

7th December 2021

DURSLEY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the PROCEEDINGS at the MEETING of the COUNCIL held in the Dursley Community Centre, Rednock Drive at 7pm on Tuesday 7th December 2021.

Action Summary:

10666.3	Award Urgent Grant to Dursley (CofE) Primary Academy School Association	10666.4	Award Urgent Grant to Churches Together.
10667.2	Commence recruitment of Street Cleaning Operative		

PRESENT

Cllr S Ackroyd (Mayor)

Councillors: M Woodward (Deputy Mayor), N Grecian, S Creswick, A Stennett, A Rowston, J Rubin, M Stennett, D Horn, P Hayes, D Cornell, L Patrick, W Thomas and D Savvidou.

Also present: John Kay, Town Clerk and Leah Wellings, Deputy Clerk; Stroud District Councillor Trever Hall, Matt Nicholson, Theresa Kinnison, Jane Ball and one member of the public.

Absent: Cllr T White.

TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE 10654

Apologies were received from Councillors A Whitwell (personal).

MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST 10655

Cllr Grecian declared a non-pecuniary interest in agenda item 13.3 (minute 10666.3) due to his position as a Chair of Governors for Dursley C of E Primary Academy.

IN RECOGNITION OF JANE BALL'S SERVICE AS COUNCILLOR TO DURSLEY 10656

The Mayor invited former Town Councillor and Mayor of Dursley Jane Ball to accept a plaque and flowers in recognition of her 22 years' service as Town Councillor, including a ten-year term as Mayor, thus making Jane the longest serving Mayor of Dursley.

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COUNCILLOR VACANCY IN THE KINGSHILL WARD

10657

The Mayor invited Mr Nicholson and Ms Kinnison to add any comment or information to what they had supplied previously. It was noted a third expression of interest had been received from Ms Vanessa Cox, but she could not be present at the meeting tonight.

IT WAS AGREED that a ballot would be held and of there was no clear winner, then a second ballot would with the candidate who polled the lowest vote dropping out.

The first ballot did not produce a clear winner, therefore a second ballot with Mr Nicholson and Ms Kinnison as the remaining candidates was held.

IT WAS RESOLVED to appoint Ms Theresa Kinnison as Councillor for the vacancy in the Kingshill Ward. Cllr Kinnison was invited to sign the Declaration of Acceptance and take her role as Councillor for the remainder of the meeting.

Cllr Patrick left the meeting.

REPRESENTATIONS FROM COUNTY & DISTRICT COUNCILLORS 10658

Cllr Thomas had supplied a written report prior to the meeting but highlighted the upcoming Roads Safety workshop on 15th December and that a local Facebook group supporting 20's zones was active in the County.

Cllr Cornell noted the recent meeting with SDC and DTC representatives to discuss the land accessing from May Lane and the issue of the dilapidated building on May Lane. Cllr Cornell thanked the Council for contributing to the recent Economic Development Strategy consultation, which the draft version was now available for further consultation. The next meeting of the Market Town forum would be held on 8th December 2021.

Cllr Cornell confirmed regular monitoring of the dilapidated building was conducted by SDC officials.

Cllr Hall reported that there were plans to improve access and tidy the Holywell Orchard area.

UPDATE FROM THE TOWN MAYOR

10659

Cllr Ackroyd reported that he had been involved in judging the festive window competition, which had been won by "Inches" in Parsonage Street, there had been over 30 entries to judge, and he had attended a local fashion show.

IT WAS AGREED that the mayoral fund could be used to purchase a "bailiffs" style mayoral outfit for formal occasions.

AW

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A new representative to manage the Sculpture Trail was required, as local resident Mike Doughty is no longer able to conduct this roll.

REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC 10660

There were no members of the public in attendance.

MINUTES 10661

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 16th November 2021 were agreed as a true record and signed by the Mayor.

BUSINESS RELATING TO COUNCIL FINANCE 10662

Council's accounts for the financial year 2021/22:

- (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. It was note that the P&F Committee had agreed to move some funds within the Lloyds Bank to the Public Sector Deposit fund.
- (iii) The income received since the last Council meeting was noted.
- (iv) The updated income/expenditure summary reports were noted.

TOWN IMPROVEMENTS AND AMENITIES 10663

10663.1 Report of the Chair of the Town Improvements and Amenities Committee

The Chair had nothing to report.

10642.3 To receive comments on Christmas Light Switch On event.

The event was very well attended and positive feedback had been received on Santa's sleigh, advance notice of the fireworks and the event. Cllr Woodward, the organisers and volunteers were thanked for their part in management of the event. A review meeting will be held in January.

PLANNING 10664

10664.1 To receive the Minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on the 9th November 2021.

IT WAS RESOLVED to adopt the minutes of the meeting.



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10664.2 Report of the Chair of the Planning Committee

The Chair had nothing to report. Cllr Thomas left the meeting.

It was noted that the Town Council should attend future meetings of Development Control committee meetings where Dursley applications are being considered to ensure that any prior discussions/agreements/information are presented to the committee.

10664.4 To receive an update on the impact to Long Street residents and boundary issues related to Littlecombe Zone F.

It was reported that St Modwen has contacted impacted residents although it had proved difficult to establish contact with some affected properties. There was no update on the boundary issue. No drainage survey had been conducted prior to the pile driving in Zone F, but the recent clearance works at Sainsbury's was not associated with this matter.

GREEN SPACES

10665

Report of the Chair of the Green Spaces Committee

The Chair had no matters to report, but the committee were meeting on 14th December.

POLICY AND FINANCE

10666

10666.1 Report of the Chair of the Policy and Finance Committee

The Chair had no matters to report.

10666.2 To receive any Councillor reports or attendance at meetings.

Cllr Hayes reported that he continues to be in regular contact with GCC Highways, particular concerns with lack of maintenance of the escape lane on Whiteway Hill, drainage and visibility at Highfields Approach.

10666.3 To consider the Urgent Grant request from Dursley (CofE) Primary Academy School Association.

IT WAS RESOLVED to award the grant of £1k towards the purchase and installation of playground equipment.

10666.4 To consider the Urgent Grant request from Churches Together in Cam, Dursley & District.

IT WAS RESOLVED to award a grant of £200 towards a Christmas meal for vulnerable people.

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BUSINESS RELATING TO STAFF

10667

10667.1 Report by the Chair of the Staff Committee

The Chair had no matters to report.

10667.2 To consider the report on a Street Cleaning Operative

IT WAS RESOLVED to commence an open application process to recruit a Street Cleaning Operative. The impact on the staffing budget to be reported to the next Policy & Finance Committee by the Town Clerk. There were 10 votes for, 1 against and Cllr Rowston abstained.

CLERK'S REPORT

10668

The Town Clerk reported that the maximum number of staff in the office remains reduced to two due to local covid-19 infection rates, this will be reviewed in January after the festive break. The grounds staff remain unaffected by Covid 19 and all three are present at work.

The Local Council Award Scheme application has been updated and resubmitted to NALC.

Councillors were encouraged to consider training aspects on the new year, particularly those who have joined during "covid."

INSPECTIONS

10669

The scheduled Councillor inspections and checks for November and December 2021 were noted.

The Town Clerk advised Council that only one third of inspections were being completed and the matter would be on the agenda of the next Policy & Finance Committee. It was noted that Councillors don't currently get feedback from completed inspections.

The meeting closed at 8pm.


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Town Mayor

20/11/22
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Date

