



Dear Councillor,

I hereby invite you to attend a Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting to be held in the Council Chamber, The Custom House, on Wednesday 15th May 2024 at 7.00pm for the purpose of transacting the following business.

Yours sincerely,

Laura Fidler

Town Clerk & Responsible Finance Officer

RAMSGATE TOWN COUNCIL **AGENDA**

Meeting: Finance and General Purposes Committee
Venue: The Council Chamber, The Custom House, Harbour Parade
Membership: Cllrs Green (Chair), Albon, Austin, Crittenden, Driver, Hetherington, Hudson, Makinson and Young
Date: Wednesday 15th May 2024
Time: 7pm

1. APOLOGIES

To receive and approve any apologies for absence from Members of the Committee.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive declarations of interest in respect of items on the agenda. Councillors are reminded to declare any dispensations granted.

3. MINUTES

Approve the Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 21st February 2024 (minutes 028/24 to 038/24) as a true record.

Only questions of record may be considered.

4. ACCOUNTS

To receive and note:

- (i) Financial Comparison – Income and Expenditure to 31st March 2024.
- (ii) Financial Statement – Cashbook to 31st March 2024.
- (iii) Annual Return Figures - report from Advant Edge 2023-24.
- (iv) Summary of budget (incl. balance carried forward) as of 1st April 2024.

5. **COMMITTEES**

Members are asked to consider how well reduced membership of the committees is working, prior to Council confirming committee membership at a meeting on the 29th May 2024. There are currently 9 members on Finance & General Purposes, 7 members on Town Promotion, and 7 members on the Planning & Infrastructure Committee

6. **ALLOTMENTS**

- (i) To consider and adopt the proposed Allotment Rules.
- (ii) To consider a report from Ms M Nash, Allotment Officer, regarding tenants who are not residents of Ramsgate.

7. **INVESTMENT OPTIONS**

To receive a report from Miss L Fidler, Town Clerk & RFO, regarding investment opportunities and consider how to proceed.

8. **FINANCIAL REGULATIONS**

To note the newly issued National Association of Local Council Financial Regulations 2024. These have not yet been tailored for Ramsgate Town Council, once done this document will go to the Council for approval.

9. **CLIMATE CHANGE TASK GROUP**

- (i) To receive and note the Minutes of the Climate Change Task Group Meeting held on 28th February 2024.
- (ii) To consider and approve the amended Terms of Reference for the Climate Change Task Group as drafted by Cllr Austin (current Group Chair) and Mr Williams (proper officer for the Group). A covering report is also included.

10. **WARD BOUNDARY REVIEW**

The local Government Boundary Commission has decided that the number of district councillors in Thanet should be 42 instead of the current 56. The Commission is now considering the Ward boundaries with the aim of each elected members having similar levels of constituents. The Council is asked to consider how to answer this question "*The Commission is interested in views on which communities should be part of the same ward. What facilities do people share, such as parks, leisure centres or schools and shopping areas? What issues do neighbouring communities face that they have in common, such as high numbers of visitors or heavy traffic? Have there been new housing or commercial developments that have changed the focus of communities? And are there roads, rivers, railways, or other features that people believe form strong boundaries between neighbourhoods?*". The deadline for a response is the 27th May 2024. This is not a review of the town council's elected members of boundaries.

11. **CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS**

(i) **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC & PRESS**

It is recommended that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 (as extended by s.100 of the Local Government Act 1972), the public and accredited representatives of newspapers be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of

Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by virtue of the paragraph specified against the item.

- (ii) To consider whether to approve the proposed Assignment of a Lease within the Custom House. It is recommended that this matter be considered confidentially due to the lease arrangements to be considered.

12. DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING
Wednesday 3rd July 2024 at 7pm