



RAMSGATE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of an Ordinary Council Meeting

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

Date: Wednesday 28th May 2025 at 7pm.

Present: Councillors: Albon (Chair), Ara, Austin, Crittenden, Driver, Green, Makinson, Moore, Nixey, Ovenden, Shonk & Young.

Also in attendance:

Miss L Fidler, Town Clerk & RFO.

Miss E Richford, Deputy Town Clerk & FO.

119/25

APOLOGIES

Apologies received from; Cllr Hetherington (personal commitment), Cllr Hudson (Mayoral event), Cllr Huxley (personal commitment) and Cllr Wing (personal commitment).

120/25

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None Declared.

121/25

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no public requests to speak.

122/25

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETINGS

Members received the Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Council held on the 7th May 2025 (Minutes 101/25 – 111/25).

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

123/25

FINANCES (INCL. GRANTS)

(i) Members received a report of payments 1st to 30th April 2025; the Council was asked to note the payments authorised by the Town Clerk & RFO (total: £13,799.83) and approve the payments above the threshold delegated to the Town Clerk & RFO (total: £83,347.77).

RESOLUTIONS: The payments authorised by the Town Clerk (total £13,799.83) were noted and the payments above the threshold of the Town Clerk (total £83,347.77) were approved.

- (ii) Members received a report of payments 1st to 31st May 2025; the Council was asked to note the payments authorised by the Town Clerk & RFO (total: £36,120.17) and approve the payments above the threshold delegated to the Town Clerk & RFO (total: £57,221.08).

RESOLUTIONS: The payments authorised by the Town Clerk (total £36,120.17) were noted and the payments above the threshold of the Town Clerk (total £57,221.08) were approved.

- (iii) Members considered a report from the Deputy Town Clerk & FO and the recommendations of the Grant Scrutiny Panel in respect of various funding applications.

RESOLUTIONS:

a) Events Fund 2025-26

EF3. Ramsgate bowling Club; awarded £1,000.00 towards running costs, prize money, trophies & printing of programmes, score cards and engraving of trophies.

EF4. Royal Temple Yacht Club; awarded £2,000.00 towards Ramsgate Week 2025.

EF5. Ramsgate Model Engineering/Canterbury Modelling & Ramsgate Tunnel Museum; awarded £1,500.00 towards the Ramsgate Rail 200 2025. The applicant to be advised that an award this year is not an indication of the same level of award in coming years if funding is sought. The applicant is encouraged to also seek funding elsewhere in the future.

EF6. Ramsgate Festival of Sound; awarded £8,600.00 towards Ramsgate Festival of Sound 2025.

EF7. Residents Association of Paradise; awarded £750.00 towards the Ramsgate Historic Quarter Heritage Open Day 2025. The applicant is encouraged to also seek funding elsewhere in the future.

b) Ramsgate Fund 2025-26

RF3. The Ramsgate Society; £1,250.00 with £1,128.00 taken from the next quarter due to lack of remaining funds in this first quarter.

RF4. Brunswick Court Residents Association; awarded £100.00 taken from the next quarter due to lack of remaining funds in this first quarter. It was suggested that the three Eastcliff Ward Councillors may wish to fund the balance at 2 x £117.00 and 1 x £116.00 from their Ward Funding Allowance making a total of £450.00. The Ward Cllrs agreed to consider this.

RF5. Ramsgate & Broadstairs Sea Cadets; application refused with Council recommending that TDC is approached by the applicant for funding or provision of a container.

RF6. Royal Naval Association Ramsgate; Council approves the use of the Civic budget to fund the hosting of the Civic reception for Armed Forces Day 2025. Note: the Mayor is in agreement.

c) Community Services Fund 2025-26

CS6. The Autism Apprentice; Council defers this

application until the following questions have been answered by the applicant;

Does the applicant have a qualified Mental Health professional within the CIC or advising the CIC? How are clients found? Where are meetings held with families and if they have to travel are they able to reclaim the cost? Once received the application to be returned to the next appropriate meeting of Council and not wait until the August meeting.

CS7. Osborne & What CIC; Application refused on the grounds of lack of clarity and specific planning i.e. venues. Cllr Nixey has offered to meet with the applicant in relation to her applications which have both been rejected with a view to explain/advise going forward.

CS8. Mind in Bexley & East Kent; Awarded £1,000.00 towards the East Kent Mind Ambassador Project. Council also suggests that the applicant approaches the Kent and Medway Social Care and Partnership Trust for additional funding.

