

2nd October 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 3rd October 2018.

Action Summary:

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| 10108.3 | To arrange removal and the replacement basket swing at Kingshill Play Area | 10111.3 | To arrange payment of the 2018/19 Small Grant awards |
| 10111.5 | To arrange payment to the Dursley Carnival creditors. | 10111.6 | To arrange payment of urgent grant to Stepping Stones Playgroup |

PRESENT

Cllr N Grecian, Mayor

Councillors: M Woodward (Deputy Mayor), P Hayes, A Sheffield, L Patrick, J Ball, S Creswick, A Stennett, S Ackroyd, A Whitwell, M Stennett & B Cairns.

Also present: John Kay, Town Clerk, Leah Wellings, Deputy Town Clerk, PCSO Lifton, Andy Beamish (SDC Neighbourhood Warden), Adrian Judge (Chantry Centre), SDC Cllrs Colin Fryer and Doina Cornell.

TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE 10100

The Mayor informed the Council that Cllr Jan Burdge had suffered an accident whilst on holiday at the weekend, which has required an emergency hip replacement operation and the Council would pass on our best wishes for a quick recovery.

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M Nicholson, J Burdge, S Abraham & W Thomas (all personal).

MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST 10101

Cllr Ball declared a pecuniary interest as an employee of the Dursley & District Community Centre, for minutes 10111.4 and 10111.5 (Agenda Items 13.4 and 13.5). Cllr Ackroyd declared a pecuniary interest as an employee of the Chantry Centre, for minute 10111.4 (Agenda Item 13.4) .

REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS 10102

There were no requests for dispensations.

RESIGNATION OF COUNCILLOR WAYNE PAICE 10103

The Town Clerk confirmed that he had received a verbal resignation from Cllr Wayne Paice on the 13th September due to family and working commitments. The Clerk would publish the Casual Vacancy notice.

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REPORTS FROM COUNTY OR DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

10104

Cllr Loraine Patrick reported that a community transport option was being reviewed to provide an additional bus service.

Cllr Fryer reported that the Tenant Involvement Plan was underway with the post being advertised.

Cllr Cornell reported that Cllr Alison Haywood had resigned her district councillor position as she has moved away from the area. A by-election will be held which could coincide with the Neighbourhood Development Plan referendum on the 15th November. Doina will include the referendum in her last leader's diary before the election purdah period commences.

Cllr Cornell updated the Council on the Local Plan Strategic Consultation which has been delayed due to concerns raised at the recent Environment Committee over site allocations. The eight-week consultation is likely to take place in early 2019 and includes sites within Dursley. This is the beginning of a long process which will see the plan adopted in 2020, Cllr Cornell hopes that Dursley Town Council will continue to engage in the process. This hybrid strategy proposes two large settlements (Sharpness & Wisloe Green) and dispersal sites within the district.

SDC will consider their budget for 2019/20 on 4th October 2018, with reserves being using to lessen the impact of reduced funds from central government etc.

Cllr Cornell met with the Mayor and Town Clerk earlier to discuss the charge associated with the Remembrance Day road closure. SDC had been unable to respond fully prior to the matter being raised in the local press and social media. Cllr Cornell felt this this had political consequences and that several distressing comments had been posted on social media with the rules of the Facebook group "Dursley Matters" not being enforced. It was acknowledged this was not managed by the Town Council.

Cllr Cornell stated she will be proud to lay a wreath as Leader of the District Council on the 11th November and that this disagreement should not detract from the importance and significance of this year's remembrance service. Stroud District Council have agreed to review their policy for local road closures to endure a consistent approach is adopted in future.

Cllr Cornell was asked to confirm what additional costs were borne by the Council and was this not an "inhouse" service performed by staff working their "normal day". Cllr Cornell responded that many "inhouse" services were subject to a charge, e.g. Planning. Charging for road closures had been the District Council's policy since 2007 although it would appear there have been some discrepancies which have now been highlighted by Dursley Town Council.

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REPRESENTATION FROM NEIGHBOURHOOD WARDEN 10105

New warden Andy Beamish introduced himself and provide an update on the restructure of the service, changes to shift patters and the roles being performed by the neighbourhood wardens including Careline visits. Andy had performed 10 such visits in the last week.

To receive an update from the Dursley Neighbourhood Police team 10106

IT WAS AGREED to bring forward the agenda item 17.2 and ask PCSO Lifton to provide his update. Between 3rd September and 1st October 2018; 66 incidents had been recorded of which only four were classed as Antisocial Behaviour – a significant improvement on the first half of 2018. A total of 27 Crimes were recorded, predominantly theft and shoplifting. The police had been called to two road traffic collisions during this timeframe.

One new PCSO had started working in Berkeley area with an existing Stroud based PCSO about to commence duty in Dursley.

Cllr Fryer, Andy Beamish and PCSO Lifton left the meeting.

REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC 10107

There were no representations from the public.

MINUTES 10108

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 4th September 2018 were signed by the Mayor.

BUSINESS RELATING TO COUNCIL FINANCE 10109

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 was noted, with the allotment fee confirmed as being received from a new tenant.
- (iv) The management/budget report was noted.

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GREEN SPACES

10108

10108.1 To receive the Minutes of the Green Spaces Committee Meeting held on 18th September 2018

IT WAS RESOLVED to adopt the Minutes of the meeting.

10108.2 Report of the Chair of the Green Spaces Committee

The Chair had nothing to report.

10108.3 Kingshill Play Area – Basket Swing

IT WAS RESOLVED to allocate the Play Area reserve fund of £2k to remove and replace the defective basket swing as identified in the 2018 Annual Play Inspection. Any additional expenditure will be met by the general reserve.

TOWN IMPROVEMENTS AND AMENITIES

10109

10109.1 Report of the Chair of the Town Improvements and Amenities Committee

In the absence of the Chair, there was nothing to report.

10109.2 Dursley In Bloom 2018

It was noted the Dursley In Bloom team had been awarded gold in this year's Heart of England "In Bloom" competition for the Small-Town category. The Mayor congratulated the volunteers on this achievement and thanked them for their hard work.

10109.3 Annual Inspection of Christmas Lighting

The Deputy Clerk updated Council on the maintenance works required following the inspection. Following the successful fund-raising efforts of the Festive Dursley group, including a grant of £1000 from Tesco Bags for Help, the new globes for the Town Hall have been purchased, the funding raised will also cover the installation costs.

At the current time there is no requirement to use the Council's reserve funds for Christmas Lighting.

PLANNING

10110

10110.1 To receive the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 18th September 2018

IT WAS RESOLVED to adopt the Minutes of the meeting.

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10110.2 Report of the Chair of the Planning Committee

The Chair highlighted that the importance of the Neighbourhood Development Plan following a pre-application discussion about a proposal outside of the settlement area within the woodlands. Cllr Ackroyd encouraged those eligible to vote in the upcoming referendum.

10110.3 Update on Future Dursley (Neighbourhood Development Plan)

The Town Clerk confirmed that the referendum was being held on 15th November 2018 and thanked the Councillors for their assistance in delivering the special NDP version of the Dursley Matters newsletter.

POLICY AND FINANCE

10111

10111.1 To receive the Minutes of the Policy & Finance Committee Meeting held on 11th September 2018

IT WAS RESOLVED to adopt the Minutes of the meeting.

10111.2 Report by the Chair of the Policy and Finance Committee

The Chair had nothing to report.

10111.3 Small Grants 2018/19

IT WAS RESOLVED to accept the recommendations of the Policy & Finance Committee:

Applicant	Brief Description	Amount	Conditions/Notes and Abstentions
Cotswold Vale Talking Newspaper	Memory sticks/website costs	£200	None
Henlow Court	Memory Café - memorabilia	£200	None
Dursley Friday Lunch Club	Coach Outing - early 2019	£350	None
D&D Good Neighbours Scheme	Driver remuneration for volunteer patient transport scheme	£500	None
Dursley in Bloom	New planters and hanging baskets	£500	None
Dursley Business Inclusive	Fireworks and entertainment at Xmas switch on event	£875	None
Shine On	To provide a 12-week pilot programme for a	£0	Refused

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	peer support group for women suffering from PND.		
GL11 Invisible Illness	Room hire costs and some art/craft materials.	£0	Refused

10111.4 Revenue Grants 2019/20

Cllrs Ball and Ackroyd left the meeting.

IT WAS AGREED to defer a decision on the grant application from Vale Hospital Allotment Project until the representative was able to attend.

Adrian Judge, representing the Chantry Centre responded to questions from Council in relation to the grant application and the updated information provided for Council.

IT WAS RESOLVED to accept the recommendations of the Policy & Finance Committee:

Applicant	Brief Description	Amount	Conditions/Notes and Abstentions
D&D Community Association	General Maintenance & running costs	£7,000	None
Kingshill House	National Story Telling Week (January 2019)	£1,000	An early payment will be made given the event timescale. Grant request only partly awarded.
Dursley Welcomes Walkers	Walking Festival and Lantern Way	£500	This grant will be valid for a period of three years (2019/20, 2020/21 and 2021/22)
Teens in Crisis	Face to Face & online counselling for young people	£3,975	None
Vale Vision	Insurance for Sculpture Trail	£500	Grant request only partly awarded.
Great Western Air Ambulance Charity	To help fund missions in Dursley	£1,000	None
Chantry Centre	To aid funding of air cooling/ventilation system in Lister Hall.	£4,000	None

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Adrian Judge was thanked for attending and left the meeting. Cllr Ackroyd returned to the meeting.

