



RAMSGATE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee

Venue: Virtual – by virtue of the Covid-19 pandemic emergency.

Date: Wednesday 27 January 2021.

Present: Councillors; Albon, Ara, Campbell, Green, Hetherington, Huxley, Nixey, L Piper, S Piper, Rusieki, Wing and Young.

Also in attendance: R Styles–Town Clerk and Miss E Richford – Deputy Town Clerk (RFO).

104 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from: Cllrs Knight and Moore.

105 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Nixey declared a personal interest in Item 5.

106 MINUTES

Proposed by Cllr Campbell and seconded by Cllr Hetherington that;

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 October 2020 (minutes 033 to 045) are agreed as a true record.

RESOLVED

Proposed by Cllr Campbell and seconded by Cllr Rusieki that;

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 November 2020 (minutes 077 to 082) are agreed as a true record.

RESOLVED

107 BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS – FY 2021-2022

The committee considered the report of the Deputy Town Clerk (RFO); budget recommendations of the Councils Committees and of the Town Clerk / Deputy Town Clerk (RFO).

INCOME - BUDGET

Proposed by Cllr S Piper and seconded by Cllr Rusieki that the income budget recommendation to Council is that it remains unchanged as detailed;

CUSTOM HOUSE

Tenants; £16,700.00.

Chamber Hire; £2,000.00.

Visitor Information Centre; £8,500.00.

RADFORD HOUSE

Room hire £1,000.00.

ALLOTMENTS

Plot and water fees; £22.00 for a quarter plot; £44.00 for a half plot and £88.00 for a whole plot for 2021-22.

Budget; £18,000.00.

Total Income Budget **£46,200.00** - Precept income to be added.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

EXPENDITURE

ADMINISTRATION for equipment, I.T & telecoms, stationary, subscriptions, office catering - for the Custom House and Radford House.

Proposed by Cllr Hetherington and seconded by Cllr Albon that the budget recommendation to Council for Administration is an increase of 2%.

Budget; £30,600.00.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

RTC PROPERTY for The Custom House - cleaning, repairs, rent, electricity, gas, water, legal, business rates; Radford House – cleaning, repairs, electricity, water; Charlotte Court – maintenance of the Court; Albion Gardens.

Proposed by Cllr Rusieki and seconded by Cllr Campbell that the budget recommendation to Council for RTC Property is an increase of 2%.

Budget;

Custom House; £85,000.00.

Radford House; £32,000.00.

Charlotte Court; £5,100.00.

Albion Gardens; £20,100.00.
Contingency; £21,000.00. **Total; £163,200.00.**

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

STORAGE AND VEHICLES for vans x 3; tax, insurance, fuel , general maintenance, parking, containers, electricity to containers.

Proposed by Cllr Albon and seconded by Cllr Hetherington that the budget recommendation to Council is for Storage and Vehicles is an increase of 2% to the revenue budget.

Budget;

Revenue; £15,300.00.

Total; **£15,300.00.**

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

ALLOTMENTS water, repairs, key deposit refunds, invoice costs, Site Rep expenses, legal costs, electronic administration package and on-site toilet refurbishment.

Proposed by Cllr Campbell and seconded by Cllr Rusieki that the budget recommendation to Council for Allotment expenditure is no increase.

Budget;

Capital; £8,000.00.

Revenue; £10,000.00.

Total; **£18,000.00.**

DEMOCRACY elections, meeting expenses, noticeboards, and public engagement.

Proposed by Cllr Hetherington and seconded by Cllr Campbell that the budget recommendation to Council for Democracy is an increase of 2%.

Budget; £15,300.00.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

FINANCE insurance, bank charges, audit fees, accounts package.

Proposed by Cllr Campbell and seconded by Cllr Albon that the budget recommendation to Council for Finance is an increase of 2%.

Budget; £12,240.00.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE running costs, sale of goods, capital expenditure.

Proposed by Cllr and seconded by Cllr that the budget recommendation to Council for the VIC is no increase.

Budget; £12,000.00.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

CIVIC Mayoral events / functions, insignia, Cinque Ports, Twinning and Mayoral allowance (paid as required and not as a lump sum to the Mayor).

Proposed by Cllr Campbell and seconded by Cllr Rusieki that the budget recommendation to Council for Civic is no increase.

