



RAMSGATE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of an Ordinary Council Meeting

Venue: The Council Chamber, The Custom House, Harbour Parade, Ramsgate.
Date: Wednesday 26th November 2025 at 7pm.
Present: Councillors: Albon (Chair), Ara, Austin, Green, Hetherington, Huxley, Makinson, Moore, Nixey, Ovenden, and Young

Also in attendance:
Miss L Fidler, Town Clerk & RFO

277/25 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Crittenden (personal commitment), Driver (unwell), Hudson (unwell) and Wing (family commitment). No apologies were received from Cllr Shonk.

278/25 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None Declared.

279/25 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

(i) PUBLIC REQUESTS TO SPEAK

There were no public requests to speak.

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

No updates provided.

280/25 MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING

Members received the Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Council held on the 29th October 2025 (Minutes 266/25 – 276/25).

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

281/25 FINANCES

(i) Members received a report of payments 1st to 30th November 2025; the Council was asked to note the payments authorised by the Town Clerk & RFO (total: £11,138.50) and approve the payments above the threshold delegated to the Town Clerk & RFO (total: £28,961.64).

RESOLUTIONS: The payments authorised by the Town Clerk (total £11,138.50) were noted and the payments above the threshold of the Town Clerk (total £28,961.64) were approved.

- (ii) Members received and noted a report from Miss L Fidler, Town Clerk & RFO, detailing the procedure for approving a single quote and suspension of financial limits.
RESOLUTION: This information was noted.
- (iii) Members considered a report from the Deputy Town Clerk & FO containing the recommendations of the Grant Scrutiny Panel in respect of thirteen funding applications.
RESOLUTIONS:
- a. **Events Fund 2025-2026;**
 EF15 Discovery Planet - £2,500 awarded.
 EF16 Remixed CIC - £3,450 awarded.
 EF17 Ramsgate International Film & TV Festival- £3,000 awarded.
 EF18 Looping the Loop - £3,000 awarded.
 - b. **Ramsgate Fund 2025-2026**
 RF14 The Royal Temple Yacht Club - £1,000
 RF15 Kent Film Foundation - £1,000
 RF16 Academy FM - £1,500
 RF5 2025-26 Ramsgate & Broadstairs Sea Cadets - £800
 RF10 2024-25 Ramsgate Historic Quarter Scheme - £3,500
 - c. **Community Services Fund 2025-2026**
 The following applications will be deferred to the following financial year, due to insufficient funds in the current financial year:
 CS13 High Street Social Club for Arts in Ramsgate
 CS14 East Kent Mencap
 CS15 Beyond the Page
 CS16 Porchlight
- (iv) Members received and considered an application for funding from the National Coastwatch Institution, towards installation of a fully operational lookout station.
RESOLUTION: No funding will be granted at this time. The applicant is welcome to return in the future when further funding has been secured.
- (iv) To consider and approve a quote from Westgate Tree Services to address all the work identified within the annual tree safety survey. It was AGREED to defer this matter to the next meeting, in order to obtain a further quote.

282/25

PRIORITIES 2025/2026 and 2026/2027

- (i) **Tackling antisocial behaviour**
 Members received a report from Miss L Fidler, Town Clerk & RFO, and consider the proposal contained therein for private security in Ramsgate town centre.
RESOLUTIONS:
- a. **As per Financial Regulation 19.2 (Council may suspend regulations by resolution, with reasons and risk assessment recorded), members resolved to suspend Financial Regulations 5.10 "Requirement for at least three fixed-price quotes for contracts over £3,000".**
 - b. **The risk assessment was noted, and Probe Security were appointed on a six-month contract to provide two security**

officers to work in the town centre for 8 hours per day, 7 days a week. The Project Contingency Budget will be used in the current financial year, with the remainder to be included in the 2026/2027 budget.

(ii) Ensuring access to good healthcare

It was noted that the Madam Mayor and the Council will be supporting an engagement project led by the East Kent Health & Care Partnership and Thanet Health Alliance. The project aims to gather feedback from Northwood residents aged 20–49 about mental health service gaps, opportunities, and ideas for improving wellbeing. This input will help shape a future mental health and wellbeing initiative in the community.

RESOLUTION: This information was noted.

(iii) Supporting the local high street

Members received a report from Miss L Fidler, Town Clerk & RFO, and considered the proposal contained therein for subsidised parking in Ramsgate.

RESOLUTION: The Chair will discuss this matter with Cllr Bright, TDC Cabinet Member for Parking, Tourism and Culture

283/25

TOWN PROMOTION COMMITTEE

Members received a report from Mrs R Smith and consider the proposal contained therein for a winter festival projection. This matter is brought directly to the Council as there is insufficient time to authorise this at a Town Promotion Committee meeting and have the projection ready for the Winter Festival.

RESOLUTION: The quote of £2,000 for a film by Howard Griffin of Illumiscape was approved, to be vired from the Town Events budget.

284/25

COMMITTEE MINUTES

Finance & General Purposes Committee 8th October 2025 (Minutes 173/25 – 185/25).

RESOLUTION: The minutes were noted.

285/25

UPDATES FROM THE COUNCIL'S REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Cllr Green gave an update to members on the Plan for Neighbourhood Board, and the Vision Statement that has been shared with the members.

286/25

CONFIDENTIAL: CUSTOM HOUSE

- (i) It was recommended that under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 (as extended by s.100 of the Local Government Act 1972), the public and accredited representatives of newspapers be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 by virtue of the paragraph specified against the item.

RESOLUTION: To exclude the press and public for the following item of business.

- (ii) Members received a written report from Miss L Fidler, Town Clerk & RFO, and consider the proposal contained therein relating to purchase of the Custom House.

RESOLUTION: Geoff Oliver & Associates to undertake a freehold market valuation of the Custom House.

287/25

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 16th December 2025 at 7pm.