

RAMSGATE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Council Meeting duly convened and held in the Council Chamber, Albion House, Albion Place, Ramsgate on 5 October 2009

Present: Councillors Byne, Dark, Doyle, Fenner, Hoult, Green, Kirby, Landi, Moore, Nicholson, Rogers and Ward.

Eileen Richford, Senior Democratic Services Officer, TDC.

38 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Carr, O'Donnell, Poole and Todd

39 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Moore declared a personal interest in minute no; 46 Applications to the Ramsgate Fund.

40 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of Council held on 7 September 2009 were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

Minute 31 - Petition – Albion House – it was agreed that the petition mentioned would be presented by Mrs Cousins to the District Council as soon as possible.

Minute 33 – Town Clerk – Members were advised that the advert would be in the press in the coming week.

Minute 34 – Members were advised that Mr Clark of Infratil did not wish to attend a meeting of the Town Council as he did not feel it appropriate to attend a meeting due to there being a series of meetings to be arranged with the District Council.

As the Town Council were committed to having a meeting regarding this matter it was resolved that a meeting to discuss the airport plans would be arranged and that Brian White, Director of Regeneration, TDC and Councillor Mike Harrison, Chairman of the TDC Airport Working Party, would be invited to attend.

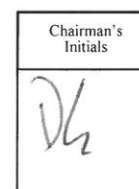
41 TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT

The Mayor reported the following;

“Since my last report I held “Ramsgate Town Tour” on Friday 11th September, visiting the Montefiore Synagogue, The Grange and St Augustine's Abbey, and a walk through Ramsgate, finishing in Corby's Tea Rooms. The High Sheriff of Kent, a number of local Mayors and Ramsgate residents attended. I thank those Members of the Town Council who supported the event.

In the Town I have represented the Town Council at:

Royal Sands – Signing of the development agreement
Montefiore Synagogue open day
Model Boats Annual Gala
Newington Children's Centre Awards day
Chatham House Prize Giving
Hereson Time Bank first birthday celebrations



Battle of Britain service at St George's
Battle of Britain service at St Catherine's

Outside of Ramsgate I have represented the Town at:

Faversham Hop Festival
Dover Town Tour
Broadstairs Quiz
Sandwich Charity Ball
The Speaker of Cinque Port's Civic Service

I have held meetings with:

Augusta Road Resident's Association

Over the next few days, I will be presenting grant cheques from the Ramsgate Fund to local organisations. Tomorrow afternoon to Pie Factory Music, and tomorrow evening to the Ramsgate Carnival Committee at their AGM. Friday evening will be St Lawrence Scout Group. Should any Councillors wish to attend, please let me know".

42 LOVE, HATE, HOPE

Members received a presentation from Susan Kennedy and Suzy Humphries of the Ramsgate Arts Festival.

Love: Hate: Hope: Ramsgate was an arts event and a public consultation exercise and the first event to be created and run by the newly established Ramsgate Arts Festival organisation.

The event took place over three days between 13 – 15 August 2009. The organisation decided to create a 'launch' event at the end of May, and therefore spent a total of 12 weeks conceiving, creating and implementing the event. Another week was spent evaluating and writing the report, both for the benefit of the Festival and in order to present the outcomes to the Ramsgate Town Council.

The event was extremely successful in all aspects; in visitor numbers, in presentation and in the attention and profile it raised, effectively launching the organisation to the public and the arts community.

The event was also successful in the wealth of information that was drawn from it through the consultation techniques used. The opinions and data gained will be used by the organisation in its future planning and development.

People responded eagerly to the event, both from the perspective of being a new activity in the town and also because it asked them to express their own opinions about the place where they lived, worked or visited.

Over 800 people visited over the three days. A total of 966 comments were made about what these visitors Love: Hate: Hope: for Ramsgate and a further 528 comments gave information about their attitude to and attendance at cultural activities.

Of all the things that people Love: Hate: Hope: there were some very consistent messages: people want more things to do, with activities, culture, sport and courses mentioned.

