

23rd January 2018

DURSLEY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the PROCEEDINGS at the MEETING of the COUNCIL held in the Community Meeting Room at the Fire Station, Kingshill Road, Castle, Dursley at 7pm on Tuesday 23rd January 2018.

Action Summary:

9960.2	The Town Clerk to submit our precept request for 2018/19	9963.2	To submit a response to planning appeal at Ganzell Farm, Dursley.
9963.2	To write to the Planning Manager at SDC regarding the quality/inaccuracies of planning applications	9963.3	To write to the owner of the Kingshill Public House re Asset of Community Value
9964.4	To issue the Youth Service Tenders	9964.5	The Town Clerk to sign the Exclusion of Notice

PRESENT

Cllr N Grecian, Mayor

Councillors: A Sheffield, W Thomas, M Stennett, A Stennett, J Burdge, S Abraham, B Cairns, W Paice, M Woodward, M Nicholson, S Ackroyd & J Ball.

Also present: John Kay, Town Clerk, Leah Wellings, Deputy Clerk, a Gazette reporter, SDC Councillors Cornell and Hayward and two members of the public.

TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE 9953

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors S Creswick, L Patrick and P Hayes (all personal).

The Mayor welcomed back Cllr Ball following her absence due to poor health.

MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST 9954

There were no declarations of interest.

REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS 9955

There were no requests for dispensations.

REGARDING TOWN COUNCILL VACANCY FOR CENTRAL WARD 9956

The Town Clerk informed Council that two expressions of interest had been received for the vacant position and that the Council could appoint a new councillor through the Casual Vacancy process.

Both interested parties were present at the meeting and the Mayor invited them to add anything they would like to their written expressions.

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IT WAS AGREED that a ballot would be held to vote on the vacancy. The Clerk supplied ballot papers to the Councillors present, who then proceeded to register their vote.

IT WAS RESOLVED to invite Adrian Whitwell, who had received the most votes, to sign the Declaration of Acceptance and take his place as Town Councillor. The unsuccessful candidate was thanked for his efforts and his details would be kept on record in the event of any future vacancies.

COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS

9957

There was no County Councillor report as Cllr Patrick was absent for the meeting.

Cllr Cornell advised Council that she had been appointed Labour Group leader for Stroud, replacing Cllr Steve Lydon who had to step down suddenly on health grounds. A meeting would be held on Thursday evening to appoint a new SDC Leader and Cllr Cornell is the labour groups nomination. Cllr Cornell had recently met with the Mayor and Town Clerk discussing a range of topics including car park charging, the Littlecombe development, May Lane development land and budgets. Cllr Cornell had agreed to investigate when a final decision on S106 funds would be made to Community groups within the town.

Responding to a query relating to the retention of business rates, Cllr Cornell stated that savings would still need to be made so this possibility would not impact the consultation on introducing car parking charges in Dursley and other areas of the district.

REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

9958

There were no representations from the public.

MINUTES

9959

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 5th December 2017 were signed by the Mayor.

BUSINESS RELATING TO COUNCIL FINANCE

9960

9960.1 Council's Accounts for 2017/18

- (i) **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the schedule of payments made to be authorised and signed by the Mayor.
- (ii) **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Bank Reconciliation be authorised and signed by the Mayor.
- (iii) The income received was noted.

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(iv) The management/budget report was noted.

9960.2 Regarding Council Accounts for 2018 to 2020

IT WAS RESOLVED to accept the Budget proposals and to request a precept of £435,616 for 2018/19.

GREEN SPACES

9961

9961.1 To receive the Minutes of the Green Spaces Committee Meeting held on 16th January 2018.

IT WAS RESOLVED to adopt the Minutes of the meeting.

9961.2 Report of the Chair of the Green Spaces Committee

The Committee Chair had nothing to report.

9961.3 Schedule of Fees & Charges for 2018/19

IT WAS RESOLVED to accept the Fees & Charges for Green Spaces for 2018/19.

