

DURSLEY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES and REPORT of the MEETING of the POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE of the Council held in the Dursley Methodist Church, Castle Street, Dursley at 7:30pm on Tuesday 10th December 2024 for presentation to the Council on Tuesday 21st January 2025.

PRESENT

Councillors: S Creswick (Chair), M Stennett (Vice Chair), A Stennett, J Rubin and P Hayes.

Officers: J Kay (Town Clerk).

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Councillors K Eales, B Schoombie and T Stride (all personal).

2. MEMBERS DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

3. REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no public representations.

4. MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting of the Policy and Finance Committee held on Tuesday 8th October 2024 were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Chair.

5. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE

The Chair had no matters to report.

6. DATA PROTECTION POLICY REVIEW

Cllr A Stennett reviewed the policy and had one proposed amendment on page 6: change EEA to UK.

IT WAS RESOLVED to accept the amendment and note the review was complete.

7. GRANTS POLICY REVIEW

The committee considered the written revisions proposed by Cllr Stride and proposed the following amendments:

Page 1: Move "Give demonstrable benefits to Dursley residents" to first bullet point.

Page 3: Change "Mid-December" to "December"

Page 4: Add "the" to "once the organisation"

Page 4: Add types of proof "Examples of proof could be an invoice, receipt, purchase order or similar"

IT WAS RESOLVED to accept the recommendations of Cllr Stride, with the above amendments and request Council approve the updated Grants Policy at the Council meeting on 21st January 2025.

8. TO CONSIDER THE TOWN TWINNING REQUEST FROM A RESIDENT OF BERGERAC, FRANCE

The Councillors noted the request and supporting information supplied by the resident of Bergerac, in France. The committee considered Bergerac to be much larger than Dursley and some of the similarities suggested in the request were for locations not considered to be in Dursley e.g. Woodchester vineyard.

It was noted that Dursley was twinned with Bovenden, Germany but there had been no contact between the two towns for many years. Bergerac had many twin towns.

Committee members felt that for the twinning request to be progressed, local support would be required to form a Twinning Committee and there would be a need to be allocation of funds to host events.

IT WAS AGREED that information would be placed in the newsletter and online to find out if there was enough local support for the proposed twinning and whether any Dursley residents volunteer to become involved.

9. INTERNAL AUDITOR 2024/25

IT WAS RESOLVED to appoint Gloucestershire Association of Parish & Town Councils (GAPTC) as our Internal Auditor for the year 2024/25 based on their previous performance and high standard of auditing.

10. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON INVESTMENTS & CASHFLOW

Information reports providing an update on investments and cashflow were noted. The Town Clerk confirmed the 2025/26 tax base figure had been received earlier in the day.

The meeting closed at 8:10pm.

.....Chair

.....Date