RAMSGATE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of an Ordinary Meeting of the Town Promotion Committee

Venue: The Council Chamber, The Custom House, Harbour Parade, Ramsgate, CT11 8LP.

Date: Wednesday 21st October 2026 at 7pm.

Present: Councillors: Crittenden (Chair), Huxley (Vice Chair), Albon, Nixey Ovenden and Shonk.

Mrs R Smith, Town Centre & Tourism Manager
Ms G Dempsey, Visit Ramsgate Project Manager

290/26 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor Ara – work commitment

291/26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

292/26 MINUTES

(i) Members received the minutes of the ordinary meeting of the Town Promotion Committee held on 12th August 2026 (Minutes 222/26 to 231/26).

RESOLUTION: The minutes were approved as a true and accurate record.

(ii) Members received and noted the minutes of the Town Enhancement Working Group meeting held on 17th September 2026.

RESOLUTION: Members noted the minutes

293/26 BUDGET

Members received a report from Ms L Fidler, Town Clerk & RFO, providing an update on the Town Promotion Committee budgets as at 31st July 2026.

RESOLUTIONS:

a) Members noted the draft Town Promotion budget proposals for 2027/28.

b) No suggested amendments were made by Members.

c) Members recommended the final Town Promotion Committee budget requirements for inclusion within the Council's 2027/28 draft budget.

294/26 **COUNCIL EVENTS**

Members received a report from Mrs R Smith, Town Centre & Tourism Manager, providing an update on Ramsgate's Autumn Festival and other events taking place in the coming two months. Members also received a draft copy of the Ramsgate Autumn Festival Programme.

RESOLUTION: Members noted the report.

295/26 **COMMUNITY EVENTS**

It was noted that there were no matters to report regarding Anchor Funding or the Events Fund.

296/26 **BEAUTIFICATION**

Members received a written report from Mrs M Morgan, Technician Manager, detailing work undertaken. Members noted the work completed and considered ideas for new projects.

RESOLUTION: Members noted the report and requested that technicians were thanked for all their hard work.

Members requested that the technicians consider adding the eastern lower promenade (Marina Esplanade) to their weeding schedule when weather allows. It was noted that sand drift onto the promenade could not be swept back onto the beach due to contamination risk

297/26 **DECORATIVE LIGHTING**

Members received a written report from Mrs R Smith, Town Centre & Tourism Manager, providing an update on the Royal Parade lights, including quotations for consideration. A further recommendation was added by Cllr Albon in respect of the unknown longevity of the banners if they were installed.

RESOLUTION:

a) Members noted the provisional £1200 allowance for window decals at New Look was subject to permission from owner.

b) Members approved the RGB lighting option at £16,120.70 subject to confirmation that all required control equipment is included and that the selected option remains within remaining budget. Members noted that the RGB estimate leaves only £15.29

c) Members agreed to recommend to Full Council that, under the specialist-services exception in Financial Regulation 5.12(i), the contract be awarded to E. Saunders (Margate) Ltd without seeking

further quotations, for the reasons set out in this report, subject to confirmation by the Town Clerk/RFO.
d) Members requested that Full Council or F&G be advised that the lifespan of banners attached to lampposts cannot be guaranteed as exposure to weather conditions may mean they require more frequent replacement.
e) Members resolved, subject to Full Council approval, to authorise officers to finalise the costs and requirements and progress the approved works within the available budget. Members agreed that, if RGB lighting is selected, warm white would be the default, with other colours used only for agreed occasions.

298/26 **MAINTENANCE**

It was noted that there were no matters to report regarding the Harbour Street Gate, decorative lighting, events equipment maintenance or general project maintenance.

299/26 **MISCELLANEOUS SUPPORT & PROMOTION**

Members noted that a significant piece of work had been undertaken by one of the Council's website editors in response to the way people use artificial intelligence to research places to visit. As the work had only recently gone live, a further report would be presented to the next Town Promotion Committee meeting.

300/26 **VISIT RAMSGATE**

Members received and noted a written report from Ms G Dempsey, Visit Ramsgate Project Manager, providing an update on Active Ramsgate Week and the Visit Ramsgate leaflets.
RESOLUTION: Members noted the report.

301/26 **DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday 15th December 2026 at 7pm.