

5<sup>th</sup> March 2019

## 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 5<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

Action Summary:

- 10195 To invite a representative of St Modwen to attend the Annual Assembly as keynote speaker.

### PRESENT

Cllr N Grecian, Mayor

Councillors: M Woodward (Deputy Mayor), A Sheffield, A Stennett, W Thomas, B Cairns, A Whitwell, M Stennett, P Hayes, S Abraham, S Creswick, L Patrick (From Item 10183), J Burdge, S Ackroyd and T Arnold.

Also present: John Kay, Town Clerk; Leah Wellings, Deputy Town Clerk; Jemma Grieve, Stroud District Council and five members of the Dursley & Cam Youth Forum.

Absent: Cllr Jane Ball.

TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE 10178

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor M Nicholson (business).

MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST 10179

There were no declarations of interest.

REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATIONS 10180

There were no requests for dispensations.

REPORTS FROM COUNTY OR DISTRICT COUNCILLORS 10181

There were no County or District Councillors present, but Cllr Loraine Patrick had provided prior to the meeting a "County Update" on the 2019/20 budget.

Cllr Cornell had offered her apologies for the meeting and provided a written update on the proposal to allocate funding for a "Technical Investigation" to confirm level of viability, the procurement approach and the extent of property to be acquired at May Lane/Prospect Place development site known locally as "The Old Dairy".

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BUSINESS RELATING TO COMMUNITY SAFETY

10182

To receive a report from Dursley's Neighbourhood Police representative

In PC Lay's absence it was confirmed that Sgt Lovell had left the team, with Sgt Andy Burfoot joining. PCSO Charlotte King has joined the Stroud team, with PCSO Lifton and Barker remaining the allocated PCSO's for Dursley.

Investigations are continuing into a recent assault in Forge Road which resulted in a young person sustaining a broken wrist.

The Town Clerk reported that on behalf of PC Lay he will enquire with the town's traders to establish if there was any antisocial behaviour connected to young people frequenting the town centre. Cllr Abraham reported that she was unaware of any current issues.

Cllr Patrick joined the meeting.

REPRESENTATION FROM CAM & DURSLEY YOUTH FORUM

10183

Five members of the youth forum provided an update on recent actions and membership of the forum. This included meetings, the governance of the group and links to the Stroud District Youth Council. The group have been involved in a number of visits and activities in the last eight months including: speed checks, meeting Town Clerk/Neighbourhood Warden/PCSO's, training opportunities and attending the Glos Constabulary Open Day.

The group provided information on projects including access to doctors' surgeries; some young people find intimidating and an initiative to reduce young pregnancies and sexual transmitted diseases by issuing free condoms to under 25's.

The forum plan to raise awareness and hopefully increase membership by liaising with Rednock School and holding a music-based event.

The forum members responded to questions from Councillors on membership, Rednock School Youth Council, funding and links with other groups.

The Councillors thanked the forum members for their very well-presented report and congratulated them in what they had achieved in very short time with a modest membership.

REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

10184

There were no representations from the public.

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MINUTES

10185

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2019 were signed by the Mayor.

BUSINESS RELATING TO COUNCIL FINANCE

10186

Council's Accounts for 2018/19

10186.1 **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Mayor would sign the schedule of payments.

10186.2 **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Mayor would sign the bank reconciliation.

10186.3 The income received since the last Council meeting was noted. The Town Clerk confirmed the VAT return was higher than normal due to increased expenditure for the car park project and that the business rates for Reliance House had been returned in full by Stroud District Council.

10186.4 The management/budget report was noted.

GREEN SPACES

10187

10187.1 Report of the Chair of the Green Spaces Committee

The Chair reported an agreement had been reached with Broxap over the matter of repairs being carried out at the gym equipment prior to an official order being issued. The Town Council received a 50% discount reducing the cost to £250 + vat.

The next meeting of the Green Spaces Committee includes an annual invitation to regular users of the War Memorial Recreation Ground and allotment tenants. To date there hasn't been too much response and the Chair requested Councillors to encourage those who can to attend.

10187.2 Damaged Zip Wire at Highfields Play Area

The Town Clerk updated the Council on the ongoing matter following the replacement seat being damaged by a large dog. The recent press release and social media request for information had seen a positive response with the police enquiries continuing. The zip wire will remain out of action until the investigation is completed. It is expected a more detailed update will be available next month.

TOWN IMPROVEMENTS AND AMENITIES

10188

5<sup>th</sup> March 2019

10188.1 Report of the Chair of the Town Improvements and Amenities Committee

The Chair had nothing to report.

10188.2 Pancake Race 2019

The annual pancake race was held in Parsonage Street at 12pm on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2019. This year's chosen beneficiary will be the Henlow Court Activity Fund. The event was well attended by both participants and spectators. The event was filmed by ITV West, photographed by Stroud News & Journal and drone coverage provided by Global Media.

It was noted that there had been no collection buckets for the charity present. This was something previously arranged by the relevant charity, the Town Council don't have a license for collecting in this way. This would be reviewed in advance of next year's race.

PLANNING

10189

10189.1 To receive the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meetings held on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2019.