TOWN IMPROVEMENTS AND AMENITIES

9962

9962.1 To receive the Minutes of the Town Improvements Committee Meeting held on 9th January 2018.

IT WAS RESOLVED to adopt the Minutes of the meeting.

9962.2 Report of the Chair of the Town Improvements and Amenities Committee

The Chair requested if anyone had suggestions of local ex-Listers employees who could be united to the plaque unveiling at the Priory. It was suggested Hugh Tipper, an ex-finance director of Listers may be interested in attending.

9962.3 Pancake Race 2018

It was note the race was on 13th February at 12pm in Parsonage Street and the beneficiary from sponsorship would be Festive Dursley. The Town Clerk requested assistance from Councillors on the day to act as race marshals.

PLANNING

9963

9963.1 To receive the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 12th December 2017 and 16th January 2018.

IT WAS RESOLVED to adopt the Minutes of the meetings.

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9963.2 Report of the Chair of the Planning Committee

Cllr Nicholson reported that an appeal had been lodged for Ganzell Farm Woodmancote Dursley (APP/C1625/W/17/3189615). The Town Council had previously objected due to impact on the AONB and non-agricultural person living in the site. The Council had been advised by our planning consultant that we should submit our objection to the appeal by referencing our support to the original planning decision (to object) and highlight local opinion.

IT WAS RESOLVED for the Town Council to submit our response to the Planning Inspectorate as advised by our planning consultant.

Cllr Nicholson commented on the quality and inaccuracy of plans submitted recently, which make it very hard to determine some of the applications. It was suggested that the Town Council may need to respond that the information/plans are not acceptable in future and we are unable to determine applications

IT WAS RESOLVED to write the Planning Manager at Stroud District Council with our concerns and to request they review this matter.

Cllr Paice joined the meeting.

9963.3 Asset of Community Value: Kingshill Public House

The Council considered the benefits of listing the Kingshill Public House which has recently had a history of short term tenancy and periods of closure.

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Council should write to the owner of the property to request what their plans are for the building, register our concern at the recent history of closure and to enquire would they be willing to consider registering the public house as a "community asset". Ten Councillors voted for the proposal, three against and one abstention.

POLICY AND FINANCE

9964

9964.1 To receive the Minutes of the Town Improvements Committee Meeting held on 12th December 2017.

IT WAS RESOLVED to adopt the Minutes of the meeting.

9964.2 Report by the Chair of the Policy and Finance Committee

In the absence of the Chair and Vice Chair there was nothing to report.

9964.3 Annual Assembly 2018

It was noted that the Annual Assembly would be held at 7pm on the 22nd May at 7pm in the Chantry Centre.

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9964.4 Youth Service Provision 2018 to 2021

IT WAS RESOLVED to accept the recommendation of the Policy & Finance Committee by approving the tender documentation for the new youth service contract.

9964.5 Order of Exclusion Notice

IT WAS RESOLVED for the Town Clerk to sign the “Order of Exclusion” notices in partnership with Dursley Business Inclusive and the Dursley Neighbourhood Police Team

9964.6 Councillors’ Reports

- (i) **ASB Multi Agency Meeting** (12/12/17) – The Town Clerk reported a meeting had been held with Police, Stroud District Council, Cam Parish Council, Dursley Town Council, The Door Youth Project & Homestart to discuss ongoing ASB problems in the area. It was agreed at this meeting a 6-week detached youth work programme would commence in January and the group would hold a review meeting in February 2018
- (ii) **Police/Dursley Business Inclusive** (19/12/17) – A meeting was arranged by Cllr Nicholson due to a sudden increase in ASB. It was agreed at this meeting exclusion notices would be served on some young people and a test message group was set up to share information quickly for traders.
- (iii) **Festive Dursley** (10/1/18) – Cllr Woodward reported that the group were considering feedback following last year event including having a later time for the switch on. Both the xmas lights and fireworks were very popular. The Facebook page is performing well with nearly 7000 views of the event video.
- (iv) **Dursley Business Inclusive** (11/1/18) – The group received an update on ASB from the local PCSO and agreed for the Town Council to arrange printing for the new town leaflet
- (v) **SDC Fixed Penalty Notices** (12/11/18) – A positive meeting with Town Council staff issuing fixed penalty notices remaining a credible option. Training courses are available but the final decision would be required to be made by Stroud District Council. SDC reminded us that with relevant details they can issue fixed penalty notices on our behalf, subject to agreeing to provide a witness statement in the event of any court action.
- (vi) **Dursley Welcomes Walkers** (15/1/18) –The 2018 festival will be held on the first weekend in October over 4 days with more walks being made available. Dursley Ramblers celebrate their 50th anniversary in 2018. The Mayor reported that a review of the group activities was carried out, along with official appointments to the board etc. The wide range of activities, services provided by GL11 was highlighted to Councillors. The group are working with Great Western Railway to create walks from Cam & Dursley station to Slimbridge and Dursley. Plans continue for the Gateway project

