



## RAMSGATE TOWN COUNCIL

### **Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee**

**Venue:** The Council Chamber, the Custom House, Harbour Parade, Ramsgate.

**Date:** Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January 2017

**Present:** Councillors; Campbell (Chairman), Brown, Connor, Falcon, Kennedy, Larkins, Martin, L.Piper, S.Piper, Shonk and Stummer-Schmertzing.

Also in attendance: R Styles-Town Clerk and Miss E.Richford - Deputy Town Clerk (RFO).

159. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from:

Cllr Young - family illness (The Chairman asked that a letter of sympathy and support be sent to Cllr Young from the Council).

Cllr L.Fairbrass - Meeting at TDC.

Cllr J.Fairbrass - Other business.

160. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

The Chairman gave a general declaration for the meeting as Council tax payers.

161. **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 4th October 2017 (minutes 095 to 103) are agreed as a true record.

Proposed by: Cllr Stummer -Schmertzing.

Seconded by: Cllr Connor.

**RESOLVED**

162. **ACCOUNTS 2017-18**

Report given by the Deputy Town Clerk and Finance officer.

Noted by the meeting.

163. **2018-19 BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS TO COUNCIL**

The Town Clerk outlined the proposed budget and went through each heading in turn, giving either a recommendation or that of the overseeing committee.

The Town Clerk also made reference to the requirement for upgrading the IT system in response to the failure of the existing system in mid December, its age and relative obsolescence.

- 164.** The meeting agreed the following matters:  
That: as from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2018, every RTC Councillors is to be supplied and is required to use a new official RTC email address. The matter of the GDPR requirements to be deferred to a later meeting, once more detailed information is to hand.  
Proposed by: Cllr Campbell.  
Seconded by: Cllr Kennedy.  
RESOLVED
- 165.** That: the Committee approves the IT upgrade plan as set down in the document from Mitec and authorises its implementation from the 2018/19 budget.  
Proposed by: Cllr Campbell.  
Seconded by: Cllr Larkins .  
RESOLVED
- 166.** That: The HAZ Office be made available to the East Kent Rape Crisis Centre (EKRCC) on Wednesday's for half a day and for Thursday each week as required.  
Proposed by: Cllr Campbell.  
Seconded by: Cllr Larkins .  
RESOLVED
- 167.** That the precept be set at £61.92 per annum for a band D property for the next two(2) Council years.  
That the strategy set out in item 5B be noted and that the following budget headings are approved:

Projected precept income for 2018/19 on this precept: £705,596.36.

**Other income**

Custom House:	£25,000.
Chamber hirings:	£2,000.
Allotments:	£21,000.
VIC:	£20,000.

**Expenditure**

**Office costs:**

2018/19 Budget:	£23,700.
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**Custom House:**

2018/19 Budget:	£81,000.
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**Allotments:**

2018/19 Budget:	£18,000.
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**Democracy:**

2018/19 Budget:	£15,500.
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**Financial:**

2018/19 Budget:	£101,796.
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Storage and transport:

2018/19 Budget: £15,500.

VIC:

2018/19 Budget: £25,000.

Active Ramsgate:

2018/19 Budget: £50,500.

Civic:

2017/18 Budget: £15,000.

Town Promotion:

2018/19 Budget: £50,500.

Ramsgate grant funds:

2018/19 Budget: £40,000.

Events funding:

2018/19 Budget: £60,000.

Decorative lights:

2018/19 Budget: £20,600 (May alter if additional motifs are approved).

Town Improvements:

2018/19 Budget: £28,000.

Neighbourhood Plan:

2018/19 Budget: £3,000.

Community Services:

2018/19 Budget: £20,000 (May be increased if additional training hours requested in order to bring down waiting times).

Proposed by: Cllr Campbell.

Seconded by: Cllr Larkins .

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND**168. RADFORD BEQUEST**

The Town Clerk gave an update on the progress so far. The meeting agreed that the Kent Fire and Rescue service should be offered 35% of any notional increase in value, should any development take place on the site within the next 20 years.

Proposed by: Cllr Campbell.

Seconded by: Cllr Larkins.

RESOLVED

Cllrs Martin and Shonk voted against the proposal.

**169. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT**

No items reported.

There being no members of the public present the staff were asked to retire, so that the meeting could decide the following matter:

**170. STAFF MATTERS**

The Committee agreed the following:

- ❖ To increase staff remuneration by 3.2% to cover inflation.
- ❖ To regrade the post of Technical officer and to change the job title to Digital Communications and Marketing Officer. A fresh job specification will be required.
- ❖ To recruit another Lengthsman and apprentice Lengthsman to start employment at the beginning of fiscal year 2018.
- ❖ To allow a 1.5% addition to the existing Lengthsman's remuneration for apprentice training responsibility.

Proposed by: Cllr Campbell.

Seconded by: Cllr Rev. S.Piper.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

The details of staff remuneration remain confidential and are not subject to disclosure to the public on privacy grounds and also because they fall far below the threshold for disclosure.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.35 pm.