**IT WAS RESOLVED** to adopt the Minutes of the meetings.

10189.2 Report of the Chair of the Planning Committee

The Chair reported that the Committee had responded to Stroud District Council regarding S.18/2330/FUL Site for Erection of Livestock Shelter, Ganzell Lane Retention of Field Shelter to state that the Town Council expects this to be the end of permitted development on the above Ganzell Lane site and request confirmation of this from Stroud District Council. To date no response has been received.

POLICY AND FINANCE

10190

10190.1 To receive the Minutes of the Policy & Finance Committee Meeting held on 19<sup>th</sup> February 2019.

**IT WAS RESOLVED** to adopt the Minutes of the meeting.

10190.2 Report by the Chair of the Policy and Finance Committee

The Chair had nothing to report.

10190.3 To receive an update on Investments

The Town Clerk presented the report on investments, it includes a withdrawal of £150,000 from the Barclays Savings account required for current expenditure.

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10190.4 To consider recommendation for the transfer of Council reserves.

**IT WAS RESOLVED** to accept the recommendation of the Policy and Finance Committee with regard to Council reserves.

10190.5 To consider recommendation to approve revisions to Council policies.

**IT WAS RESOLVED** to approve the revised Community Engagement and Risk Management policies.

10190.6 To receive reports from the following meetings:

- (i) **Summer Festive** (24/1/19) – The next meeting will take place at 5:30pm on 14<sup>th</sup> March, all Councillors are welcome to attend.
- (ii) **SDC Parish/Town Seminar** (30/1/19) – The Mayor had previously provided minutes for the meeting, the key points were the New CEO of Stroud District Council, Budget and Brexit. The Neighbourhood Wardens are considered a valuable resource, but not supported by all Town & Parish Councils.
- (iii) **Town Trust** – Cllr Creswick reported that she was only Council appointed trustee to attend. It was suggested that the Council meet with the Trustees to discuss the future and support for the Trust for a number of small projects. The Trust should be encouraged to meet in Jacobs House if the Town Hall is unavailable. One new Town Council appointed Trustee is required, this can be a resident volunteer.
- (iv) **Festive Dursley** (11/2/19) – The group now using the store at Kingshill House and are having a promises auction on 23<sup>rd</sup> May to raise funds.
- (v) **Dursley in Bloom** (11/2/19) – The group now have a poly tunnel and greenhouse for growing plants, to save planting costs. This year's theme is water, the group considering the spring at Carpenters Arms. This year's judging day is being held on 10<sup>th</sup> July. The Pin Mill and Broadwell areas were suggested as areas which would tie in well with the water theme although both would need considerable work.
- (vi) **Youth Service Review** (21/2/19) – The key points were the membership of the review group, content of the quarterly report, overview of service, trips and funding.
- (vii) **Dursley Welcomes Walkers** (27/2/19) – Considering a new walk taking in 5 church yards and alterations to footpaths including Twinberrow Woods.
- (viii) **Vale Vision** (4/3/19) – Cllr Stennett unable to attend only 24 hours' notice given. The Town Clerk to request dates of future meetings.
- (ix) **Stroud Road Safety Group** (5/3/19) – The group considering the use of ANPR cameras to enforce speed limits within the district.

BUSINESS RELATING TO STAFF

10191

Report by the Chair of the Staff Committee

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It was noted that the Staffing Committee scheduled for 12<sup>th</sup> March had been cancelled.

BUSINESS RELATING TO CAR PARK

10192

10192.1 Report of the Chair of the Car Park Committee

The Chair raised the matter of the Committee as it would be going into a third year. The Town Clerk confirmed the committee was set up until the completion of the car park. The management of the car-park would then revert to another of the Town Council's committees.

10192.2 To receive a progress report.

The Town Clerk provided an update on the delayed progress of the car park, including an issue with the street lighting planning conditions which resulted in the columns being ordered approximately two weeks ago, with a lead in time of 10-12 weeks. Resurfacing is scheduled to start on 6<sup>th</sup> March 2019.

The Town Clerk provided an update on the application to the British Parking Association and the Approved Operators status, due to legislation restricting Parish & Town Councils the Town Clerk has had to investigate alternatives to in-house monitoring and issuing of penalty notices. Discussions with alternative providers are continuing and proposals/quotations will be considered soon by the Car Park Committee.

HIGHWAYS

10193

To receive a report from Council's Highways Representative

Cllr Hayes had nothing Dursley related to report.

BUSINESS RELATING TO COMMUNITY SAFETY

10194

To receive a report from Council's Police representative

In the absence of Cllr Nicholson, there was no report, but current police matters had been covered earlier in the meeting.

CLERK'S REPORT

10195

The Clerk's report was noted.

**IT WAS AGREED** to invite a representative from St Modwen as the keynote speaker at this year's Annual Assembly.

Cllr Ackroyd confirmed he would be attending a meeting of the Stinchcombe Hill Trustees on the 28<sup>th</sup> March

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INSPECTIONS

10196

The inspections for March & April were noted. The Town Clerk will continue sending reminders to Councillors by email.

The meeting closed at 8:20p.m.

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Town Mayor

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Date