Budget; £15,000.00.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

NOTE; Following a request by Cllr S Piper the Committee unanimously gave its thanks to Cllr Ara for her continued work as Mayor throughout the difficult times faced during the pandemic over the past year.

TOWN PROMOTION

Proposed by Cllr Campbell and seconded by Cllr Rusieki that the budget recommendation to Council for Town Promotion is no increase.

Budget;

Active Ramsgate; £18,500.00.

Active Ramsgate Activities; £15,000.00.

Town Promoter; £25,000.00.

Website; £2,000.00.

Total; **£60,500.00.**

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

EVENTS FUND

Proposed by Cllr Campbell and seconded by Cllr Rusieki that the budget recommendation to Council for Events Funding is no increase.

Budget; £72,500.00 (Of which £7,500.00 to set aside for Operation Dynamo 2021 and £5,000.00 for Royal Harbour 2021 events).

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

COUNCIL GRANTS

Proposed by Cllr Wing and seconded by Cllr Ara that the budget recommendation to Council for Council Grants is an increase to the Ward Funding to £1,000.00 per Member.

RESOLUTION FELL

Proposed by Cllr Green and seconded by Cllr S Piper that the budget recommendation to Council for Council Grants is an increase of £100.00 per Ward Member for Community Ward funding, and that the Ramsgate Fund budget remains unchanged.

Budget;

The Ramsgate Fund; £35,000.00.

Ward Funding; £9,600.00 equating to £600.00 per annum for each Member.

Total; **£44,600.00.**

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

DECORATIVE LIGHTS revenue and capital spend for Town / Christmas lights.

Proposed by Cllr Albon and seconded by Cllr Green that the budget recommendation to Council for Decorative Lighting is a 1% increase;

Budget; £26,785.00.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

TOWN IMPROVEMENTS revenue and capital spend covering the town, St Laurence Churchyard, Eskdale Avenue, flower beds, palms, waste clearance in all areas as required.

Proposed by Cllr Campbell and seconded by Cllr S Piper that the budget recommendation to Council for Town Improvements is no increase.

Budget; £60,000.00.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN consultation, meeting expenses and professional services as required.

Proposed by Cllr Campbell and seconded by Cllr Albon that the budget recommendation to Council for the Neighbourhood Plan is no increase.

Budget; up to £20,000.00.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

Proposed by Cllr and seconded by Cllr that;

RESTRICTED GRANTS FUNDING

Proposed by Cllr Campbell and seconded by Cllr Albon that the budget recommendation to Council for Restricted grants Funding remains at up to £20,000.00 for CAB and East Kent Rape Crisis as required.

Budget; up to £40,000.00.

RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND

All the above RESOLVED TO RECOMMEND to Council on 3 February 2020.

108 PRECEPT 2020-2021

Proposed by Cllr Albon and seconded by Cllr Young that;

The Finance and General Purposes Committee recommendation to Council on 3 February 2021 is that it approves a precept of **£942,707.40** equating to £80.64 per annum for a Band D property – a 2% rise.

RESOLVED

109 NEW ALLOTMENT LAND ACQUISITION PROPOSAL

The report of the Town Clerk was considered.

Proposed by Cllr Campbell and seconded by Cllr Hetherington that;

The Town Clerk no longer pursues the purchase of land at Thorne Hill for use as an allotment site.

RESOLVED

HUMAN RESOURCES AND HEALTH AND SAFETY POLICY

The report of the Town Clerk was considered.

Proposed by Cllr Campbell and seconded by Cllr Albon that;

The company Ellis-Whittam are contracted to begin a complete overhaul of Human Resources and Health and Safety Policies and activities as soon as possible.

RESOLVED

PROJECTS AND PROPOSALS FOR 2021

The report of the Town Clerk was considered.

Proposed by Cllr Campbell and seconded by Cllr Ara that;

The Town Clerk brings a report back to the Committee in relation to expansion to decorative lights layout to link town and harbour, with costings, possible grant information and a proposal.

RESOLVED

110 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Proposed by Cllr Campbell and seconded by Cllr Albon that;

The Press and Public be excluded as the following item is to be taken as confidential as deemed advisable by the Chairman during the meeting under the terms of the Public bodies (Admission to meetings) Act 1960.

RESOLVED

111 CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

Two matters were considered and RESOLVED;

Letter to TDC.

Staff Matters.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.42 pm.