



RAMSGATE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Amenities Committee

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

Date: Wednesday 23 October 2019.

Present: Councillors; Campbell, Green, Hetherington, Knight, Moore, L Piper, S Piper and Wing.

Also in attendance; R. Styles – Town Clerk & Miss E. Richford – Deputy Town Clerk (RFO).

127 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Albon, Ara, Crittenden, Huxley, Rusiecki and Young.

The meeting was suspended by the Chairman, as a minutes silence was requested by Cllr Reverend Stuart Piper and agreed in respect of an incident in Margate and for those who died in Greys, Essex. The meeting then resumed.

128 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None declared.

129 **MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 3 July 2019 (minutes 053 to 058) were agreed as a true record.

Proposed by Cllr Campbell, seconded by Cllr S Piper that;

RESOLVED

130 **ALLOTMENTS REPORT**

The committee considered the report from the Allotments Officer.

The following decisions were agreed;

Incinerator Bin Fires

Proposed by Cllr Campbell, seconded by Cllr Knight that;

The rule regarding the date for allowing burning in incinerator bins on the allotment sites, after 2.30 pm, to be changed from 1 November to 1 October each year.

RESOLVED

Cllr Wing asked for it to be noted that she is opposed to any burning on the allotment sites.

Combination Locks

Proposed by Cllr Knight, seconded by Cllr Campbell that;

Combination locks to replace padlocks on all sites with a programme commencing one site at a time on a trial basis. A notice to go up 6 weeks prior to changing the locks advising tenants that it is a six month trial and to contact the Site Representative for the code.

RESOLVED

Named Helper Rights

Proposed by Cllr Campbell, seconded by Cllr Knight that;

A named helper may take over the tenancy of a deceased tenant if they have been a helper for 10 years and are a resident of Ramsgate. This is limited to taking over one plot only and is only available once for the plot.

RESOLVED

Racing Pigeons

A request from a tenant had been received to erect a coup/loft on his plot for racing pigeons.

Proposed by Cllr Campbell, seconded by Cllr Knight that;

Site Representatives to be asked their opinion on racing pigeons being allowed on allotment sites. If the consensus was approval then the tenant may be advised to go ahead with his coup/loft with the proviso that the structure is no bigger than the size of a shed permitted in the rules and that the rest of the plot is cultivated.

RESOLVED

It was also agreed that the Town Clerk would proceed immediately with replacing the toilet blocks on the Chilton Lane East site. The toilet block to be disabled accessible and similar to the one on Chilton Lane West. The Jackey Baker site to be the next site to have its toilet block replaced.

131 **AMENITIES COMMITTEE BUDGET 2020-21**

The committee considered the report from the Deputy Town Clerk (RFO) and the following recommendations were agreed;

Civic Budget

Proposed by Cllr Campbell, seconded by Cllr S Piper that;

The Amenities Committee recommendation to the Finance & General Purposes Committee that the Civic Budget 2020-21 remains at £15,000.00.

RESOLVED

Allotments Expenditure Budget

Proposed by Cllr Campbell, seconded by Cllr S Piper that;

The Amenities Committee recommendation to the Finance & General Purposes Committee that the Allotment Expenditure Budget 2020-21 remains at £18,000.00.

RESOLVED

Allotments Income Budget

Proposed by Cllr Campbell, seconded by Cllr S Piper that;

The Amenities Committee recommendation to the Finance & General Purposes Committee that the Allotment plot and water fees remain at £22.00 for a quarter plot; £44.00 for a half plot and £88.00 for a whole plot for 2020-21.

RESOLVED

Decorative Lighting Budget

Proposed by Cllr Campbell, seconded by Cllr Knight that;

The Amenities Committee recommendation to the Finance & General Purposes Committee that the Decorative Lighting Budget 2020-21 is increased by 4% to £26,520.00.

RESOLVED

Charlotte and Albion Gardens

Proposed by Cllr Campbell, seconded by Cllr Knight that;

An agreed sum of £12,000.00 to be taken from reserves on the take over of Charlotte Court and Albion Gardens to accommodate the extra spend within the budget for 2019-20.

RESOLVED

Town Improvements Budget

Proposed by Cllr Campbell, seconded by Cllr Green that;

The Amenities Committee recommendation to the Finance & General Purposes Committee that the Town Improvements Budget 2020-21 is increased to £60,000.00.

Reports to be brought to the Amenities Committee on what is being done on sites owned by the Council.

RESOLVED

It was also agreed that the Town Clerk would explore the potential of gaining a discount when buying an electric vehicle for the new Lengthsperson team using the District Councils purchasing power.

The following item was taken as confidential as deemed advisable by the Chairman during the meeting under the terms of the Public bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960.

132 TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

The committee considered the confidential report from the Town Clerk.

Proposed by Cllr Campbell, seconded by Cllr Green that;

The Town Clerk to acquire more information to bring before Council.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.45 pm.