

3rd April 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 3rd April 2018.

Action Summary:

10002 Town Clerk to contact Dursley Neighbourhood
Police team and SDC re 6th form events

PRESENT

Cllr N Grecian, Mayor

Councillors: S Abraham, A Sheffield, W Thomas, M Stennett, J Burdge, W Paice, M Woodward, M Nicholson, S Ackroyd, J Ball, S Creswick, L Patrick, B Cairns and P Hayes.

Also present: John Kay, Town Clerk, SDC Councillor Doina Cornell, a member of the Dursley Business Inclusive group and a Gazette reporter.

TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE 9988

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors A Whitwell and A Stennett (personal).

MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST 9989

There were no declarations of interest.

REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS 9990

There were no requests for dispensations.

COUNTY AND DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORTS 9991

Cllr Cornell referred to two items of correspondence raised by the Town Clerk. She had been investigating the query of the charging of business rates at Reliance House and advise that we should discuss over a meeting. The second is that she would ask the public space team to review the issues with waste collection at Victoria Close.

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Cllr Cornell reported that The Pulse has been doing exceptionally well, posting additional income of £147,000 over the target. This is viewed as an indicator of the decision to spend £1.5m in tough financial times as being a good decision for Dursley.

The review of car parking is ongoing, with the draft report showing all public carparks in Dursley are over 85% and considered to be at "full capacity". No date set for a consultation meeting with Dursley Town Council.

Cllrs Patrick and M Stennent joined the meeting.

The delayed decision of the S106 funding for community facilities will be taken at the Strategy & Resource Committee in April. It is recommended that funding be allocated to the Chantry Centre, Dursley Tabernacle, Dursley Community Centre and GL11. The funding isn't expected to be available until 2019/20.

County Cllr Patrick reported that GCC are planning to introduce a deposit on plastic bottles and ban single use plastics in their staff canteen and by 2025 they will aim to persuade suppliers not to use single use plastics.

Apologies were received from Cllr Hayward.

REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC 9992

There were no representations from the public.

MINUTES 9993

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 6th March 2018 were signed by the Mayor.

BUSINESS RELATING TO COUNCIL FINANCE 9994

9994.1 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.
- (iv) The management/budget report was noted. The Clerk explained the reason for the difference in the budget and actual figures for staff pay is the way the payments to HMRC had been split between staff budget codes. Overall staff costs are well under budget. The £1k donation from Dursley Lions was towards the new festive lights at the Town Hall.

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GREEN SPACES

9995

9995.1 To receive the Minutes of the Green Spaces Committee Meeting held on 20th March 2018.

IT WAS RESOLVED to adopt the Minutes of the meetings.

9995.2 Report of the Chair of the Green Spaces Committee

In the absence of the Chair, the Town Clerk reported that the new grass cutting contract was now underway and he had met with the new contractor. There were no immediate plans to cut the grass on the WMRG due to the wet ground conditions.

TOWN IMPROVEMENTS AND AMENITIES

9996

9996.1 Report of the Chair of the Town Improvements and Amenities Committee

The Chair informed the Council that the unveiling of the Listers Heritage Plaque would be taking place at 11am on the 7th April 2018. Councillors are invited to join Lister family members and ex-employees.

PLANNING

9997

9997.1 To receive the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 20th March 2018.

IT WAS RESOLVED to adopt the Minutes of the meetings.

9997.2 Report of the Chair of the Planning Committee

The Chair reported that the planning appeal had been granted for the mobile home at Ganzells Farm due to the agricultural requirement.

9997.3 Update on Future Dursley (Neighbourhood Development Plan)

The Town Clerk updated the Council on the status of the NDP and the Local Green Spaces designation, with Council being asked to approve the plan and associated documents at the next Council meeting, which would then be submitted to Stroud District Council for consultation and independent examination. It is anticipated the referendum will be held in late summer/autumn period.

POLICY AND FINANCE

9998

9998.1 Report by the Chair of the Policy and Finance Committee

The Chair had nothing to report.

