



RAMSGATE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of an Ordinary Council Meeting

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

Date: Wednesday 25th October at 7pm.

Present: Councillors: Albon (Chair), Austin, Crittenden, Driver, Green, Hetherington, Hudson, Huxley, Makinson, Moore, Ovenden and Wing.

Also in attendance:

Miss E Richford, Deputy Town Clerk & FO.

Mr D Williams, Marketing & Communications Officer.

Mr S Davis, Active Ramsgate Project Manager.

190/23

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Ara (work commitment), Cllr Dark (health), Cllr Nixey (abroad) and Young (health).

191/23

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

(i) There were no Declarations of Interest declared.

(ii) Council received a written report from Miss L Fidler, Town Clerk & RFO and considered whether to permit Cllr Dark to be absent from Council and Committee meetings (due to recovering from an accident) for longer than 6 months.

RESOLUTION: That the absence of Cllr Dark from all Council & Committee meetings be authorised for the period until 29th February 2024, pursuant to Section 85 of the Local Government Act 1972. The report be noted.

192/23

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

(i) **PUBLIC REQUESTS TO SPEAK**

There were no public requests to speak.

(ii) **REPORT FROM COUNTY CLLRS ON MATTERS DIRECTLY RELATED TO RAMSGATE**

There were no County Councillor reports.

193/23

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING

(i) Members received the draft Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 27th September 2023 (Minute no; 168/23-176/23).

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

194/23

FINANCES (INCL. GRANTS)

- (i) Council received a report of payments; the Council is asked to note the payments between 22nd September to 18th October 2023 authorised by the Town Clerk & RFO (total: £6,902.29) and approve the payments above the threshold delegated to the Town Clerk & RFO (total: £60,708.88).

RESOLUTIONS: The payments authorised by the Town Clerk (total £6,902.29) were noted and the payments above the threshold of the Town Clerk (total £60,708.88) were approved.

- (ii) Council received a report from Miss E Richford and considered the 4 grant applications contained therein for the Events Fund and Community Services Grant.

EF18 – The Ramsgate Society – Ramsgate Design Awards.

RESOLUTION: This applicant is awarded £1,500.00.

CS5 – St George’s Ramsgate Development Trust– Community Meals.

RESOLUTION: This applicant is awarded £1,500.00.

CS6 – Discovery Planet – Learning space Running Costs November 2023 to February 2024.

RESOLUTION: This applicant is awarded £1,000.00.

CS7 – United Mothers – English as a Second Language for Migrant Families.

RESOLUTION: This applicant is awarded £1,000.00.

- (iii) Council received the findings of the external audit of the accounts by MAZARS LLP for the year ending 31st March 2023.

RESOLUTION: The findings were noted.

- (iv) Council considered the recommendation from the Town Promotion Committee that Council vires £10,700.00 from the Project Budget as detailed within the agenda papers in relation to the relocation and maintenance of the palms within the town.

RESOLUTION: £10,700.00 to be vired from the Project Budget to the Beautification Budget as detailed in the agenda report.

- (v) Council received the comparison quote of electrical suppliers and considered which one to choose. All quotes were for 100% renewable electricity (as per current supply).

RESOLUTION: The 36 month Ecotricity quote to be accepted.

195/23

TALL SHIPS REGATTA

Council considered the outline proposal from the Ramsgate Regeneration Alliance for a Tall Ships Regatta in 2025 and considered a request for a letter of support (in principle) for the proposal.

RESOLUTION: Ramsgate Town Council supports this project in principle only, subject to further detail.

196/23

DEBATE NOT HATE CAMPAIGN

Council considered a motion from the Central Harbour Ward Councillors that the Council sign up to the Debate Not Hate campaign.

RESOLUTION: Ramsgate Town Council to sign up to the Debate Not Hate campaign. The Town Clerk to look at the bullet points within the document supplied.

197/23

EAST CLIFF LIFT

Council received a written report from Miss L Fidler, Town Clerk & RFO, regarding the transfer of the East Cliff Lift from TDC.

This item was withdrawn from the agenda and deferred until after the Thanet District Council meeting of Cabinet/CMT has taken place.

ACTIVE RAMSGATE

Council received a written report from Mr S Davis, Active Ramsgate Project Manager, seeking approval for a market research project; funding for which is within the Active Ramsgate Activities budget.

RESOLUTION:

- 1. The expenditure of £8,000.00 to undertake the proposed market research work is approved.**
- 2. The appointment of Destination Research in the first instance to deliver the work as detailed in the report.**
- 3. Tourism South East to be held in reserve as a supplier to be appointed in any case of force majeure that might prevent Destination Research from accepting or delivering the work.**

198/23

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 20th December at 7pm.