



## **RAMSGATE TOWN COUNCIL**

# **MINUTES**

**Meeting:** Finance and General Purposes Committee.

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

**Date:** Wednesday 26th October 2016

**Present:** Councillors: Campbell (Chairman), Connor, Falcon, Larkins, Martin, Rev Piper, L.Piper, Shonk, Stummer- Schmertzling and Young.

Also in attendance: R.Styles - Town Clerk and Miss E. Richford -Asst Town Clerk.

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### **132. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from:

Cllr.L.Fairbrass - On other business.

Cllr.J.Fairbrass -On other business.

Cllr. Martin- On other business.

Cllr Brown- On other business.

Cllr.Newman- Illness.

### **133. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None declared.

### **134. MINUTES**

The minutes of the meeting held on 29th June 2016 (minutes: 51 to 59) were agreed as a true.

Proposed by: Cllr Rev Piper.

Seconded by: Cllr Falcon.

**RESOLVED**

**135. CODE OF CONDUCT - CLLR S.LARKINS**

The Chairman read out the report and the findings from the Thanet Standards Committee.

Cllr Larkins was asked to comply with the findings (she has already been given a written request) by the next meeting of the Council on November 23<sup>rd</sup> 2016.

The Council will then act, depending on her reply.

The Chairman then read out her apology.

The Chairman then proposed that the Committee adopt the report on behalf of the Council.

Proposed by Cllr Campbell.

Seconded by: Cllr Young.

**RESOLVED**

Cllr Larkins -abstained.

**136. COASTAL COMMUNITIES FUND**

The Clerk outlined the report on the progress on the Ramsgate application to the Coastal Communities Fund.

450 applications were made to the fund and in the second stage 54 applications remain.

Ramsgate was successful in being one of the 54.

A more detailed description for the application is being drawn up and will be submitted by December 2<sup>nd</sup> 2016.

The report was received and a vote of thanks issued to the members of the Coastal Communities team and Cllr L.Fairbrass.

Proposed by: Cllr Rev Piper.

Seconded by: Cllr Campbell.

**RESOLVED.**

**137. RTC ACCOUNTS TO 30<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2016.**

- The accounts report was noted and approved.
- £1,500 is to be transferred from Civic allowance to Civic functions.
- The amount spent on the cleaner's wages is to be calculated and reported to the next Cttee meeting.

Proposed by: Cllr Campbell.

Seconded by: Cllr Connor.

**RESOLVED**

**138. WEBSITE PROPOSAL - WORKING GROUP**

The Committee approved the recommendation from the Website working group which was to contract with Critical Art.

Proposed by: Cllr Campbell.

Seconded by: Cllr L. Piper.

**RESOLVED.**

**139. 2017/18 BUDGET**

£38.43 is the current precept level.

The Committee was asked to consider the following points:

- A figure for inflation in 2017/18.
- Austerity and its ramifications on services from TDC and KCC.
- The proposal from the DCLG on referendum policy for Town/Parish Councils.
- Setting a precept that will be under the Kent and national average of £54/Band D, but will allow RTC to cope with changing circumstances.
- Any additional revenue will be used for priority project/service work.
- Explaining in more detail what RTC does with its precept income via a press release.

The Chairman gave a figure of £45.75/per annum on a band D property for the RTC precept at the meeting, but he has since corrected that figure to £38.43 per annum.

**RADFORD BEQUEST**

The Council is awaiting the final results from a probate process which is likely to deliver a bequest possibly in excess of £500,000.

Subject to completion of this process it was agreed that the bequest would be used for a capital project and that Mr Radford's legacy would be used to fund a permanent structure in his memory.

Proposed by: Cllr Campbell.

Seconded by: Cllr L. Piper.

**RESOLVED**

**140. TOWN CLERK'S REPORT.**

The Town Clerk reported on:

a) Reports and polices to be brought before the Committee in future.

b) EF 28 2016/17 - Community Church, Ramsgate -'Candles by candlelight'.  
Amount applied for £1,000.Total expenditure: £1,800.  
Awarded: £1,000.

Proposed by: Cllr Campbell.

Seconded by: Cllr L. Piper.

**RESOLVED**

c) Letter received by Mr R. Sheldrake re: Shortfall after 'Seaside shuffle' event.

The committee considered the letter but as the event fund is closed they took no action.

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The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.50 pm.

**CHAIRMAN:**