



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 22nd January 2025 at the conclusion of the Asset
Management Committee
- Present:** Councillors: Albon (Chair), Austin, Green, Hetherington, Hudson,
Huxley, Moore, Nixey, Ovenden, Shonk & Wing
- Also in attendance:
Miss L Fidler, Town Clerk & RFO
Ms M Nash, Allotment Officer

012/25 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Driver (unwell), Cllr Makinson (family commitment) and Cllr Crittenden (unwell) and Cllr Young (personal). No apologies were received from Cllr Ara.

013/25 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

014/25 **PREVIOUS MINUTES**

(i) Members received the Minutes of the Ordinary meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 2nd October 2024 (minutes 222/24 to 233/24).

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

(ii) Members received the draft Minutes of the Extra-Ordinary meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held on 3rd December 2024 (minutes 269/24 to 274/24).

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

- 015/25** **HSHAZ LIGHTING BUDGET**
Members received a report from Miss L Fidler, Responsible Finance Officer, and considered how to proceed with the matter contained therein.
RESOLUTION: The overstated budget at the start of the financial year (HSHAZ Grant) should be reduced by £14,927.75, and it is recommended that these funds be moved to the capital projects budget, from where they can be reallocated as required.
- 016/25** **DRAFT BUDGET 2025/2026**
Members received and considered the latest version (V3) of the draft budget for 2025/2026, with updated tax base, and considered if there were any final amendments to be recommended to the Council prior to approval on the 29th January 2024.
RESOLUTION: It is recommended that the precept be increased by 3%.
- 017/25** **CLIMATE CHANGE TASK GROUP**
Members received the Minutes of the Climate Change Task Group held on 27th November 2024.
RESOLUTION: The Minutes were noted.
- 018/25** **RAMSGATE SHED**
Members considered a report from Miss L Fidler, Town Clerk & RFO, detailing a Climate Change Task Group proposal, and considered the proposal contained therein for a dedicated space for the Ramsgate Shed at 12 School Lane, using the Climate Change Task Group Budget. It was noted that the agreement has been updated, and we do not currently have the latest version.
RESOLUTION: To fully support this plan and recommend approval to the Council, when the updated paperwork is received.
- 019/25** **LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION (LGA) MEMBERSHIP**
Members considered whether to subscribe to the LGA in 2025/2026 at a cost of £580+VAT. The Subscriptions & Membership budget will be insufficient to cover this cost, it was suggested that the Councillor Training budget might be an appropriate alternative budget.
RESOLUTION: To subscribe to the LGA in 2025/2026, using the Councillor training budget.
- 020/25** **DATE & TIME OF NEXT MEETING**
Wednesday 19th March 2025 at 7pm.