



## **RAMSGATE TOWN COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of**

### **Meeting of Council**

**Venue:** The Custom House, Harbour Parade, Ramsgate.

**Date:** Wednesday 30 June 2021.

**Present:** Councillors; Albon, Ara (left after Item 10), Austin (attended from Item 8) Crittenden, Green, Hetherington, Huxley, Knight, Makinson, Moore, Nixey, L Piper, S Piper, Rusieki (left meeting Item 9) Wing and Young.

Miss E. Richford – Deputy Town Clerk (RFO), C Barton – Senior Technician for audio recording of meeting.

Council agreed that the meeting could be audio recorded.

048 **APOLOGIES**

None received.

049 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None declared.

050 **QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**

There were no questions from the public.

051 **MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS**

Proposed by Cllr Albon, seconded by Cllr Young and **RESOLVED** that;

The minutes of the Extraordinary Council meeting held on 1 March 2021 (Minutes 130 -136) be agreed as a true record.

Proposed by Cllr S Piper, seconded by Cllr Hetherington and **RESOLVED** that;

The minutes of the Extraordinary Council meeting held on 14 April 2021 (Minutes 155 – 157) be agreed as a true record.

052 **COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE / POLICY DOCUMENTS – UPDATE  
2021**

Council considered the report of the Digital Communications and Marketing Officer updating the Email Acceptable Use Policy and the Web and Social Media Policy in line with current legislation.

Proposed by Cllr Albon, seconded by Cllr Wing that;

The updated Email Acceptable Use Policy amendments as detailed in the report be accepted by Council.

**RESOLVED**

Proposed by Cllr Wing, seconded by Cllr Green that;

The updated Web and social media Policy amendments as detailed in the report be accepted by Council.

**RESOLVED**

Council reviewed the Terms of Reference for its Committees apart from the Finance and General Services committee as those Terms of Reference had been reviewed by Extraordinary Council on 23 June 2021.

Proposed by Cllr Nixey, seconded by Cllr Hetherington that;

The Terms of Reference for the Planning and Infrastructure Committee be amended as follows;

Page 1 para 3 **amend** to read:

“To consider matters pertaining to environment and conservation interests, including flora and fauna and the built environment only in relation to planning matters”.

Page 1 **Remove**; “Restrictions on Appointment” and “Members who are also members of the Planning Committee of Kent County Council and Thanet district Council may not be appointed”

**RESOLVED**

Proposed by Cllr Austin, seconded by Cllr Nixey that;

The Terms of Reference for the Town Promotion Committee be amended as follows;

Page 1 para 1 **amend** to read;

“A Committee of the Town Council established to consider and make recommendations to Council in relation to the promotion of Ramsgate as a place to live, work and visit”.

Page 1 individual points **add** point 6 to read;

“To undertake any other activities with the objective of promoting Ramsagte that are approved by Council”.

Page 2 under Terms of Reference **amend** point 1 to read;

“To formulate and make recommendations to Council in relation to any strategies, plans or policies intended to improve the experience of living in, working in or visiting Ramsgate and to attract visitors, investors and residents to the town”.

**RESOLVED**

The Terms of Reference for the Radford House and Custom House Committee were considered.

Proposed by Cllr Albon, seconded by Cllr Nixey that;

The Terms of Reference for the Radford House and Custom House Committee to remain unchanged”.

**RESOLVED**

Proposed by Cllr Albon, seconded by Cllr Nixey that;

The Terms of Reference for the Amenities Committee be **amended** as follows;

Amend the Committee name to “Amenities and Environment Committee”.

**RESOLVED**

053 **EXTERNAL AUDITOR REPORT AND CERTIFICATE - ANNUAL RETURN 2019-2020**

Council considered the report of the Deputy Town Clerk (RFO) and the External Auditor Report and Certificate 2019-2020 noting that there were no other matters affecting the external auditors opinion to be drawn to the attention of Council.

Proposed by Cllr Albon, seconded by Cllr Green that;

This Council has considered and notes the External Audit Certificate 2019-2020.

