

4th September 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, Dursley at 7pm on Tuesday 4th September 2018.

Action Summary: None

PRESENT

Cllr N Grecian, Mayor

Councillors: M Woodward (Deputy Mayor), S Abraham, L Patrick, J Ball, J Burdge, S Creswick, A Stennett, W Thomas, S Ackroyd, A Whitwell, M Stennett (from Item 10086), B Cairns.

Also present: John Kay, Town Clerk, Leah Wellings, Deputy Town Clerk.

TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE 10083

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors P Hayes (personal), A Sheffield (personal), M Nicholson (business), W Paice (business).

MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST 10084

There were no declarations of interest from members.

REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS 10085

There were no requests for dispensations.

REPORTS FROM COUNTY OR DISTRICT COUNCILLORS 10086

Cllr Loraine Patrick reported that she is enquiring which Gloucestershire County Council staff are being relocated to Dursley library in December. Cllr Patrick is meeting with the Cabinet member to discuss the recent cuts to bus services in Dursley, she will deliver the petition and highlight the concerns of those most impacted by the reduction of buses, including students and those travelling from Dursley to places of work.

Castle Street resurfacing is scheduled to take place at the end of November, this will require the road to be closed during works. The Town Clerk confirmed that the office are awaiting a response from GCC on the diversion route, impact on the town and the conflict with the annual Xmas switch-on event scheduled for the 30th November.

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Kingshill Lane will also see drainage and road repairs soon.

Cllr Abraham highlighted the condition of a minor lane, leading from Ferney towards The Broadwell which serves only a few homes. One resident struggled to travel over the uneven surface in their mobility scooter.

REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC 10087

There were no representations from the public.

MINUTES 10088

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 7th August 2018 were signed by the Mayor.

BUSINESS RELATING TO COUNCIL FINANCE 10089

10089.1 Council's Accounts for 2018/19

- (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 since the last Council meeting was noted. The Town Clerk confirmed that receipt of £4k from the "Rednock Band" (Voucher 58) was an internal bank transfer to Town Council account prior to the grant allocation be paid.
- (iv) The management/budget report was noted.

10089.2 Council Accounts for 2017/18

It was noted that the Annual Return had been approved and returned by the external auditor with no recommendations or comments.

GREEN SPACES 10090

Report of the Chair of the Green Spaces Committee

The Chair had nothing to report.

TOWN IMPROVEMENTS AND AMENITIES 10091

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Report of the Chair of the Town Improvements and Amenities Committee

The Chair had nothing to report.

PLANNING

10092

10092.1 To receive the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 21st August 2018

IT WAS RESOLVED to adopt the Minutes of the meeting.

10092.2 Report of the Chair of the Planning Committee

The Chair had nothing to report.

10092.3 Update on Future Dursley (Neighbourhood Development Plan)

It was noted that the independent examination was nearing completion and it is anticipated the report will be available within the next week. Such timing would allow for the referendum to be held in 2018.

POLICY AND FINANCE

10093

10093.1 Report by the Chair of the Policy and Finance Committee

The Chair had nothing to report.

10093.2 To receive an update on issuing Fixed Penalty Notices for Dog Fouling

The Town Clerk confirmed that Stroud District Council have agreed to facilitate a pilot project to allow Dursley Town Council to issue Fixed Penalty Notices on behalf of Stroud District Council.

The Town Clerk provided an update to Councillors on the legal agreement, training requirements and cost, risk assessment, process for identification and issuing of fines, provision of witness statements and the potential for taking the matter to court in the event of non-payment of fines.

Cllr Patrick asked if the dog owners would be given the opportunity to uplift the dog mess and not receive a fine. The Town Clerk confirmed that this would be an option and the grounds staff will be supplied bags to hand over to the dog owner.

Cllr Patrick left the meeting.

