



Ramsgate Town Council

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING MINUTES

Local Government Act 1972, Schedule 12, PART III (S9(1))

Venue: Radford House, 18-20 Effingham Street, Ramsgate (the old fire station)

Date: Wednesday 2nd April 2025 at 7pm

Membership: All Local Government Electors residing within the Parish of Ramsgate

Present: Cllrs Albon (Chair of the Council)
Nixey
Hudson
Green
Shonk
Ovenden
Hetherington
Makinson
Moore
Crittenden
Austin

15 Members of the public

AM64 INTRODUCTION

The Chair welcomed attendees to the Annual Town Meeting for Ramsgate. It was emphasised that this is a meeting of the electorate, not a council meeting. Attendees were reminded of speaking procedures, voting rights, and the non-political nature of the meeting during the pre-election period. Mobile phones were to be set to silent, and emergency exit arrangements were explained.

AM65 MINUTES OF THE TOWN MEETING

The Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on 20th March 2024 (Minutes AM58–AM63) were approved.

AM66 REPORT FROM RAMSGATE TOWN COUNCIL

Reports were received from councillors regarding the activities of Ramsgate Town Council during 2024/2025, including grants awarded, improvements to working relationships with Thanet District Council, maintenance and refurbishment of council assets, and updates from committees covering Finance, Climate Change, Town Promotion, Radford House, and Planning & Infrastructure.

AM67 GUEST PRESENTATIONS

Presentations were received from Ramsgate Space CIC and the Town Centre & Tourism Manager regarding Operation Dynamo commemorations. An update was also provided on Local Government Reorganisation.

AM68 OPEN FORUM

(i) Heritage – George IV Statue

A resident asked for an update on the George IV statue project and the support RTC could offer.

Response: RTC confirmed it cannot fund the statue through Plan for Neighbourhoods but will assist with publicity, encourage community fundraising, and write to the Lord Warden in support of the project.

(ii) Shopfront Design & Planning Enforcement

Concerns were raised that several renovated shopfronts were not complying with the Heritage & Design Forum's guidance, and that TDC was not enforcing standards.

Response: RTC will refer the matter to the Planning & Infrastructure Committee and seek closer dialogue with TDC's Conservation Officer.

(iii) Quality of Building Repairs

A resident highlighted poor building repairs in conservation areas.

Response: The Town Clerk invited residents to contact her so she can connect them with the correct TDC officers. A heritage skills workshop scheduled for September will also offer guidance.

(iv) Town Identity & Long-Term Vision

A question was asked about how RTC is developing Ramsgate's identity and potential.

Response: The Chair noted ongoing work, including securing the East Cliff Bandstand licence, and emphasised that community engagement continues to shape priorities.

(v) Heritage & Conservation Advice

Residents asked who they should contact for correct conservation advice.

Response: Queries will be directed through the Town Clerk to ensure the appropriate officer is reached.

(vi) Waterfall Feature

A resident asked when the waterfall would be working again.

Response: RTC confirmed it is expected to be operational for the summer.

AM69 CLOSE OF MEETING

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.