 7:35 p.m. on Tuesday, 15th January 2019 for presentation to the Council on the 22nd January 2019.

PRESENT

Chairman: Councillor A Stennett.

Councillors: J Burdge, M Woodward, B Cairns, M Stennett, N Grecian & A Whitwell.

In Attendance: Town Clerk, J Kay and Deputy Clerk L Wellings.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

There were apologies received from Councillors M Nicholson, (business), P Hayes and J Ball (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 had been received by the Chair in relation to the green space areas within the town and the ongoing Local Plan consultation by Stroud District Council. The Council is responding to the consultation so no individual response from the Chair was considered necessary.

5. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Green Spaces Committee Meeting held on the 9th October 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 requested the Deputy Clerk to update the committee on a payment dispute with Broxap/Sunshine Gym Equipment for repair works done to gym equipment on the War Memorial Recreation Ground without an official works order issued by the Council. The Deputy Clerk is awaiting a response from the contractor following receipt of an invoice for £500. It was acknowledged the repair work had been discussed with the contractor and the work had been carried out satisfactory just not in the correct procedural manner.

7. EVENT FOR 125th ANNIVERSARY OF DURSLEY TOWN AFC

Members considered the submitted application form for the for the planned events on Saturday July 20th 2019.

IT WAS RESOLVED to agree to host the event at the War Memorial Recreation Ground, the committee confirmed a two-day hire would be payable and a bond cheque would be required.

The committee further resolved that the organisers are requested to confirm their security arrangements and access requirements on the WMRG for the event.

8. KINGSHILL PLAY PARK

- a) The Town Clerk and Deputy Clerk inspected the existing swing on 8th January 2019. The frame remains secure and in no worse condition that noted in the 2018 playground inspection report. There is no immediate need to remove the swing at this time, but a replacement is necessary.
- b) The Deputy Clerk presented the updated quotation from our preferred supplier, Playdale Playgrounds Ltd who have now confirmed that new safety surfacing is required. The existing swing is suitable to be transferred to similar equipment at Highfields Play Area to replace the broken (and removed on safety grounds) swing.

IT WAS RESOLVED to accept the revised quotation of £4,592 + VAT from Playdale Playgrounds Ltd. The committee requested that Deputy Clerk seek confirmation if the three existing swing barriers were a legal requirement or if they could be removed.

9. REGARDING TREE WORKS

- a) Following a meeting with a representative from Gloucestershire Wildlife it was deemed inconclusive that bats were present within the thicket of trees at Highfields Play Area. The Deputy Clerk received guidance on ways to improve the area as a wildlife corridor, including using branches and wood as natural barriers for small wildlife to shelter. The bark on two dead elms could provide shelter for small bats but there was no evidence to suggest they were being used.

IT WAS AGREED to obtain a quotation for a bat survey prior to the removal of the dead elms in the spring.

- b) It was noted that a tree works programme is being prepared for 2019/20 based on the Council's Arboriculture Report dated June 2018.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20:06.

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Chairman

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Date