

DURSLEY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES and REPORT of the MEETING of the GREEN SPACES COMMITTEE of the Council held online at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, 13th October 2020 for presentation to the Council on the 3rd November 2020.

PRESENT

Councillors: A Stennett (Chair), N Grecian, J Ball, M Stennett, M Woodward, T White, D Horn and P Hayes.

In Attendance: L Wellings, Deputy Town Clerk

Absent: Councillor A Whitwell

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were accepted from Councillor J Rubin (personal).

2. MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no members of the public present.

4. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Green Spaces Committee Meeting held on the 15th September 2020, having been circulated among the members, were taken as read, confirmed, and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

5. CHAIR'S VERBAL REPORT

The Chair had no matters to report.

6. UPDATES ON RECENT INCIDENTS OF ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

The Deputy Town Clerk reported on recent incidents of vandalism and anti-social behaviour on the War Memorial Recreation Ground and Kingshill Play Area.

It was noted that the local neighbourhood Police team had been increasing patrols and working with Special Police Constables to target areas; the town centre had seen an increase in anti-social behaviour and vandalism incidents over recent weeks; the Police are encouraging people to report incidents directly using 101 or online instead of using social media.

IT WAS AGREED to continue to monitor the situation and investigate the cost of extending the fencing on the War Memorial Recreation Ground to block up the informal access to the site in the corner of the Tennis Court.

7. UPDATE ON THE KINGSHILL CEMETERY GARDEN OF REST PROJECT

In relation to the new garden of rest project and improvements to the existing garden of remembrance, it was noted that ground work would start week commencing 9th November 2020, subject to weather conditions; drawings of the improvements to be used in the publicity campaign had been received and would be circulated to members.

8. UPDATE REGARDING WORK RELATED TO LEGIONELLA CONTROL

It was noted that work related to the Council's Legionella Risk Assessments and the development of a new Policy was ongoing; the Deputy Town Clerk was liaising with Councillor M Stennett on this work.

9. TO CONSIDER FEES & CHARGES FOR 2021-2022

The draft Schedule of Fees and Charges paper circulated with the agenda, was considered.

IT WAS RESOLVED to recommend to Council that there be no increase to fees and charges for 2021/22, in light of the impact of Covid-19.

IT WAS AGREED to update all relevant information to reflect the Children's Funeral Fund for England scheme.

IT WAS RESOLVED to recommend to Council that the following conditions and arrangements are adopted in relation to the new Garden of Rest at Kingshill Cemetery on opening:

- a) That Council do not allow urn or casket interments in the plots, only the 'pouring' of ashes.
- b) That the fee for the interment of ashes be set at £138, the same as the existing Garden of Remembrance.
- c) That the purchase of an Exclusive Right of Burial would be required for the reopening of a plot with the fee set at £75.
- d) That the existing Garden of Remembrance be closed for ashes interments once the new Garden of Rest has opened, unless there is a strong case presented by a family for an interment in this area.
- e) That the Council source a supply of suitable, robust plastic spiked vases to be purchased from the Council office for use in Kingshill Cemetery at a cost price.

10. DRAFT GREEN SPACES BUDGET FOR 2021-2024

The draft Green Spaces budget for the year 2021-2024, circulated with the agenda, including reserves and 3-year work programme project planner was considered.

No amendments were made.

IT WAS RESOLVED for the draft budget, to be presented to the full Council budget meeting on the 17th November 2020 for consideration.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8:16pm.

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Chairman

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Date