



RAMSGATE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee Meeting

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

Date: Wednesday 19th March 2025 at 7pm

Present: Councillors: Green (Chair), Austin, Driver, Hudson and Young

Also in attendance:
Miss L Fidler, Town Clerk & RFO
Cllr Shonk, not a committee member

064/25 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Albon, Crittenden & Makinson (at TDC Planning Committee) and Cllr Hetherington (family commitment).

065/25 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

066/25 **PREVIOUS MINUTES**

Members received the Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 22nd January 2025 (minutes 012/25 to 020/25)

RESOLUTION: The Minutes were approved as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

067/25 **ACCOUNTS & BUDGETS**

The Committee received:

(i) Financial Comparison – Income and Expenditure to 14th March 2025.

(ii) Financial Statement – Cashbook to 14th March 2025.

RESOLUTION: This information was noted.

068/25 **GRANT PROCEDURE**

(i) The Committee received the Grants awarded in 2024/2025.

RESOLUTION: This information was noted.

(ii) As resolved by the Council, the Committee considered the success of the Grant Scrutiny Panel, and whether the Panel should continue. The division of the grant budget throughout the year was also considered.

RESOLUTION: The Grant Scrutiny Panel should continue. Officers will work on a plan for an easy to access grant budget with a £500 limit with a simpler application form and prepare information explaining when in the year grants are required; to help inform when the budget should be available. These two reports will be returned to the next committee meeting for consideration.

069/25

CLIMATE CHANGE TASK GROUP

The Committee received the Climate Change Task Group Minutes from 29th January 2025.

RESOLUTION: The Minutes were noted.

070/25

QUADRENNIAL REVIEW OF PARISH COUNCIL ALLOWANCES 2025-2029

The Committee considered a request from the East Kent Joint Independent Remuneration Panel for input ahead of the next Quadrennial Review covering the period 2025–2029 and make a recommendation to the Council on how to respond.

RESOLUTION: No recommendations made, Council to decide.

071/25

2025/2026 CALENDAR ARRANGEMENTS

(i) The Committee received the draft calendar of meetings for 2025/20256 and considered if any amendments needed to be made prior to approval by the Council in May 2025.

RESOLUTION: The committee recommends the draft calendar to the council.

(ii) The Committee received a report from Mr D Williams regarding Climate Change Task Group meetings and considered the question contained therein.

RESOLUTION: Cllr Austin will remain as chair to the Group until the committee considers this again in the new civic year in order to ensure continuity in the interim period.

072/25

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 involved 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 item of business.

(ii)The Committee received a report of actions and recommendations following the first round of appraisals. It was recommended that this matter be considered confidentially due to the matters relating to individual staff to be discussed.

RESOLUTION: This information was noted.

073/25

DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The date & time is to be confirmed at the Annual Meeting of the Council.