

## RAMSGATE TOWN COUNCIL

### Minutes of the Council Meeting duly convened and held in the Council Chamber, Albion House, Albion Place, Ramsgate on 7 September 2009

Present: Councillors Byne, Carr, Dark, Doyle, Fenner, Green, Kirby, Landi, Moore, Nicholson, O'Donnell, Poole, Rogers and Todd.

Harvey Patterson, Head of Legal and Democratic Services and Monitoring Officer, TDC.

Eileen Richford, Senior Democratic Services Officer, TDC.

Janet Dale, Secretary to Ramsgate Town Mayor.

#### 27 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors Houlton and Ward.

#### 28 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor O'Donnell declared a personal interest in minute no; 36.

#### 29 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of Council held on 6 July 2009 and the Extraordinary meeting of Council held on 11 August 2009 were agreed and signed by the Chairman. There were no matters arising from these minutes.

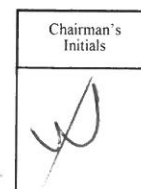
#### 30 TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT

Since his last report, the Mayor had held a Civic reception attended by 80+ Ramsgate guests, and a summer party attended by 14 visiting Mayors and 170 other guests. The latter event raised £1400+ for the Mayor's charity.

The next charity event would be a "Ramsgate Town Tour" on Friday 11th September, visiting the Montefiore Synagogue, The Grange and St Augustine's Church, and a walk through Ramsgate, finishing in Corby's Tea Rooms. Councillors were advised that they would be very welcome to attend and that it would be a good opportunity to "talk up the town" with visiting dignitaries.

In the Town the Mayor had represented the Town Council at:

- St Georges Church Art Exhibition
- Opening of Community building at the Chilton Allotment
- Dame Janet Nursery prize day.
- Opening of the Ramsgate Bowls Tournament
- St Lawrence Church Fete
- The Raising of the Royal Standard at the Royal Harbour
- Opening of the Ramsgate Art Festival, Love Hate Hope
- Alternative Addington Street Fair
- 100th Birthday Party organised by the Probus Club
- Launch of Film by the Kent Film Foundation
- Signing of the Contract for the Royal Sands development
- Montefiore Synagogue open day
- Ramsgate Model Boats event



Outside of Ramsgate the Mayor had represented the Town at:

- KCC Chairman's Reception
- Lord Warden of the Cinque Ports Reception
- Princess of Wales Royal Regiment Reception
- A reception for a visiting Chinese delegation to Thanet
- The QEQM Hospital fete
- Various Cinque Port Events
- Events in Broadstairs, Deal, Dover, Faversham, Hythe, Gravesham, Maidstone, Margate, New Romney, Sandwich and Whitstable.

The Mayor had held meetings with:

- Pat Doyle concerning Ramsgate Town Partnership
- Jocelyn MacArthy concerning the Ramsgate Society and the Ramsgate Conservation Area Action Group
- Sharran Ireland, the Mayor's Chaplain, concerning Civic events
- Cllr Richard Nicholson concerning the Town Clerk arrangements
- Terry Painter-concerning the Customs House
- Nick Dermott -concerning various conservation projects
- TDC Chief Executive concerning areas of possible Co-operation

### 31 ALBION HOUSE – PETITION TO COUNCIL

Mrs Cousins addressed Council with reference to the petition which had over 2,000 signatures. She advised Council that the Mayor's Parlour and Council Chamber at Albion House had been in use for 109 years and was a key part of Ramsgate's Royal Heritage.

Mrs Cousins and the petitioners were asking the Ramsgate Town Council to support the petition which would be handed to the Thanet District Council urging retention of Albion House for public use.

Moved by Councillor Fenner, seconded by Councillor Rogers and **resolved** that;  
"Ramsgate Town Council support the petition to Thanet District Council urging the retention of Albion House for public use"

### 32 QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC


Questions were received as detailed below;

1. Customs House, another historic building, appears to be out of the control of the Ramsgate Town Council.

The Chairman's response was to advise that the property was empty and in private ownership but had been sold. It was believed that the property would be for private and public use.

2. How much protection was there for the property?

The Chairman's response was to advise that the property was a listed building and therefore any works would be subject to approval by Thanet District Council.

Chairman's Initials


3. Is the Town Council looking to co-locate the Visitor Information Centre to Albion house?

The Chairman's response was to advise that the Visitor Information Centre was the remit of the Thanet District Council.

5. Is the Ramsgate Town Council pursuing where the money made from the sale of the Manston Road Allotments has gone?

Councillor O'Donnell, Chairman of the Town Improvements committee, advised that he had written to the Thanet District Council requesting information on this matter but to date had not received a response. He advised that he would contact them again.

6. Could we have new lighting for the Council Chamber as it was difficult to read any documents supplied?

The Chairman acknowledged the request.

7. What is the Chairman's understanding of how Ramsgate Town Council will form a response to the night flights?

The Chairman advised that the next item on the agenda covered this issue and that he had asked the Ramsgate representative on the Airport Working Party of Thanet district Council to give a presentation to Council. The response would be formed from there.

