

## **DURSLEY TOWN COUNCIL**

MINUTES and REPORT of the MEETING of the TOWN IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE of the Council held in the Methodist Church meeting room at 6:30pm on Tuesday, 9<sup>th</sup> July 2024 for presentation to the Council on Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> August 2024.

### PRESENT

Councillors: S Abraham (Chair), K Eales (Vice Chair), S Creswick, A Rowe and P Hayes.

In Attendance: J Kay, Town Clerk; L Wellings, Deputy Town Clerk; A Nicholson, Administration Assistant; GCC Councillor W Thomas.

Absent: Councillors B Schoombie, C Rowston.

#### 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were accepted from Councillor T White (personal).

#### 2. MEMBERS' DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interests.

#### 3. REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Cllr Thomas was attending to hear the discussion about parking on Parsonage Street, this had been a common problem during her term as Gloucestershire County Councillor, but particularly in the last two years. Cllr Thomas is keen to support the Town Council on improving the situation.

#### 4. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meetings of the Town Improvements Committee held on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April and Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2024, having been circulated among the members were taken as read, confirmed, and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

#### 5. CHAIR'S VERBAL REPORT

The Chair had no matters to report as this was her first meeting.

#### 6. TO CONSIDER COMPLAINTS RECEIVED FROM PARKING ON PARSONAGE STREET

The Town Clerk summarised the current restrictions on Parsonage Street and the reports of illegal parking frequently taking place by traders and visitors. The only parking permitted is for unloading/loading and the Town Clerk agreed with the comments made previously by GCC Cllr Thomas. A meeting in April 2024 with the Parking Manager was informative and for a short duration, the availability of Parking Enforcement Officers increased with the illegal parking reducing.

The issues of evening parking in Long Street/Silver Street were also discussed, but it was noted that possibility of enforcement outside of normal working hours was low.

The Councillors considered potential solutions and issues with trying to reduce illegal parking and it was agreed to continue the discussion within the later agenda item when the press and public will be excluded due to commercially sensitive information relating to potential additional enforcement.

**7. TO CONSIDER A NEW WASTE BIN IN CASTLE STREET**

**IT WAS RESOLVED** to provide a new waste bin on Castle Street, at the bus shelter nearest Parsonage 53. Stroud District Council have already committed to adding to their emptying schedule.

**8. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE BUS SHELTER PROJECT WITH REDNOCK SCHOOL**

The Deputy Clerk confirmed the completion of the Bus Shelter project with Rednock School and the Street Artist, including photographs within the agenda papers. The Council has received positive feedback on the project and the Deputy Clerk was thanked for her efforts in steering the project to completion.

**9. REGARDING TOURISM INITIATIVES:**

- a) **IT WAS RESOLVED** for Cllr Andrew Rowe to Chair future meetings of Visit Dursley.
- b) The Committee were content with the aims and progress of the action plan for Visit Dursley.

Cllr Thomas left the meeting.

- c) **IT WAS RESOLVED** to buy the domain names: visitdursley.com, visitdursley.co.uk, visitdursley.org, discoverdursley.org, discoverdursley.com, discoverdursley.co.uk. The Council already owned the domain visitdursley.org.uk

There was a preference from the committee to actively use discoverdursley.org

**10. TO CONSIDER SUBMITTING A REQUEST TO THE STROUD DISTRICT COUNCIL MARKET TOWN VITALITY FUND**

**IT WAS RESOLVED** to apply to fund for approximately £12k for the required improvement and upgrades to the Council's "Shop Front" Christmas Trees in Parsonage Street, Long Street and Silver Street.

**11. TO RESOLVE TO EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC FROM THE REMAINDER OF THE MEETING BY REASON OF THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE BUSINESS.**

**IT WAS RESOLVED** to exclude the press and public from the remainder of the meeting by reason of the confidential nature of the business. There were no public or press present.

**12. TO CONSIDER ADDITIONAL PARKING ENFORCEMENT**

Members noted that additional parking enforcement could be arranged with Gloucestershire County Council at a cost to the Council, it was thought this would not be beneficial long term.

**IT WAS AGREED** to carry out a publicity campaign on illegal and inconsiderate parking in the town centre area, including Parsonage Street. The campaign would include leaflets, posters, social media and requesting traders to actively participate.

**13. TO CONSIDER QUOTATIONS FOR THE TOWN MAP PROJECT**

**IT WAS RESOLVED** to accept the quotation from Four Point Mapping for £800 plus printing costs. It was noted there may be some additional costs for leaflets etc. which can be funded from the tourism budget if required.

14. TO CONSIDER THE QUOTATION RELATING TO FESTIVE LIGHTING

Due to the decision taken earlier in the meeting it was not required to consider the quotation any further. Should the application to the Market Town Vitality Fund be unsuccessful then the Committee can consider the use of reserves for this improvement works at a later date.

15. TO CONSIDER THE QUOTATION RELATING TO CCTV

The Town Clerk explained that the Council's CCTV is maintained by Redhand and it is not possible to obtain alternative quotes for additions or improvement works to the existing CCTV system.

**IT WAS RESOLVED** to accept the quotation from Redhand for £5,798 +VAT for additional new cameras in May Lane, a new camera at the Town Hall and upgrade work in Parsonage Street. It was noted it was not possible to provide a camera for the food cart area at the Tabernacle URC due to the condition of the existing street lighting columns.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7:35pm.

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Chair

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Date