

7th July 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 7th July 2020.

Action Summary:

10413 To write to Gloucestershire Constabulary regarding PCSO
10421.4 Award Grant to Churches Together
10419.3 To submit response to SDC consultation on PSPO's

PRESENT

Cllr N Grecian (Mayor)

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

Also present: John Kay, Town Clerk; Leah Wellings, Deputy Town Clerk and Victoria Robson, The Door Youth Project.

TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE 10411

Apologies for absence were received at the end of the meeting from Councillor A Whitwell, J Smee & J Rubin (personal).

MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST 10412

Cllr Jane Ball declared a non-pecuniary interest for minute 10421.4 (agenda item 10.5) as an employee of the Dursley & District Community Association who received payment of a grant from Dursley Town Council.

REPRESENTATIONS FROM COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS 10413

Cllr Cornell provided her apologies for the meeting.

Cllr Patrick informed the Councillors that the local PCSO Mark Lifton was been moved to another area. This was disappointing as PCSO Lifton has created strong links in the community and there have been several changes to the Dursley Neighbourhood Police team in the last few years.

IT WAS RESOLVED to write to the Police & Crime Commissioner to request this decision to be reviewed.

Cllr Patrick has diverted some funding to The Door Youth Project. The funding had previously been identified to fund play days, but this was unlikely to happen due to the current Covid-19 restrictions.

7th July 2020

REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

10414

Victoria Robson, representing The Door Youth Project thanked the Councillors for agreeing to review the recent funding decision on the youth contract. Although the youth sessions at Vibe had ceased the organisation had remained continually active in the area throughout the lockdown period.

IT WAS AGREED to bring forward agenda item 10.3

YOUTH SERVICE FUNDING

10415

The Mayor and the Town Clerk provided an update on youth provisions carried out by The Door Youth Project throughout the lockdown period including a telephone service, online support, activities, presence at Rednock School and detached youth working in the town.

IT WAS RESOLVED that The Door Youth Project had demonstrated sufficient alternative youth provision and that the quarterly payment should be made in full.

Victoria Robson left the meeting.

The Town Clerk provided an update on setting up a support group to which The Door Youth Project were requesting an addition £500 towards the set-up costs. The Councillors expressed their support for this group and funding.

IT WAS AGREED to add this matter to the next Council meeting agenda.

MINUTES

10416

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 2nd June 2020 were agreed as true record and signed by the Mayor.

BUSINESS RELATING TO COUNCIL FINANCE

10417

Council's accounts for the year ending 31st March 2021:

- (i) The Clerk confirmed the faculty payment was required to obtain permission to make safety repairs to several memorials in St Marks churchyard.
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. The Town Clerk explained the "refund" due to an accounting error.
- (iv) The management/budget report was noted.

7th July 2020

TOWN IMPROVEMENTS AND AMENITIES

10418

10418.1 To receive the Minutes of the Town Improvements Committee Meeting held on the 9th June 2020

IT WAS RESOLVED to adopt the Minutes of the meeting.

10418.2 Report of the Chair of the Town Improvements and Amenities Committee

The Chair had nothing to report.

10418.3 Town Centre Safety Matters

It was reported that the Town Clerk had erected social distancing reminder signage in the town centre. Regular marshalling had been deemed not required and pedestrian safety in Parsonage Street was not an issue following the opening of several businesses. It was noted that social distancing at the new barber shop in Parsonage Street was not always observed due to the number of customers queuing.

A meeting with Paul Helbrow, GCC Local Highway Manager had resulted in two additional signs being placed in Silver Street, with queues at the barbers being the only real area of congestion but was being managed and the footway was wide enough to accommodate pedestrians.

The Council thanked Paul for erecting the signs so quickly following the meeting.

The Town Improvements committee would be considering whether to apply to the funding available for "Re-opening the High Street" at the next committee meeting.

PLANNING

10419

10419.1 To receive the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on the 16th June 2020.

IT WAS RESOLVED to adopt the Minutes of the meeting.

10419.2 Report of the Chair of the Planning Committee

The Chair had nothing to report.

10419.3 To consider the recommendations of the Working Group to consider SDC's Consultation on Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO's) Relating to the Control of Dogs.

IT WAS RESOLVED to accept the recommendations and for the comments to be submitted to Stroud District Council.

GREEN SPACES

10420

10420.1 Report of the Chair of the Green Spaces Committee

The Chair had nothing to report.

10420.2 To receive an update on anti-social behaviour on the War Memorial Recreation Ground

The Council had received complaints of anti-social behaviour at the pentanque court of the WMRG. This included a bin fire; no damage was done to the metal bin. The matter has been reported to the local PCSO's and the Clerk will consider this area to be covered by the increased provision of CCTV.

POLICY AND FINANCE

10421

10421.1 To receive the Minutes of the Policy & Finance Committee Meeting held on the 16th June 2020.

IT WAS RESOLVED to adopt the Minutes of the meeting.

10421.2 Report of the Chair of the Policy and Finance Committee

The Chair had nothing to report.

10421.3 To review the Council's Code of Conduct.

IT WAS RESOLVED to accept the existing code of conduct but to replace "he/she" with "they".

10421.4 To consider the urgent funding request from Churches Together.

IT WAS RESOLVED to award Churches Together £500 towards the "pop up" creative café project. Cllr Ball abstained.

BUSINESS RELATING TO STAFF

10422

Report by the Chair of the Staff Committee

The Chair had nothing to report.

CLERK'S REPORT

10423

The Town Clerk provided an update on a runaway vehicle hitting Jacobs House, staff working arrangements, NALC advice on meetings and the painting of Vibe Youth Centre.

Cllr A Stennett registered his support of "hybrid" meetings in the future to allow Councillors to attend remotely after the Covid-19 pandemic is declared over.

7th July 2020

INSPECTIONS

10424

It was noted that all outdoor inspections had been reinstated but the internal control check remained suspended.

The meeting closed at 7:50pm.

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Town Mayor

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Date