

2nd June 2020

## **DURSLEY TOWN COUNCIL**

MINUTES of the PROCEEDINGS at the 'virtual' MEETING of the COUNCIL held online via the 'Zoom' platform at 7pm on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2020.

Action Summary:

10406.3 To award payment to Dursley Town AFC    10407.2 To award payment of grant to GL11

### **PRESENT**

Cllr N Grecian (Mayor)

Councillors: M Woodward (Deputy Mayor), P Hayes, A Stennett, M Stennett, A Sheffield, S Ackroyd, J. Ball, J Smee, J Rubin, L Patrick, W Thomas and S Creswick.

Also present: John Kay, Town Clerk; Leah Wellings, Deputy Town Clerk and SDC Councillor Doina Cornell.

### **TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

10398

Apologies for absence were received at the end of the meeting from Councillors A Whitwell and J Burdge (personal).

### **MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

10399

Cllr Jane Ball declared a pecuniary interest for minute 10403(i) (agenda item 6.1) and a non-pecuniary interest for minute 10407.2 (agenda item 10.2) as an employee of the Dursley & District Community Association who received payment of a grant from Dursley Town Council.

Cllr Symon Ackroyd declared a pecuniary interest for minute 10403(i) (agenda item 6.1) as a recipient and a non-pecuniary interest for minute 10407.2 (agenda item 10.2) as a director of the Chantry Centre who received payment of a grant from Dursley Town Council.

Cllr Wendy Thomas declared a pecuniary interest for minute 10407.2 (agenda item 10.2) as her spouse was an employee of the applicant.

### **REPRESENTATIONS FROM COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

10400

Cllr Patrick had nothing to report from Gloucestershire County Council but continued send regular updates to Council.

Cllr Cornell highlighted that she had not received recent agendas, the Town Clerk agreed to ensure future agendas were sent to District Councillors.

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Stroud District Council have been busy during the pandemic and kept essential services going. GL11 have been an excellent example of a local community organisation aiding the vulnerable during the crisis.

SDC have issued grants to businesses and local organisations. A new grant fund available for small businesses who have not previously met the criteria for business rate returns.

SDC reviewing processes of supporting vulnerable people through the recovery period, this may include aiding people who need to self-isolate through the new track and trace system. This includes the re-opening of non-essential services over the next few weeks.

SDC meetings are now taking place online with Committees beginning to reconvene including the Development Control Committee. Virtual site visits will be commencing for planning applications.

SDC have received an EU grant to aid reopening the “High Street”, this will include Dursley and other market towns in the District. Further information will be made available by SDC.

SDC will look at the long-term impact, with four key strands: Economy, Housing, Community & Environment.

REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC 10401

There were no representations from the public.

MINUTES 10402

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2020 were signed by the Mayor.

BUSINESS RELATING TO COUNCIL FINANCE 10403

Council’s accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021:

- (i) It was confirmed by the Town Clerk that the payments listed were for the current financial year. **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the schedule of payments 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. It was commented that income to the Council is reduced because of the Covid-19 restrictions.

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

TOWN IMPROVEMENTS AND AMENITIES

10404

Report of the Chair of the Town Improvements and Amenities Committee

The Chair highlighted an enquiry from a business located on Parsonage Street requesting if the Town Council had any plans for social distancing when more non-essential shops open in June. The Councillors considered options and commented of the complications with traffic and pedestrians at this location.

**IT WAS AGREED** that a meeting of the Town Improvements Committee be held at 18:30 on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> June on Zoom to discuss this in more detail.

PLANNING

10405

10405.1 To receive the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on the 26<sup>th</sup> May 2020.

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

10405.2 Report of the Chair of the Planning Committee

The Chair had nothing to report.

10405.3 To setup a Working Group to consider SDC's Consultation on Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO's) Relating to the Control of Dogs.

**IT WAS AGREED** that Cllrs A Stennett, Woodward and Thomas would form the working group and report back to Council on 1<sup>st</sup> July 2020. Cllr Whitwell to be offered the opportunity to represent the Planning Committee.

GREEN SPACES

10406

10406.1 To receive the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on the 26<sup>th</sup> May 2020.

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

10406.2 Report of the Chair of the Green Spaces Committee

The Chair reported that discussions are ongoing with Cllr Cornell and The Pulse over a proposal to use the War Memorial Recreation Ground for a circuit style exercise class. The proposal included the request to waive the normal fee for this type of exercise, to which the Committee had refused at the recent meeting. A discount for smaller groups (less than 20) does apply.

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10406.3 To approve the funding request from Dursley Town AFC

**IT WAS RESOLVED** to award funding to Dursley Town AFC a sum of £478.80 in relation to matchday VAT costs.

POLICY AND FINANCE

10407

10407.1 Report of the Chair of the Policy and Finance Committee

The Chair had nothing to report.

10407.2 To consider the funding request from GL11 Community Project

The Councillors considered the funding request for food boxes for Dursley based families.

**IT WAS RESOLVED** to award the grant of £1,500 to GL11 Community Project. Cllrs A Stennett and Ball abstained.

BUSINESS RELATING TO STAFF

10408

Report by the Chair of the Staff Committee

It was noted that the scheduled meeting of the Green Spaces committee on 9<sup>th</sup> June 2020 had been cancelled.

CLERK'S REPORT

10409

The Clerk provided an update on the current staffing and workload. Jacobs House painting is not yet completed and has been delayed due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

INSPECTIONS

10410

It was noted that all inspections had been suspended due to the Covid-19 pandemic. This will be reviewed at the July meeting of Council.

The meeting closed at 19:55pm.

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Town Mayor

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Date