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which promotes walking and cycling activities. Committee members working on a figure of eight walk which would allow 8mile or 16mile options.

- (vii) **Visitor Information Centre** (18/1/18) – A meeting held to consider hosting a VIC in Dursley Library. GCC are producing a list of options and associated costs to be considered by the Town Council with a view to having a pilot project 2018/19.
- (viii) **Joint Woodlands** (22/1/18) – Cllr M Stennett reported that the group were applying for a high tier stewardship grant and the woodland managers report was received. The paths were being ranked into zones on ease of access and ground conditions. The current footpath warden would be retiring soon. Some of the paths in Cam Long Down and Cam Peak were classed as hazardous due to the treacherous ground conditions. The Mayor highlighted that PROW officers would be returning to GCC under the new style highways contract from April 2019.
- (ix) **Vale Vision** – Cllr Stennett reported that the group discussed the next edition of the What's On magazine and that the Sculpture Trail would celebrate its 10th anniversary in 2018. An incident had occurred on a recent walk for health activity when one of the walkers was struck by a passing vehicles wing mirror. The group want to encourage young families to join their walks.

BUSINESS RELATING TO CAR PARK

9965

9965.1 To receive the Minutes of the Car Park Committee Meeting held on 9th January 2018.

IT WAS RESOLVED to adopt the Minutes of the meeting.

9965.2 Report of the Chair of the Car Park Committee

The Chair had no report.

9965.3 To receive a project update.

The Clerk informed Council that ADCMS Ltd had been appointed our consultant for Phase 2 of the project. A meeting was arranged at 7pm on Tuesday 30th January to discuss arrangements with St Modwen for temporary access through Reliance House prior to our construction phase starting.

The next Committee meeting would take place in Jacobs House at 6:30pm on Tuesday 6th February 2018.

BUSINESS RELATING TO STAFF

9966

9966.1 To receive the Minutes of the Staff Committee Meeting held on 5th December 2017.

IT WAS RESOLVED to adopt the Minutes of the meeting.

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9966.2 Report by the Chair of the Staff Committee

The Committee Chair thanked those who had carried out the recent interviews.

9966.3 Assistant Grounds Person

It was noted that the new member of staff had commenced the 12-week probationary period on the 8th January 2018.

HIGHWAYS

9967

To receive a report from Council's Highways Representative

In the absence of Cllr Hayes there was no update.

BUSINESS RELATING TO COMMUNITY SAFETY

9968

Cllr Nicholson noted he was disappointed to not have been invited to attend the ASB meeting on the 12th December and requested an invitation to future meetings.

Cllr Nicholson update Council on a meeting with PCSO Howells regarding the Speedwatch group. The group will recommence in March and will also focus attention on drivers using mobile phones. It is hoped the mobile camera can be situated on Uley Road in the near future.

Cllr Nicholson is somewhat disappointed by lack of recognition and support from the Roads Safety team and the police, with the notable exception of our local neighbourhood police team and the Special Constables.

CLERK'S REPORT

9969

The Clerk's report was noted.

INSPECTIONS

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The inspections & audits for February & March were noted.

The meeting closed at 8:25p.m.

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Town Mayor

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Date