

10<sup>th</sup> December 2024

Town Trust Committee

## **DURSLEY TOWN TRUST**

MINUTES and REPORT of the ANNUAL MEETING of the TOWN TRUST COMMITTEE held in the Methodist Church Meeting Room, Castle Street, Dursley at 6:30pm on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2024.

### PRESENT

Members: M Stennett (Chair), P Hayes (Vice-Chair), D Horn and J Rubin.

In Attendance: J Kay, Clerk of the Committee.

#### 1. CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE

**IT WAS RESOLVED** to re-elect Melanie Stennett as Chair. It was noted the currently committee is one member short of a Town Council appointed representative.

#### 2. VICE CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE

**IT WAS RESOLVED** to re-elect Peter Hayes as Vice-Chair.

#### 3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

A Barton provided his apologies.

#### 4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

#### 5. REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

There were no members of the public present.

#### 6. MINUTES

The Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Trust Committee held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2024, having been circulated among the members were taken as read, confirmed, and signed by the Chair as a correct record.

#### 7. UPDATE ON HIRES

The Clerk provided an update on the regular hirers of the Market Place and Town Hall which have included produce markets, Artisan & Farmers markets, fitness classes, Dursley After Hours and private events.

#### 8. TO RECEIVE THE DAMP REPORT AND AGREE ANY ACTIONS

The committee reviewed the report and list of actions suggested by Dursley Town Council's Project Officer.

**IT WAS RESOLVED** that whilst removing the Christmas decorations from the town hall, the contractor is requested to check the gutters and seal any leaking areas as a temporary measure.

The Project Officer to be requested to enquire with potential accredited building surveyors, obtain quotes for the inspection and creation of a specification for both repairs to the guttering, and roof to prevent further water entering the building and any necessary planning/building control applications.

## 9. MAINTENANCE ISSUES: JACOB'S HOUSE/HERITAGE CENTRE/TOWN HALL

### Jacob's House

There was no new maintenance issue to update. The planned maintenance repairs to the fire doors were underway.

### Heritage Centre

The remedial works to repaint the external pillars was now completed.

### Town Hall

The Town Hall had received a second spray treatment to eradicate the latest invasion of flies. It was noted that the damp conditions would not help this recurring problem. Areas of the Town Hall may need some painting in the spring time, this could be carried out by Dursley Town Council's ground staff.

## 10. FARMERS MARKET

The resignation of the organiser of the Farmer's Market was noted and the Town Trust placed on record thanks to Ms Powell who has carried this voluntary role out for the previous 12 years.

**IT WAS RESOLVED** for the Clerk to write to MS Powell, to thank her and to request contact details for the regular attendees of the market to allow arrangements for the market to continue after the traditional winter break.

## 11. ENTERTAINMENT LICENSE

The committee considered the response from the Licensing Officer to the enquiry by the Clerk in relation to obtaining an entertainments license.

**IT WAS RESOLVED** to accept the advice of the Licensing Officer "*In conclusion my view is that the inside of the Town Hall is exempt but the area underneath and around the building is not. You could apply for a premises licence for this area, but does the Town Council want the responsibility for music events, external music can cause complaint. Unless there is an intention for more than 15 events each year in the external area, it would be easier for event organisers to submit their own TENS for each event*".

## 12. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The Clerk raise two matter for discussion:

A local proprietor has asked for comments on proposed use of the Market Place during April to September next year for hospitality by two local businesses. The Market Place would be used between 2pm to 10pm on Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sundays. The Councillors considered the request and highlighted the following:

- Potential conflict with existing businesses, traders and residents.
- The curtilage of the site would need to be clearly delineated
- Licensing permission would need to be obtained, due to current ban on street drinking.
- What behavioural control would be provided?
- 4 days/evenings seem quite excessive, perhaps start with a lower number and then review.

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- The Committee would need to consider a “commercial” rate for the hire as currently we do not have this.
- Would alcohol be sold during the whole period?
- General public access would need to be maintained.
- The local police should be consulted on the plans.
- Would table service as regularly provided on the continent be operational?
- Would the businesses consider their toilet provision to be adequate?
- The Committee would request regular review meetings.

**IT WAS AGREED** the Clerk would take the above comments and respond to the proprietor but the committee are keen to discuss the opportunity further.

A request for a bench to be placed under the town hall has been received, the member of the public acknowledges there are a number of nearby benches but none offer any shelter from rain.

**IT WAS AGREED** that the Clerk would consider if any location could be used to meet the request that did not impact the hiring out of the Market Place and did not interfere with watering of the hanging baskets in the summer. The Clerk would discuss the request with the most regular hirer of the Market Place to get his opinion.

The meeting closed at 7:15pm.

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Chair  
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Date