**RESOLVED**

054 **GOVERNANCE AND AUDIT RETURN STATEMENTS 2020-2021**

Council considered the report of the Deputy Town Clerk (RFO), completed Annual Return and Internal Auditor’s report.

Proposed by Cllr Nixey, seconded by Cllr Green that;

**ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

This Council certifies that the statements made in Section 1 of the Annual Return are a true record of the system of governance at Ramsgate Town Council.

## ANNUAL ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS

This Council certifies that corrective action has been taken with regards to the 'except for' matters as detailed in the 2019-2020 Annual Return External Auditor Report.

Note There were no except for matters 2019-2020.

This Council certifies that the accounting statements made in Section 2 of the Annual Return for 2020-2021 are a true and fair record of the financial position of the council.

## RESOLVED

### 055 **RAMSGATE FUND AND EVENTS FUND**

Council considered 4 applications to the Ramsgate Fund and 1 to the Events Fund.

#### **RF 4 2021/22 – Thanet Community Development Trust**

Proposed by Cllr Nixey, seconded by Cllr Green that;

Thanet Community Development Trust be awarded £3,000.00.

Council recommends that the guidebook is advertised more widely especially to children / schools.

## RESOLVED

#### **RF 5 2021/22 – Hi Kent**

Proposed by Cllr Nixey, seconded by Cllr Hetherington that;

Hi Kent be awarded £753.00.

Council would like to be advised by Hi Kent whether the online classes can be recorded and used online for the benefit of others. Council may need the assistance of Hi Kent when it begins live streaming of its meetings.

## RESOLVED

#### **RF 6 2021/22 – Ramsgate Arts Barge CIC**

Proposed by Cllr Green, seconded by Cllr Austin that;

Ramsgate Arts Barge be awarded £500.00.

## THE PROPOSAL FELL

Proposed by Cllr Albon, seconded by Cllr Young that;

Ramsgate Arts Barge application is rejected as it does not fit the criteria.

## RESOLVED

### **RF 7 2021/22 – Nethercourt 20 is Plenty**

Councillor Green brought forward a request for funding towards progressing with a 20 mile per hour speed limit project for the Nethercourt estate as supported previously by Council.

Proposed by Cllr Nixey, seconded by Cllr Young that;

The matter to be brought back to the Finance and General Purposes Committee for further debate but £1,700.00 to be set aside from the Town Improvements budget to assist with the project.

**RESOLVED**

### **EF16 2021/22 – Global Generation Church – Lark in the Park Lite**

Proposed by Cllr L Piper, seconded by Cllr Rusieki that;

Global Generation Church be awarded £3,000.00.

**THE PROPOSAL FELL**

Proposed by Cllr Albon, seconded by Cllr Green that;

Global Generation Church be awarded £2,000.00.

**RESOLVED**

### 056 **FREEDOM OF TOWN**

The Chair withdrew this item pending further information.

### 057 **RAMSGATE TOWN COUNCILS RESPONSE TO THE SOS TRANSPORT'S CALL FOR EVIDENCE TO INFORM HIS DECISION REGARDING THE DCO APPLICATION BY RSP FOR A FREIGHT HUB AT MANSTON TO CONSIDER THE REQUEST OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE**

Council considered the letter from the Secretary of State calling for more evidence.

Council had received all emails and letters received by the Deputy Town Clerk in relation to this item via email and had hardcopies for the meeting.

Proposed by Cllr Green, seconded by Cllr Hetherington that;

Due to the technical nature of the SoS questions, Ramsgate Town Council (RTC) recognises the need for expert advice before responding.

The short timescales imposed by the SoS has meant a swift negotiation with Peter Forbes of Stratford's, independent experts previously used by Thanet District Council.

They will agree to produce a draft for consideration by Council before the deadline of 9<sup>th</sup> July 2021.

Their charges are £2,000.00 for the draft. Should RTC require advice in responding to the SoS expert and others, the charge will be an extra £4,000.00.

RTC will be able to reclaim the VAT.

RESOLVED

058 **DEPUTY TOWN CLERK'S REPORT**

There was nothing further to report.

The Chair closed the meeting at 9.35 pm.