

1st October 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 1st October 2019.

Action Summary:

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| 10301.2 | To issue award and letters and payment for the 2019/20 Small Grants | 10301.3 | To issue award and rejection letters for the 2020/21 Revenue Grants |
| 10301.4 | To issue decision to Dursley Creatives re Revenue Grant application | 10301.5 | To add Climate Change to a future Policy & Finance agenda. |

PRESENT

Cllr N Grecian (Mayor)

Councillors: J Burdge, P Hayes, S Ackroyd, A Sheffield, W Thomas, A Stennett, J Smee, J. Ball, A Whitwell, L Patrick, K Reynolds and D Thirlwell.

Also present: John Kay, Town Clerk; Leah Wellings, Deputy Town Clerk; Stroud District Councillors Cornell and Hall; Pippa Jones, Dursley Creatives and a member of the public.

TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE 10291

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M Woodward (Deputy Mayor), S Creswick, S Abraham and M Stennett (all personal).

MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST 10292

Councillors Ball, Ackroyd and Reynolds declared pecuniary interests as potential recipients of grants (Agenda Item 11.2 & 11.3; Minutes 10301.2 & 10301.3).

REPORTS FROM COUNTY OR DISTRICT COUNCILLORS 10293

Cllr Patrick had no update for Council as she had just returned from holiday.

Cllr Cornell positively commented on the accessibility of the venue. The Strategy & Resource Committee are meeting to discuss the budget for 2020/21 and District Councils have received a one-year settlement from central government. Stroud District to review and publish their fee and charges for consistency across the district. A community lottery to be introduced to raise funds for local good causes commencing in 2020.

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A board including representatives from Stroud District Council has been set up to investigate the long-term option of having an additional River Severn crossing, most likely rail only.

A workshop was recently held on Climate Action Control included some local Parish & Town Councils.

Cllr Hall highlighted speeding concerns in Woodmancote and St George's Road. It was noted the Speedwatch hadn't been as active in 2019 due to lack of volunteers.

BUSINESS RELATING TO COMMUNITY SAFETY 10294

To receive a report from Dursley's Neighbourhood Police representative

There were no representations from Dursley's Neighbourhood Police Team, the Town Clerk provided an update on the recent arson attacks at the War Memorial Recreation Ground.

REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC 10295

Pippa Jones representing Dursley Creatives provided the Councillors information on the aims of the group and the project for a resident artist in Dursley as part of the 2020/21 revenue grant application. Pippa responded to questions from Councillors relating to other funding, other art groups in the area, the scope of the "artists", how success would be measured.

The Mayor thanked Pippa for her contribution, and she left the meeting.

MINUTES 10296

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 3rd September 2019 were signed by the Mayor.

BUSINESS RELATING TO COUNCIL FINANCE 10297

10297.1 Council's Accounts for 2019/20

10297.1(i) **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Mayor would sign the schedule of payments.

10297.2(ii) **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the Mayor would sign the bank reconciliation. The Town Clerk confirmed that the Council were up to date with PAYE contributions.

10297.1(iii) The income received since the last Council meeting was noted. The Town Clerk confirmed the £0.00 entry would be removed from the list of income.

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10297.1(iv) The management/budget report was noted.

GREEN SPACES

10298

10298.1 To receive the Minutes of the Green Spaces Committee Meeting held on the 17th September 2019.

IT WAS RESOLVED to adopt the Minutes of the meetings.

10298.2 Report of the Chair of the Green Spaces Committee

The Chair reported that official opening of the new Petanque Court on the War Memorial Recreation Ground was scheduled for the 22nd October 2019.

10298.3 Dursley Fireworks Display 2019

It was noted the annual firework display would be held on the War Memorial Recreation Ground on Saturday 2nd November 2019.

TOWN IMPROVEMENTS AND AMENITIES

10299

10299.1 Report of the Chair of the Town Improvements and Amenities Committee

The Chair had nothing to report.

10299.2 Dursley in Bloom

It was noted that the Dursley In Bloom group were awarded a Gold certificate in the 2019 Heart of England "In Bloom" competition. The councillors gave a round of applause.

PLANNING

10300

10300.1 To receive the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on the 24th September 2019.

IT WAS RESOLVED to adopt the Minutes of the meetings.

10300.2 Report of the Chair of the Planning Committee

The Chair reported that the September planning meeting had to be postponed due to the number of apologies received.

POLICY AND FINANCE

10301

10301.1 Report by the Chair of the Policy and Finance Committee

In the absence of the Chair there was no report.

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10301.2 To consider the 2019/20 Small Grant Applications

Councillors Ball, Ackroyd and Reynolds left the meeting.

The Town Clerk presented the committee recommendations for the Small Grant applications.

