

19th January 2021

DURSLEY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the PROCEEDINGS at the 'virtual' MEETING of the COUNCIL held online via the 'Zoom' platform at 7pm on Tuesday 19th January 2021.

Action Summary:

10510.2	Submit Precept Request to SDC	10514.3	Contact Littlecombe Community Interest Company
10514.4	Award Grant to Stepping Stones Pre-school		

PRESENT

Cllr N Grecian (Mayor)

Councillors: J Ball, P Hayes, A Stennett, M Stennett, S Creswick, W Thomas, A Sheffield, J Rubin, T White, L Patrick and S Ackroyd.

Also present: John Kay, Town Clerk; Leah Wellings, Deputy Clerk; Stroud District Councillor Trevor Hall.

Absent: Cllrs M Woodward, A Whitwell, D Savvidou, D Horn and J Smee.

TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE 10505

There were no apologies received prior to the meeting.

MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST 10506

There were no declarations of interest.

REPRESENTATIONS FROM COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS 10507

It was noted that Cllr Cornell's report had been provided to all Councillors prior to the meeting. Cllr Hall joined the meeting.

Cllr Hall reported that the Environment Committee would be considered in February and it was hoped that cross party support would be gained. Cllr Hall continued to assist individual housing tenants on various matters.

Cllr Hayes joined the meeting.

REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC 10508

There were no members of the public present.



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MINUTES

10509

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 1st December 2020 were agreed as true record and signed by the Mayor.

Cllr Patrick joined the meeting and was invited to provide her County Councillor report. Cllr Patrick confirmed that the damaged gate/post at Rednock Drive would be repaired by 29th January. Cllr Patrick reminded Council of the deadline for ordering saplings via GCC is the end of January.

BUSINESS RELATING TO COUNCIL FINANCE

10510

10510.1 Council's accounts for the financial year 2020/21:

- (i) **IT WAS RESOLVED** that the schedule of payments since the last Council meeting 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.
- (iv) The management/budget report was noted.

10510.2 Council accounts for the financial year 2021/22

- (i) **IT WAS RESOLVED** to set the 2021/22 precept at £500,300. This level of precept means that there is no rise in Council Tax, with the average Band D payment remaining at £207.22 per annum, the same level as 2020/21. Due to the precept calculation this equates to an additional £5,650 in revenue for the Town Council.
- (ii) **IT WAS RESOLVED** to accept the budget for 2021/22 and to note the outline budgets for 2022/23 and 2023/24.

TOWN IMPROVEMENTS AND AMENITIES

10511

10511.1 To receive the Minutes of the Town Improvements Committee Meeting held on the 5th January 2021.

IT WAS RESOLVED to adopt the minutes of the meeting.

10511.2 Report of the Chair of the Town Improvements and Amenities Committee

The Chair had no matters to report.

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PLANNING

10512

10512.1 To receive the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on the 15th December 2020.

IT WAS RESOLVED to adopt the minutes of the meeting.

10512.2 Report of the Chair of the Planning Committee

The Town Clerk reported that Stroud District Council had visited the fish and chip shop in Parsonage Street on three occasions due to complaints over foul smell and unsatisfactory waste water disposal. The officer was continuing discussion with the proprietor. A planning application had now been received by Dursley Town Council for the blue container and other proposals at the rear of the building, the Planning Committee will be considering the application on the 16th February 2021.

GREEN SPACES

10513

10513.1 To receive the Minutes of the Green Spaces Committee Meeting held on the 8th December 2020.

IT WAS RESOLVED to adopt the minutes of the meeting.

10513.2 Report of the Chair of the Green Spaces Committee

The Chair had no matters to report.

10513.3 To approve the Schedule of Fees and Charges April 2021 to March 2022

IT WAS RESOLVED to accept the recommendation of the Green Spaces Committee and approve the Schedule of Fees and Charges April 2021 to March 2022.

10513.4 To approve the updates to Cemetery Regulations.

IT WAS RESOLVED to accept the recommendation of the Green Spaces Committee and to approve the updates to Cemetery Regulations and associated guidelines/paperwork.

POLICY AND FINANCE

10514

10514.1 To receive the Minutes of the Policy & Finance Committee Meeting held on the 15th December 2020.

IT WAS RESOLVED to adopt the minutes of the meeting.



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10514.2 Report of the Chair of the Policy and Finance Committee

The Chair had no matters to report.

10514.3 Regarding Littlecombe Community Interest Company

IT WAS RESOLVED not to appoint a Council representative to the Littlecombe Community Interest Company but to extent the opportunity for the members to contact the Town Council in the future should it be deemed necessary.

10514.4 Regarding the Urgent Grant Application: Stepping Stones Pre-School

IT WAS RESOLVED to award the grant of £250 to stepping Stones Pre-School towards the additional costs linked to the Covid-19 pandemic. There were three abstentions, including Cllrs Ackroyd and A Stennett.

BUSINESS RELATING TO STAFF

10515

10515.1 Report by the Chair of the Staff Committee

The Chair had no staff matters to report but reminded Councillors to participate in the ongoing consultations: Gloucestershire County Council Budget 2021/22 Consultation (deadline: 15/01/21) and Stroud District Council's Consultation on the Local Council Tax Support Scheme 2021/22 (deadline: 22/01/21)

10515.2 Update by Town Clerk on Staffing Matters

The Town Clerk confirmed the office remained closed to visitors with a maximum of one member of staff working in the office at one time. Two members of the admin team are working from home and the two part time members are continuing to locate in the office. One member of the grounds staff continues to shield during this lockdown period.

The staffing arrangements will continue to be reviewed subject to future government lockdown and tier announcements.

CLERK'S REPORT

10516

The Town Clerk confirmed that the Town Improvements committee agreed to maintain the suspension of waiting restrictions in the Long Street Car Park for the current lockdown period. There had been some parking notices issued in error at the end of the November lockdown, these were automatically rescinded by District Enforcement.

The Mayor, Chair of Green Spaces and Town Clerk agreed at beginning of January that the play areas would remain open during the current lockdown. Information signage has been displayed; informing users that they are not being regularly cleaned, social distancing should be maintained and regular hand sanitising should be encouraged.

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INSPECTIONS

10517

It was noted that the routine monthly inspections remain suspended. The Internal Control checks can proceed as they are hosted online.

The meeting closed at 7:45pm.



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Town Mayor

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21/3/21
Date