10093.3 To receive reports from the following meetings:

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- (i) **Dursley Business Inclusive** (9/8/18) – The meeting mainly concentrated on the proposed parking charges, but shortly afterwards the proposals were withdrawn by Stroud District Council.
- (ii) **Dursley in Bloom** (13/8/18) – The results of the 2018 competition will be announced on the 20th September.
- (iii) **GDPR briefing** (14/8/18) – The Mayor reported that the training course was informative and thought provoking with good explanations including the enjoyable “bingo” style element.
- (iv) **Cuts to Bus Services (Public Meeting)** (15/8/18) – Arranged by Cam and Dursley Transportation Group, supported by Cllr Loraine Patrick there were approximately 35 people in attendance, whom made their feeling and concerns know to the Stagecoach representative. A petition is ongoing and is available in many of the shops in Cam, Dursley and Berkeley. The online petition has over 200 signatures
- (v) **Dursley Welcomes Walkers** (28/8/18) – The festival programmes are now available in shops and at Jacob’s House, with over 30 walks available over the period 4th to 7th October. There are associated events including a quiz, a talk on the Vale of Berkeley railway and afternoon teas.
- (vi) **Youth Service Review** (24/7/18) –The latest review period showed a much more positive aspect on the youth service, with The Door Youth Project reviewing the services and sessions being provided. Changes include the introduction of a monthly Saturday morning café and an age split session at the request of the young people. Attendances are increased at both venues.

The Door Youth Project are holding a “Re-launch” event at 3pm on Monday 17th September, to which all councillors are invited. This will be an opportunity to raise the profile of the youth service, Vibe and to meet some of the young people whom attend the sessions.
- (vii) **Festive Dursley** (3/9/18) – The group are concerned with the impact of Castle Street being closed on the day of the switch on event. £360 was raised at the recent event held in Belle’s Kitchen and a quiz/raffle is being held in the Chantry Centre on 14th September. WSP Solicitors have kindly agreed to sponsor the town’s Christmas tree.
- (viii) **Flower and Produce Show** (1/9/18) – The Mayor attended the event which was well attended and had a good number of entries.
- (ix) **GL11/Rednock Event** (30/8/18) – The Mayor attended an event hosted by Rednock which raised funds for the GL11 project. The young people participating in the music event as part of a National Citizen Award project which they were undertaking, this element was to raise funds for a local good cause.

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BUSINESS RELATING TO STAFF

10094

10094.1 Report by the Chair of the Staff Committee

The Chair had nothing to report.

10094.2 Staff Appraisals

It was noted that staff appraisals would be held at the beginning of October.

BUSINESS RELATING TO CAR PARK

10095

10095.1 Report of the Chair of the Car Park Committee

The Chair had nothing to report.

10095.2 To receive a progress report.

The Town Clerk provided an update on the construction of a retaining wall which is required to strengthen an existing wall. This new structure is likely to require a Party Wall Agreement with the Town Clerk meeting with the engineer on Friday 7th September to confirm. This agreement is likely to delay the project's completion date and the construction of the wall has increased the construction period by 4 weeks to a 12-week delivery.

The revised layout of the car park has been submitted to SDC planning for approval.

Stroud District Council have preliminary awarded £40k from the Market Town Fund, this grant will be confirmed in January 2019.

HIGHWAYS

10096

To receive a report from Council's Highways Representative

In the absence of the Council's Highway Representative there was no report.

BUSINESS RELATING TO COMMUNITY SAFETY

10097

10097.1 To receive a report from Council's Police representative

In the absence of the Council's Highway Representative there was no report.

10097.2 To receive an update from the Dursley Neighbourhood Police team

The Dursley Neighbourhood Police team were not present to give a report.

CLERK'S REPORT

10098

The Clerk's report was noted.

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Cllr Ball highlighted that she has had no contact from Cllr Paice about the unreturned equipment and outstanding payment to the Dursley & District Community Association following the 2018 Carnival event. The Town Clerk acknowledged this and confirmed the matter was to be discussed at the Policy & Finance Committee meeting on the 11th September 2018.

INSPECTIONS

10099

The inspections for September and October were noted.

The meeting closed at 7:40p.m.

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Town Mayor

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Date