8. Would all Town Council agendas, minutes and reports be open to the public.

The Chairman advised that they would all be available to the public unless exemption information was contained in the documents.

### 33 COMMITTEE MINUTES AND MATTERS ARISING

Councillor Nicholson advised Council that recruitment of a Town Clerk should be advertised shortly.

### 34 KENT INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT – APPLICATION FOR RELAXATION OF NIGHT FLYING POLICY

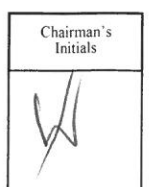
Councillor Nicholson, as a member of the Airport Working Party, advised Members in reference to the initial meeting of the Working Party.

Members noted that the Ramsgate Town Council would be one of the statutory consultees in this matter.

There would be a six month public consultation period which would include public meetings, questionnaires and road shows. The responses from residents most affected would be taken into account in the final analysis.

Concerns raised were;

- that the policy could in fact result in all night flying
- the noise monitors were inefficient
- potential of the airport becoming a dumping ground for cargo planes
- reduced value of properties situated on flight path



Members agreed that all District and Town Councillors should talk to the public so they had all the relevant information.

Moved by Councillor Kirby, seconded by Councillor Carr and **resolved** that;

“A presentation be given to the Ramsgate Town Council by the applicant, Infratil, and the Thanet District Council’s Director of Regeneration, Brian White, to explain the proposal”

Members agreed that the meeting would be an extraordinary meeting, open to the public with the presentation as the only item. The meeting would be advertised in the local newspapers, on the radio and via posters around the town of Ramsgate.

### 35 TOWN COUNCIL WEBSITE

Kent County Council had offered to create a website for every Kentish Parish and Town Council.

The offer had the following objectives:


1. Establish a .gov.uk domain name for each Parish and Town Council
2. Create common and consistent naming convention for every Council
3. Provide a unique sub-domain name for each Council
1. Provide two email accounts for the Clerk and Chairman, and the ability to set auto-forwarded to the Council’s existing email accounts
4. Provide the service free of charge
5. Hand total autonomy for the content of the websites to the Parish / Town Council
6. Use Public sector services where possible
7. Provide training where necessary
8. Provide industry standard service levels
9. Continue to develop relationships and the recruitment program for the uncommitted Councils

These core objectives had been met and will continue to be the foundation of the relationship throughout future developments

More than 170 parishes had already taken up KCC's offer of a free website to help them keep in touch with their residents.

Members noted that the websites were easy to use and maintain. The websites were designed to construct all of the pages for the Council. Training notes with full details on how to edit and maintain the site would be sent to the Council and free telephone and email support would also be available if needed. Training sessions were held occasionally for those who may need extra support.

Any Parish or Town Council or Parish meeting that is within the County of Kent could join.

Chairman's Initials


Council **resolved** that the offer from Kent County Council to create a website for the Ramsgate Town Council be taken up in the interim period”

Members agreed that it was important that the public were able to contact the Ramsgate Town Council and Members of Council.

### 36 APPLICATIONS TO THE RAMSGATE FUND

Council noted that the remaining funds available were £14,073.42, considered the applications and **resolved** that the payments been awarded as detailed below;


Organisation	Agreed Financial Assistance £	Purpose
Fegans '160' Family Resource Centre – Application 172	£2,360.00	Funding for a) a series of community events in 2009, b) design and consultation with residents of improvements to Whitehall (Coleman) Rec, c) consultation events and newsletter and d) Fegans financial management of project
Pie Factory Music – Application 173	£2,500.00	Free music and creative arts workshops, courses for starting in the music industry for 0 – 18 year olds
Thanet Phobic Group – Application 174	£333.33	Purchase of new computer
Dumpton Youth Project – Application 175	£999.99	Purchase of a bouncy castle to promote fitness
Ramsgate Carnival Association – Application 176	£4,000.00	To help fund Ramsgate Carnival court to promote Ramsgate in a positive way and to reintroduce a carnival in 2010.
Thanet Coast Project – Application 177	£3880.00	Funding for Kent Coastal Week – Ramsgate main flagship event 24 / 25 October 2009
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>£14,073.32</b>	

### 37 PARISH FORUM

The next meeting of the Thanet District Council run Parish Forum would be held on 22 October 2009.

Parish and Town Councils had been asked to submit any items they would like to see tabled at the Forum.

Members were also asked to nominate a Member of the Town Council to attend the Parish Forum and noted that it was normal practice for the Town Clerk to also attend.

Chairman's Initials


It was **resolved** that the Chairman, Councillor Green, would be the Ramsgate Town Council representative at the Parish Forum and that in the absence of a Town Clerk that Janet Dale, the Mayor's Secretary would also attend.

Members were asked to advise the Chairman of any suggested items for the agenda by 1 October 2009.

The Senior Democratic Services Officer, Thanet District Council, was asked to find out if other Members of the Town Council were permitted to attend the Forum.

Meeting concluded at 8.55pm



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Chairman – 5 October 2009