- They want the potential of the town to be realized.
- One of the words most frequently used in Hope: was *pride*.
- Overwhelmingly, the main Hate: was with regard to litter, rubbish and the dirtiness of the town.

Chairman's
Initials

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- People showed their frustration with the lack of things happening, the attitude of apathy, and wanting to see positive action.
- There was repeated comment about the council, its lack of care, and the hope of better things with the new Ramsgate Town Council.
- There were many uses of the word *community* and it became increasingly apparent that a space for community and cultural use is much needed.

Based on the outcomes, Ramsgate Arts Festival are now creating a follow-up event and are seeking funding to allow the organisation to develop an on-going programme of activity to benefit the people and artists of Ramsgate.

It was resolved that the Town Improvements Committee would look at the findings of the Love: Hate: Hope: Ramsgate event.

The Chairman thanked Susan and Suzy for a very interesting and informative presentation.

43 PETITION FROM RESIDENTS OF AUGUSTA ROAD

A petition had been brought before Council by the Augusta Road Action Group. The wording of the petition was;

“We, the undersigned, support the Augusta Road Action Group and urge Thanet District Council to run a pilot scheme providing reusable, seagull-proof refuse bags to the residences in Augusta Road to relieve the appalling and unsanitary conditions caused by seagulls and vermin attacking the refuse put out for collection in the street”.

Although it was resolved that the Ramsgate Town Council support the petition it was not permitted to present it to the District Council itself. This was to be done by the Action Group. Petitions to the District council were, under its Constitution, received from members of the public only.

44 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Questions were received as detailed below;

1. Appendix B of the agenda, which was a document containing the questions received from the East Cliff Residents Association, was considered by Members following an address by Mr Chris Welch of the Association.

It was agreed that the Town Improvements Committee would consider the issues mentioned in the document and that the Eastcliff Residents Association would be invited to attend a committee meeting.

2. As Thanet was one of the first areas in human history to experience aerial bombardment by Zeppelins and lighter-than-air aircraft can I ask what plans are Ramsgate Town Council making to mark the centenary of the Great War in Ramsgate?

The Chairman responded by advising that the matter would be considered and a report brought back to Council.

3. Has the six months consultation started in reference to night flights?

Councillor Nicholson responded that the consultation would take place when the Airport Working Party, TDC, were ready for it to begin.

4. Has a response been received from the Town Improvement Committee's letter to TDC with reference to the allotment funds?

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Councillor O'Donnell responded that he would advise Council as soon as he had received information.

5. Has TDC gone back to Infratil with reference to the quota of night flights up to 747 level?

Councillor Nicholson responded that a future meeting of the Airport Working Party, TDC, would be considering this matter.

6. Could the Town Council arrange for compensation for those living under the flight path?

The Chairman responded that the existing 106 agreement covered noise only and there was the possibility of grants towards sound proofing.

45 COMMITTEE MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

Town Improvement Committee – the Chairman of the committee advised that Mark Seed, Director of Environmental Services would be invited to attend a meeting of the committee with reference to lavatory provision in Ramsgate.

Mark Seed would also be invited to speak to the committee with reference to the allotments funds. Paul Verrall, Open Spaces Manager, TDC, would also be invited to attend.

Planning and Conservation Committee – the Chairman of the committee advised that the clerk would distribute a list of proposed extra meetings of the committee. These were provisional dates and would only be used if applications were called in and needed comment before the scheduled meeting dates.

It was resolved that the minutes attached at appendix C of the agenda were agreed.

46 APPLICATIONS TO THE RAMSGATE FUND

The clerk advised that the total funds available were £23,050.10 to year end 31 March 2010.

Council considered one application and resolved the payment as detailed below;

Organisation	Agreed Financial Assistance £	Purpose
Ramsgate Olympic Taekwondo	£300.00	Sportswear with Ramsgate logo, for students representing the town in national arenas, to wear.

47 THE PARISH FORUM

Members were asked to put forward matters to be considered at the Parish Forum meeting to be held on Thursday 22 October 2009. There were no matters brought forward.

Meeting concluded at; 8.50 pm.


Chairman – 2 November 2009