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9998.2 Councillors' Reports

- (i) **Festive Dursley (7/3/18)** The group confirmed the date of 30th November for the event with the switch-on being pushed back to 6pm because of the feedback received from 2017. It was noted that festive volunteer and former Councillor Mike Doughty was currently very ill following a heart attack.
- (ii) **Dursley Business Inclusive (8/3/18)** – Cllr Woodward reported that she and Denver Thirwell would be arranging the stalls for the morning of the festival/carnival weekend. The DBI meeting at 5:30pm on 10th May would “double up” as a leaving celebration for PCSO Oli Clark.
- (iii) **Dursley Farmers Market (12/3/18)** – The Mayor opened the 2018 market season and commented that there were more stalls participating.
- (iv) **Dursley in Bloom (12/3/18)** – the judging will be held between 1-3pm on 17th July, the route will include Vale Hospital and Rednock School. It was noted that DIB member, Dursley Lion and former Town Councillor Dave Butterfield had recently passed away, his funeral will be held on Thursday 5th April.
- (v) **Carnival Dursley (19/3/18)** – The talent competition would take place on 20th May, setting up for the Carnival would commence on Wednesday 11th July. The open-air cinema will show Lion King, Grease and Mowana on Sunday 15th July.

It was noted that Cllr Jane Ball, the Council representative could not attend this meeting due to it being held on the top floor of Jacobs House. Cllr Ball also highlighted that hosting meetings at this location prevents people with mobility issues attending or becoming involved.

- (vi) **Antisocial Behaviour Meeting (27/3/18)** – A multi-agency follow up meeting regarding the problems of ASB in the town. The police supplied an update of the situation and actions being taken.

BUSINESS RELATING TO CAR PARK

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9999.1 Report of the Chair of the Car Park Committee

The Chair reported that with the Town Clerk he had met with John Hoskins (St Modwen's), regarding temporary access through the site earlier in the day. St Modwen's would like access for an 8 to 10-week period, with Long Street being closed for 2/3 days during the road realignment works to accommodate the new road layout.

9999.2 To receive a project update.

The Town Clerk updated Council on the latest position, including the recent letter drop to Long Street residents requesting they no longer park in front of the access. It is anticipated a Car Park Committee meeting will be held at the end of April to appoint a demolition contractor and review progress.

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BUSINESS RELATING TO STAFF

10000

10000.1 To receive the Minutes of the Staffing Committee Meeting held on 13th March 2018.

IT WAS RESOLVED to adopt the Minutes of the meetings.

10000.2 Report by the Chair of the Staff Committee

The Chair had no matters to report.

HIGHWAYS

10001

To receive a report from Council's Highways Representative

Cllr Hayes updated Council that pothole repairs in the town were being carried out, he remains concerned at the quality of the repairs. Some grit bins in the town had been replenished, it seemed to be only Town Council owned bins following correspondence with the Town Clerk.

Cllr Patrick had spoken to the GCC Cabinet member for Highways about replacement grit bins in the town.

BUSINESS RELATING TO COMMUNITY SAFETY

10002

Cllr Nicholson noted the update by the Town Clerk on the ASB issues within the town, worryingly linked to alcohol thefts and underage drinking. PC Lay (leading officer) has commended the positive response from business owners/traders who have been reporting incidents and providing witness statements.

Cllr Nicholson will be discussing a "City Safe" scheme with Special Constable Lindsay and encourage dialogue with the Dursley Business Inclusive group.

Cllr Nicholson reported that two arrests had taken place at the 6th Form event for Rednock students on Good Friday. Another event for students from Marling School/High School is planned in April. This is concerning due to the antisocial behaviour experienced at the last event in the autumn of 2017 due to the high levels of substance abuse/underage drinking and the ongoing problems.

IT WAS RESOLVED that the Council would contact the Dursley Neighbourhood Policing team and demand that this event is not permitted at this time. It was noted to "ban" this event the Council may need to present a witness statement to court. 13 Councillors voted for, Cllr Ackroyd voted against, Cllr Ball abstained.

Community Speedwatch will be underway in April and all volunteers will be made most welcome. GCC have now reviewed the signage request and dropped their objection to signage being placed at the entry points into Dursley which would allow more coverage in other locations of the town. This will be

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trilled for the period April/September 2018 with signs to be removed until the following spring.

CLERK'S REPORT 10003

The Clerk's report was noted.

INSPECTIONS 10004

The inspections & audits for April & May were noted.

BUSINESS DEALT WITH IN COMMITTEE 10005

10005.1 To resolve to exclude the press and public from the remainder of the meeting by reason of the confidential nature of the business.

IT WAS RESOLVED to carry out the remainder of business in committee due to the confidential nature of the business. Cllr Cornell and the Gazette reporter left the meeting.

10005.2 To receive an update on the probationary period of the Assistant Grounds Person.

The Town Clerk provided an update on the probationary period.

IT WAS RESOLVED to extend the probationary period until 8th May 2018.

The meeting closed at 7.55p.m.

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Town Mayor

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Date