10111.5 Carnival Dursley 2018

The Town Clerk confirmed that the Council had received legal advice that a precedent would not be set by the Council settling unpaid invoices from the Carnival Dursley event on a goodwill basis.

IT WAS RESOLVED to accept the recommendation of the Policy & Finance Committee and settle the outstanding invoices.

Cllr Ball returned to the meeting.

10111.6 Urgent Grant Request: Stepping Stones Playgroup

IT WAS RESOLVED to approve the urgent request from Stepping Stone Playgroup for £250 towards set up costs for a small library. The group were to be reminded that grant requests should be received by our deadline at the end of August each year.

10111.7 To receive reports from the following meetings:

- (i) **Local Strategic Partnership** (7/9/18) – The Mayor referred to his notes previously distributed for this networking organisation.
- (ii) **Rotary Event** (10/9/18) – The Mayor and Deputy Mayor attended this event with the Mayor providing a short presentation on Future Dursley.
- (iii) **Vibe Network Meeting** (11/9/18) – All groups reporting much better behaviour in Dursley and provided updates on their organisation.
- (iv) **Youth Service Launch Meeting** (17/9/18) – Organised by The Door Youth Project, the Service Level Agreements were officially signed, and the event was well attended, including some of the young people who attend Vibe sessions.
- (v) **Dursley In Bloom** (24/9/18) – The group celebrated the recent gold ward for a third consecutive year. The Town Clerk was thanked by the group for his help, including driving members to the Heart of England awards ceremony in Burton-on-Trent.
- (vi) **SLCC Branch Meeting** (25/9/18) – The guest speaker was SLCC President David Preston, Clerk to Oswestry Town Council. The main subject was bullying in the sector, both staff and councillors and the impact of legislation changes, recent court cases, policies and reporting procedures.
- (vii) **Tourism Steering Group** (27/9/18) – First meeting since March, a wider group meeting planned for November including a representative from

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Cotswold Tourism. Updates included the loss of SDC tourism officers, new notice boards at Cam & Dursley train station.

- (viii) **Festive Dursley** (1/10/18) – Only two more meeting until the annual event, volunteers/marshals required on the day, including constructing a winter wonderland area.

BUSINESS RELATING TO STAFF

10112

Report by the Chair of the Staff Committee

The Chair had nothing to report.

BUSINESS RELATING TO CAR PARK

10113

10113.1 To receive the Minutes of the Car Park Committee Meeting held on 25th September 2018

IT WAS RESOLVED to adopt the Minutes of the meeting.

10113.2 Report of the Chair of the Car Park Committee

The Chair had nothing to report.

10113.3 To receive a progress report.

The Town Clerk provided an update on the planning application amendment and the party wall agreement. Stroud District Council had accepted responsibility for the Japanese knotweed in the neighbouring town green area and had treated the noxious weed.

Our consultant has been requested to obtain two more quotes for the wall construction to ensure best value.

10113.4 To approve the recommendation of the Committee regarding the car park policies.

Cllr Ackroyd and the Town Clerk presented the committee recommendations to the Council. **IT WAS RESOLVED** to accept the recommendation in relation to the car park:

a) Charging/Enforcement

- Car Park to be designated Long Stay – maximum stay 23 hours in any 24-hour period for all motorised vehicles
- No charges for parking to be introduced at this time.
- Penalties to be issued for over staying 23-hour limit, with penalty charges at recognised standard rates, similar to existing (SDC maintained) car parks in Dursley.
- ANPR/CCTV methods of enforcement to be further investigated.

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- Membership of the British Parking Association to be investigated.

b) Permits

- No permits to be issued for the car park at this time but the committee will review usage of the parking.

HIGHWAYS

10114

To receive a report from Council's Highways Representative

Cllr Hayes reported that a new Highway Contractor had been announced; Ringway who would be taking over from Amey. It was hoped this would see an improvement in the local highway network with a change of contractor.

Cllr Hayes reported his concerns with drain cleaning not being carried out and potholes in the area and will report trees overhanging footpaths near Rednock School.

BUSINESS RELATING TO COMMUNITY SAFETY

10115

To receive a report from Council's Police representative

Cllr Stennett reported that the Speedwatch group had been out monitoring recently and continue to record speeds well above the signed speed limits.

CLERK'S REPORT

10116

The Clerk's report was noted. Cllr Ackroyd confirmed he would attend the upcoming meeting of the Stinchcombe Hill Trust.

The Mayor reported that he had attended the recent Town Trust meeting. The trustees discussed alternatives to the lift project, maintenance of the building and increasing awareness of the trust and the town hall by hosting heritage days. The report of "green goo" (degraded di-isooctyl phthalate) within the electrical wiring at Jacobs House was noted during the recent lighting improvements. This may result in the need for re-wiring in 10 years' time.

INSPECTIONS

10117

The inspections for October and November were noted.

The meeting closed at 8:20p.m.

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Town Mayor

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Date