



Ramsgate Town Council

MINUTES

MEETING: Council.

MEETING DATE: 6th February 2019.

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

PRESENT:

Councillors: Shonk (Chairman/Mayor), Campbell, Connor, J. Fairbrass, Falcon, Fenner, Martin, L. Piper, Rev.S. Piper, Stummer- Schmetzing and Young.

R. Styles – Town Clerk.

E. Richford -Deputy Town Clerk.

163. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Brown- work.

Cllr S. Larkins – Illness.

Cllr L. Fairbrass – work.

Cllr T. Hartley – leave.

164 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared.

165. MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on the 7th November 2018 (Minutes 114 – 123) were approved as a true record.

Proposed by Cllr Campbell.

Seconded by Cllr Connor.

RESOLVED

166. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

Mr J. Davis – Neighbourhood Plan, suggested liaison with Broadstairs TC to complete the Ramsgate Neighbourhood plan, speedily and suggested that this might reduce of the overall estimated £20k cost.

Cllr Campbell proposed that the Town Clerk should liaise with Broadstairs TC.

Seconded by Cllr Shonk.

RESOLVED

Cllr Rev S. Piper gave notice of an email he had received from Mr D. Green, regarding the sermon, Cllr Piper had given at the Holocaust memorial service on Sunday 27th January 2019.

Cllr Piper rejected the request to apologise for the tone and content of the sermon and pointed out that over 500 words of the 800-word sermon referred directly to the holocaust and subsequent genocides.

Cllr Piper further stated that Rabbi Cohen and Mr Fischer who also attended, and took part in the memorial service, commented to him positively about the tone and content of the service.

No apology would therefore be issued.

167. BUDGET 2019-20 AND PRECEPT 2019-20

The Clerk set out the outlines of the budget and what the Council were asked to consider.

The Deputy Town Clerk went through each budget item and the council considered each item. 2 items were resolved.

1. That the Clerk be empowered to negotiate a fresh arrangement with the Decorative Lights supplier to alter the arrangement so that RTC are supplied with the lighting components and then it installs and maintains the lighting, in future.

Proposed by Cllr Campbell.

Seconded by Cllr Connor.

RESOLVED.

2. That Cllr Martin receive a breakdown of the past expenditure on the neighbourhood Plan.

The Budget for 2019-20 as laid down in the report by the Deputy Town Clerk as RFO was approved.

Proposed by Cllr Campbell.

Seconded by Cllr Young.

RESOLVED

The Precept: was approved and set by the Council at £65.02 per annum for a Band D property.

Proposed by Cllr Campbell.

Seconded by Cllr Stummer- Schmertzing.

RESOLVED

168. RAMSGATE FUND

(a) RF16 /2018-19 – Royal Harbour of Ramsgate 200.

Statue, Commemorative book, 'Float'.

Amount approved: **Resolved to recommend to incoming Council to fund this item (£3,200) from £10,000 2019-20 budget allocation.**

Proposer Cllr Campbell.

Seconder Cllr L. Piper.

RESOLVED

(b) RF17/2018-19- Ramsgate Youth Football Club.

Conversion of room to a training and storage room.

Amount approved: **£2,300.00.**

Proposer Cllr Campbell.

Seconder Cllr J. Fairbrass.

RESOLVED

(c) RF18/2018-19 – Ramsgate Town Team.

Purchase of planters and plants to be placed at Ramsgate entrance sites.

Amount approved **£3,200.00.**

Proposer Cllr. Campbell.

Seconder Cllr Martin.

RESOLVED

(d) RF19/2018/19 – Addington Street Community Group (ASCG).

Pop up mobile event and multi – use trailer/caravan.

Amount approved: **Deferred to next Council for a decision.**

Proposer Cllr Martin.

Seconder Cllr Stumme-Schmertzling.

RESOLVED

(e) RF20/2018/19 – Ramsgate Action Group (RAG).

Dunkirk memorial.

Amount approved: **£3,200 subject to other funding sources being secured.**

Proposer Cllr Campbell.

Seconder: Cllr Rev.Piper.

RESOLVED

It was noted that Cllr Kennedy would give £200.00 from her Ward Fund towards this project.

169. ALBION GARDENS PULHAMITE GRANT

The Clerk reported that a grant had been received to survey the Pulhamite rock work in Albion Gardens. The Clerk explained because of the very tight deadlines required by the Coastal Revival Fund and paucity of expert contractors to carry out the work required, the Council was being asked to suspend normal procurement process and to suspend standing orders for this single project. The Clerk also said that the survey work would be extended to other parts of the Pulhamite estate in Ramsgate, as Historic England was applying for funding for the additional items such as analysis of the Pulhamite and training to enable repairs to be done by RTC and others. A habitat survey would be done by the Kent Wildlife trust as part of the project and is allowed for in the Grant funding.

Cllr Campbell proposed that standing orders 35.3 to 35.8 be suspended for this single project because of the specialist nature of the contract and the requirement to secure a contract before 31st March 2019. The Morton partnership and Kent Wildlife Trust are therefore appointed as contractors to carry out the specific functions in the implementation of the work specified by the document donating the grant.

Seconded by Cllr Martin

RESOLVED

Proposal to transfer Albion Gardens from Thanet District Council ownership to Ramsgate Town Council

The Clerk referred to a recent proposal by Thanet District Council to transfer ownership of Albion gardens to Ramsgate Town council or a 'Qualifying' Voluntary/Community body.

The Clerk therefore requested that he be empowered to discuss this matter and other similar matters with Thanet District Council.

Cllr Campbell proposed that the Clerk be empowered to discuss this proposed land transfer and other matters of interest to the Council with Thanet District Council and to report back with his findings.

Seconded by Cllr Rev.Piper.

RESOLVED

170. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

Nothing reported.

171. Exclusion of the public because of a requirement of confidentiality and because of possible legal proceedings.

Proposer Cllr Campbell.

Seconder: Cllr Conner.

RESOLVED

172. EFFINGHAM STREET UPDATE

Effingham Street Fire Station

The Clerk gave an update on progress and reported on the legal impediments that had slowed progress on the transfer of the site from Kent Fire and Rescue to Ramsgate Town Council.

Resolution of the outstanding issues was at hand and completion was expected to take place within one month.

A debate was held on the future use of Effingham Street and it was agreed that the incoming Council will have the final say on its eventual status. It was agreed that Cllr Rev.Piper be furnished with the minutes approved by the Council so far on this matter.

Custom House

The Clerk had reported that the current tenant of the Café had served notice of termination but as yet, the Council had not agreed to allow an earlier termination before the October 25th termination deadline. The Clerk outlined action taken so far and that he hoped that a resolution could be found shortly. The Council approved the Clerk's action to protect the Council's interests and asked that the Café be restored to full working order as soon as possible.

The Council agreed to defer any final decision on the future use of the ground floor of Custom House to the incoming Council.

Proposer Cllr Campbell.

Seconder Cllr J.Fairbrass.

RESOLVED

The meeting ended at 20.35.

MAYOR/CHAIRMAN