- (iv) Members received a report from the Town Clerk & RFO and considered the training requested therein.

RESOLUTION: The training detailed therein for the Marketing & Communications Officer was approved.

124/25

COMMITTEE MINUTES

- (i) Draft Town Promotion Committee Meeting 9th April 2025 (Minutes 083/25 – 090/25).
- (ii) Draft Planning & Infrastructure Committee Meeting 16th April 2025 (Minutes 096/25 - 100/25).
- (iii) Draft Planning & Infrastructure Committee Meeting 14th May 2025 (Minutes 112/25 - 118/25).

RESOLUTION: The draft minutes were noted.

125/25

SCHEME OF DELEGATION

Members received a report from the Town Clerk & RFO regarding Committees and the Scheme of Delegation and confirmed the arrangements for the ensuing year.

RESOLUTIONS:

(i) The Terms of reference for the following committees was approved:

- a. **Finance & General Purposes;**
Cllrs Albon, Shonk, Hetherington (Vice Chair), Makinson (Chair), Wing, Austin & Nixey.
- b. **Planning & Infrastructure;**
Cllrs Austin, Driver, Green (Chair), Young, Hudson, Albon, Makinson (Chair), Crittenden, Hetherington (Vice Chair)
- c. **Town Promotion**
Cllrs Ara, Crittenden (Chair), Huxley (Vice Chair), Nixey,

- Ovenden, Moore & Albon.**
- d. **Asset Management**
All members.
 - e. **General Guidance**
- (ii) **The Scheme of Delegation to the Town Clerk was approved.**

126/25

GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE

Members received a report from the Town Clerk & RFO and considered whether to resolve to adopt the General Power of Competence.

RESOLUTION: The Parish Council hereby confirms we meet the eligibility criteria for adoption of a General Power of Competence as defined in the Localism Act 2011 and SI 965 The Parish Councils (General Power of Competence)(Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012. We further resolve to adopt a General Power of Competence.

127/25

LOCAL COUNCIL AWARD SCHEME

Members received a report from the Town Clerk & RFO and considered the recommendation contained therein that the Council aims to achieve Silver standard within the year.

RESOLUTION: The Council aims to achieve the Silver Level (Quality Award) within the year, with a plan to progress to Gold (Quality Gold Award) within the next two years.

128/25

REPRESENTATION ON OUTSIDE BODIES

RESOLUTIONS:

- (i) Members considered and approved the “Advisory Note: The Role of Council Representatives on Outside Bodies”.
- (ii) Members nominated two representatives for Kent Association of Local Councils; Cllr Hetherington and Nixey to be the two representatives.
- (iii) Members nominated one representative for the Kent & Medway CCG Primary Care Network; Cllr Hetherington to be the representative.
- (iv) Members nominated one representative for the Ramsgate Event Organisers Group; Cllr Driver to be the representative.
- (v) Members nominated two representatives for the Thanet Area Group; Cllrs Albon & Ovenden to be the two representatives.
- (vi) Members nominated one representative for the Thanet Regeneration Partnership Board; Cllr Green to be the representative.
- (vii) Members nominated one representative to work with Ramsgate Society on the Community Champion Award; The Mayor to be the representative.

129/25

CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS:

- (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 items of business.

(ii) **THANET REGENERATION PARTNERSHIP BOARD PROJECTS**

Members received a verbal update from the Council's representative on the Thanet Regeneration Partnership Board, Cllr Green, about the various Levelling Up Fund projects and the "Plan for Neighbourhoods" project.

RESOLUTION: This information was noted.

(iii) **CUSTOM HOUSE SAFE**

Members received a report from the Mayor's PA and considered the information therein regarding the Council's security safe.

RESOLUTION: To purchase a De Raat Prisma Grade 5 Size 0 Safe for use at the Custom House. The General Reserves budget to be used.

(iv) **PIE FACTORY MUSIC**

Members received a correspondence between Cllr Steve Albon and the Leader of KCC regarding Pie Factory Music / Ramsgate Youth Centre, a response from KCC is now awaited. A report from the Town Clerk regarding potential town council involvement in the site was also considered. It was noted that if Pie Factory Music are running any fundraising campaigns for the site, these will be promoted by Ramsgate Town Council.

RESOLUTION: To await KCC's decision regarding disposal of the site at auction.

130/25

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 25th June 2025 at 7pm.