



## **RAMSGATE TOWN COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of Town Enhancement Working Group**

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

**Date:** Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2025 at 10:05am

**Present:** Councillors: Crittenden (Chair) and Huxley (Vice-Chair).

Also in attendance;

Mrs R Smith – Town Centre and Tourism Manager

Mrs M Morgan – Technician Manager (Projects and Community)

Mr D Williams – Marketing and Communications Officer (Minutes)

Mr T Marmo – TDC - Head of Coastal and Public Realm

Ms E Penny – TDC - Community Partnership Manager

### **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Mr G Mills (Technician Manager – HR and Health & Safety) and Mr D Gooch (TDC – Open Spaces Manager).

### **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were received.

### **REVIEW PREVIOUS MINUTES FOR ACTIONS**

The Working Group reviewed the actions within the previous minutes. It was noted that licences for pocket parks or maintenance would now be offered under Open Spaces as an Open Spaces Management Agreement. Ms E Penny would work with Mrs M Morgan and the Town Clerk on these areas.

Mr T Marmo would also send over a copy of the Volunteering Policy and Procedure once it was agreed by TDC Cabinet and Council.

Mrs R Smith would liaise with Mr D Gooch on the repairs needed for the Eastcliff steps (larger steps past the Granville).

Mr T Marmo informed the group of TDC's position on fountains in Thanet. The existing TDC policy is to close a fountain due to cost where it has broken down and then to use this as a planter, if possible. If the Council's policy was to change it would relate to all fountains in Thanet under TDC ownership. The idea was raised of possibly using the fountains on the East cliff for planters. Mrs R Smith to write a report for Town Promotion on the idea of the fountains being transferred and managed by RTC.

The group were informed that the Winterstoke storage area has been accessed and condemned by TDC – this space is still yet to be decided.

### **PROGRESS UPDATE**

Mrs M Morgan detailed a progress update on the areas that are maintained by the Technicians in regard to Town Promotion, this includes:

- Relocation of the Palms on the East and West cliffs.
- Planting and maintenance of areas at Station Approach Road and the Viaduct.
- Installation of decorative lighting in the Town Centre and Harbour Arches.
- Supporting volunteer gardening groups.
- Restoring benches in the Town Centre.

It was detailed that the following areas would be focused on in the next few months:

- Lighting in the town.
- Continue restoring benches in the town.
- Watering the palms.
- Planting and general maintenance around the town.

### **ENGAGING VOLUNTEER GROUPS**

The networking events will continue with the next one being arranged for September/October 2025. TDC officers are to be invited as well as a guest speaker and volunteers.

### **ACTIONS**

- **Ms E Penny to work with Mrs M Morgan and the Town Clerk on Open Spaces Management Agreements for pocket parks.**
- **Mrs R Smith to liaise with Mr D Gooch on repairs for the Eastcliff steps and promenade (larger steps past the Granville).**
- **Mrs R Smith to write a report for the Town Promotion Committee on the idea of the fountains on the Eastcliff being transferred and managed by RTC.**
- **Mrs R Smith to arrange the next networking volunteer event, inviting members of TDC Open Spaces Team.**

### **DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next meeting will be decided by the Town Promotion Committee but will be in September 2025.

It was agreed that membership should include TDC Open Spaces, attendee to be decided by Open Spaces. Invitations to go to Mr T Marmo, Ms E Penny and Mr D Gooch.

The Chair closed the meeting at 10:45am