



Ramsgate Town Council

MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Date: 23rd January 2013.

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

Present: Councillors: Nicholson(Chairman),Campbell, Doyle, Dwyer,Everitt,Fenner, D.Green, , Huxley, Moore and Poole.
R.Styles – Town Clerk.

204. APOLOGIES:

*Cllr Dark – recuperating after an injury.
Cllr E.Green – Other Meeting.*

205. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST:

Cllr D.Green- Personal interest (Allotment Tenant- Stirling way Allotments).

206. MINUTES:

3rd October 2012 (Minutes 132 -140) was approved as a true record.

Proposed by: Cllr: Nicholson.

Seconded by: Cllr: Campbell.

RESOLVED

207. ACCOUNTS

The 3rd quarter accounts were reported on by the Clerk. The meeting discussed the contents of the report and agreed that the report format was much improved. Concern was expressed that IT+ telecoms costs were too high and that Office costs need to be reduced where possible.

It was agreed that the Ramsgate fund and Events fund application forms will be made available on the new website, with guidelines on how to apply, as the meeting was concerned to improve on the number and quality of applications.

Cllr Campbell proposed that the report be received and the accounts approved.

Seconded by: Cllr Dwyer.

RESOLVED

208. CUSTOM HOUSE REPORT

The Clerk's report detailed the repairs completed and those required in the near future.

The meeting referred to the unsatisfactory nature of the inner entrance door closure and the Clerk agreed to find a means of improving its operation.

The meeting also referred to the proliferation of signs at the entrance of the Custom House and the Clerk agreed to discuss with the tenants, some reduction in the type and number of signs at this location.

It was agreed to receive the report.

Proposed by: Cllr Campbell.

Seconded by: Cllr Doyle.

RESOLVED

209. DRAFT BUDGET-2013/14

The meeting considered a report written by the Clerk on draft proposals for the budget for 2013/14. The Clerk explained that the Budget had been made more complicated by virtue of the imminent changes in council tax benefit, but that to some extent the concomitant loss in tax base had been mitigated with a grant agreed with TDC.

Cllr Campbell proposed that it be noted that the Committee finds that the proposed Tax adjustment grant from TDC is a fair distribution according to the loss of tax base for each precepting local body.

Seconded by: Cllr Nicholson.

RESOLVED

The meeting considered the various options available and agreed the following as its recommendation to Council:

Proposed by: Cllr Campbell; that the proposed structure of the draft budget is recommended to Council and that the precept remains at £27.45 per annum for a Band D property, with no increase in the precept for 2013/14.

Seconded by: Cllr Nicholson.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

210. TOWN CLERK'S/CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Nothing to report.

211. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Cllr Campbell proposed that the public be excluded under the terms of the Public Bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960 as the next matter concerned Staff conditions and terms of service.

Seconded by: Cllr Dwyer.

RESOLVED

212. STAFF MATTERS

The meeting continued with agreement to increase a staff member's remuneration by a small amount in order to ensure that all qualifying staff are paid within the 'living wage' stipulations and to agree that the Office apprentice would become a permanent member of staff by December 2013 and further to agree his new job title and rate of pay for that appointment.

The covering minutes for these transactions are held on a confidential appendix for use by the Committee.

Meeting closed at 8.45pm

CHAIRMAN