



RAMSGATE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of an Ordinary Council Meeting

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

Date: Wednesday 30th August at 7pm.

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

Also in attendance:

Miss L Fidler, Town Clerk & RFO

138/23

APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Huxley (family commitment), Dark (unwell).

139/23

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared.

140/23

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.

141/23

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING

Members received the draft Minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 26th July 2023 (Minute no; 119/23-131/23).

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

142/23

FINANCES (INCL. GRANTS)

(i) Council received a report of payments made between 22nd July – 25th August 2023. Council was asked to note the payments authorised by the Town Clerk & RFO (total: £11,047.38) and approve the payments above the threshold delegated to the Town Clerk & RFO (total: £53,352.61).

RESOLUTIONS: The payments authorised by the Town Clerk (total £11,047.38) were noted and the payments above the

threshold of the Town Clerk (total £53,352.61) were approved.

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

RESOLUTIONS:

- a) **RF11 2023-2024 – Hold Creative Spaces CIC – Empty shop artwork – £1,799 awarded.**
- b) **RF12 2023-2024 – Ramsgate & Broadstairs Sea Cadets – Craft equipment and office chairs – £1,365.97 awarded; £254.94 for office chairs was not approved.**
- c) **CS4 2023-2024 – Bags of Taste Mentored Home Cooking Courses – The applicant will be asked for more information; how does their work tie in with other groups, examples of success stories. The applicant will also be asked why their savings can be utilised.**

- (iii) Councillors received a quote from Shire Conservation for window repairs at The Custom House.

RESOLUTION: Further quotes for this work will be sought.

143/23

TREE MANAGEMENT

Councillors received a written report from Miss L Fidler, Town Clerk & RFO, and considered the draft policy and quote contained therein.

RESOLUTION: The Tree Management Policy and a quote of £1950 for a health and safety tree audit by Invicta Arboriculture were approved.

144/23

KCC CONSULTATION: KENT FAMILY HUB SERVICES

Members considered a response to the KCC consultation “Kent Family Hub Services”. The closing date for representation is the 13th September.

RESOLUTION: The Council will respond that these centres are extremely useful and important, and we can’t afford to lose a centre. Members should let the Town Clerk know if they have any additional points to raise.

145/23

CONFIDENTIAL MATTERS

- (i) **EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC & PRESS**

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 items of business.

(ii) **TECHNICIAN TEAM**

To receive a written report from Miss L Fidler, Town Clerk & RFO, and consider the recommendations contained therein for a restructure of the Technicians Team. It is recommended that this matter be considered confidentially due to the specific staff and salaries to be discussed.

RESOLUTION: The proposed restructure of the team was approved. The posts of Technician Manager (Health & Safety and HR) and Technician Manager (Project & Community) were created, with the post holders to be back-paid for these roles to the 1st April 2023. The appointment of an additional Technician was also approved.

(iii) **CIVIC REGALIA**

To receive a written report from Mr P Revuelta, Town Sergeant, and consider the recommendations contained therein. It is recommended that this matter be considered confidentially so as not to promote the value of the Badge of Office and Chain.

RESOLUTION: Officers will inform the Jewish community of the plan to use a replica badge on occasions; and the cost of producing a replica badge was approved using Michaels Civic Robes Ltd (cost £2382.75 excl. VAT).

146/23

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 27th September 2023 at 7pm.