IT WAS RESOLVED to accept the recommendations of the Committee in full:

Applicant	Brief Description	Amount
Home Start – Stroud District	Training Volunteers	£750
Dursley Friday Lunch Club	To provide Christmas meal	£400
Vale Vision	Insurance for Sculpture Trial	£500
Cotswold Vale Talking Newspaper	Additional Recordings	£100
Dursley in Bloom	Purchase hanging baskets, plants.	£500
Dursley & District Good Neighbours	Administration costs including mileage allowance	£500
Dursley & Cam Royal British Legion	Advertising for Veterans Breakfast Club	£500
Stepping Stone Pre-School	Improve outdoor area	£500
Dursley Town AFC	New pitch marking equipment	£400

10301.3 To consider the 2020/21 Revenue Grant Applications

The Town Clerk presented the committee recommendations for the Small Grant applications.

IT WAS RESOLVED to accept the recommendations of the Committee in full:

Applicant	Brief Description	Amount	Conditions/Notes and Abstentions
D&D Community Association	General Maintenance & running costs	£5,000	The funding to be allocated to IT, redecoration and general maintenance.
Great Western Air Ambulance Charity	To help fund missions in Dursley	£1,750	None
Twinberrow Foundation	To fund woodland management	£3,000	The Foundation to be encouraged to seek other grant opportunities

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Kingshill House	National Story Telling Week (January 2019)	£1,000	Grant request only partly awarded.
MOBS Dursley	To cover running costs,	£750	Grant partially awarded to cover room hire and sundries.
Chantry Centre	Air Cooling/Ventilation system	£4,000	Grant award subject to receipt of up to date financial position and success in obtaining funding for the whole project.

Councillors Ball, Ackroyd and Reynolds returned to the meeting.

10301.4 To consider the 2020/21 Revenue Grant Application from Creative Dursley.

The Councillors considered the merits of the application and the additional information provided earlier in the meeting.

IT WAS RESOLVED to refuse the application on this occasion. Councillors invited Creative Dursley to re-apply in the future with a more focussed application with clear outcomes and co-ordination with other groups in the Dursley area.

Councillors Ball, Ackroyd and Reynolds abstained.

10301.5 To receive reports from the following meetings:

- (i) **Cotswold Edge & Severn Vale Tourism** – The guest speaker was from Marketing Glos who talked about digitally reaching tourists. The Eating/Drinking map was launched which has generated local interest. A link to the map is available on the Visit Dursley tab on the website.
- (ii) **Dursley Welcomes Walkers** – The festival starts on the 2nd October and the Mayor encouraged all to take part and support the 5-day event.
- (iii) **Greenway** – The volunteers are having meetings with landowners, St Modwens and Gloucestershire County Council to improve signage on the route.
- (iv) **Festive Dursley** – Plans in place for similar event to last year with some additions in the Church area. Volunteers are required for marshalling and other duties on the day.
- (v) **Carbon Neutral** – Cllr Reynolds represented the Town Council at this meeting arranged by Stroud District Council, approx 15 Paris/Town Councils were represented. It discussed several ways in which smaller organisations could make a difference and the merits of declaring a climate emergency. **IT WAS AGREED** that this topic should be considered by the Policy & Finance Committee.

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Cllr Patrick reminded the Council about a scheme many years ago to reduce the use of plastic bags by producing hessian "Dursley" bags.

- (vi) **Maiden Presentation**– The Deputy Clerk attended a presentation from Inform Gloucestershire, this is a platform which the Town Council could obtain and analyse data from including accessibility, trends and projections.

BUSINESS RELATING TO STAFF

10302

Report by the Chair of the Staff Committee

The Chair reported that the annual staff appraisals had been completed.

BUSINESS RELATING TO CAR PARK

10303

10303.1 Report of the Chair of the Car Park Committee

The Chair had nothing to report.

10303.2 To receive a progress report.

The Town Clerk reported that a few parking charges had been issued with the incorrect reason stated on the paperwork. This had been an error, and all had been rescinded. There remains a minor technical issue with the ANPR camera which our contractor is reviewing.

HIGHWAYS

10304

To receive a report from Council's Highways Representative

Cllr Hayes reported that works had started on Kingshill Road but various drains which have not been cleaned and are full of silt despite repeated communication with GCC Highways.

The commitment to install new highway parking signage prior to the 2019 Walking Festival had not been met by GCC Highways.

BUSINESS RELATING TO COMMUNITY SAFETY

10305

To receive a report from Council's Police representative

There was nothing to add to the matter discussed earlier in the meeting (Minute: 10294).

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BUSINESS RELATING TO WORKING GROUPS AND OUTSIDE BODIES
REPRESENTATIVES 10306

IT WAS RESOLVED that Cllr Thomas and Cllr Reynolds would be appointed Environmental Representatives for Council.

CLERK'S REPORT 10307

The Clerk's report was noted.

INSPECTIONS 10308

The inspections for October and November were noted.

The meeting closed at 20:35pm.

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Town Mayor

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Date