



Ramsgate Town Council
The Custom House, Harbour Parade,
Ramsgate, CT11 8LP
Tel: 01843 598751.

Meeting: Virtual members briefing, using Microsoft Teams.

Date: 27th May 2020.

Time: 10 am.

Status: Memorandum.

Present: Cllrs Campbell (Chairman), Ara (Mayor), Crittenden, Green, Hetherington, Huxley, Nixey, Rev S. Piper and L. Piper.

In attendance: R. Styles (Clerk), Miss E. Richford (Deputy Clerk).

VM1: Report on the costs/benefits of redeploying our staff to COVID related activities, including an exit strategy.

The Clerk outlined the report, which pointed to the cost of providing the logistics to the Thanet Food network/hub as being around £10,000 per month. The report proposed 2 months of support, with curtailment and the ending of support by the end of August.

Cllr Green proposed instead a further 1 month of support with curtailment and ending of support at the end of July. Cllr Green said that the purpose of the technician team was to improve the town and keep it tidy and that RTC had stepped into the breach in an emergency.

Cllr L. Piper seconded Cllr Green's proposal and the meeting agreed the following:

- ❖ Logistic support will continue in full throughout June.
- ❖ Support will start to be withdrawn in July and finally end on the 31st July 2020.

- ❖ All the Food banks and charity hubs would be informed of this decision and a virtual meeting be set up to discuss what will happen when RTC ceases to deliver support.
 - ❖ The Salvation Army in Ramsgate will still be supported as Ramsgate's priority hub.
-

VM2: Tourism response as restrictions are lifted.

The clerk went through the report he had written regarding measures to manage social distancing as Ramsgate is released from lockdown. These measures may include closing of Town Centre streets and Harbour Parade, to traffic, no parking in Pierwall, the movement of the market elsewhere and an online farmers market.

The £126,000 grant to TDC for assisting businesses works out at 90p per person in Thanet and there is no information on its disbursement.

The meeting agreed the following:

- ❖ The Clerk should ask for a (virtual) meeting with the TDC CEO to seek authority for the measures in the report.
- ❖ The report should be circulated to TDC, KCC + Dept DCM+S.
- ❖ The campaign by active Ramsgate to encourage tourists to visit , should start in mid/late June to coincide with the ending of restrictions to businesses by 5th July.
- ❖ Cllr Campbell to liaise with TDC regarding adequate provision of public toilets.
- ❖ Noted that the TDC Cabinet to discuss the resumption of Kite surfing at Ramsgate.

Proposed: Cllr Campbell.

Seconded: Cllr Green.

VM3: RTC's response (if any) to the Manston freight hub DCO decision.

Cllr Green outlined his recommended response and suggested sending the response now. He pointed out that the decision from the Secretary of State for Transport, was delayed for the third time until July.

The meeting agreed with this recommendation. Cllr Rev. S. Piper and L. Piper dissenting.

Proposed by: Cllr Campbell.

Seconded by: Cllr Green.

VM4: RTC's view on the Ramsgate Port's consultation.

The clerk referred to his brief report on the subject and suggested that the focus should be on the Royal Harbour as this was the key area for the Ramsgate economy.

The meeting agreed to produce a detailed report in time for the rescheduled consultation which is timetabled for the end of 2020 or beginning of 2021.

VM5: RTC's input (if any) to TDC's review of The Local Development Plan

The clerk referred to the response sent by RTC as instructed, with the input of Cllrs Albon and Wing.

Cllr Ara proposed that Ramsgate become the campus for a new Marine Engineering College.

The meeting noted these items and that the council will await the outcome of the consultation in the final draft local plan.

VM6: Progress on various funding bids and progress on Radford House refurb.

In terms of funding applications, the Clerk reported a £15,000 funding application to the Architectural Heritage Foundation (AHF). This had been granted by the AHF.

The funding was for the following:

- ❖ £8,000 Counterculture – business and community interest viability.
- ❖ £4,000 Fiona Raley – Architect report on the history state of the structure.
- ❖ £3,000 contingency – Heritage statement.

Counterculture are doing a report for TDC for the Future High Streets fund application for Ramsgate.

Fiona Raley was recommended by our architects delRenzo + delRenzo.

A full planning application taking in change of use, repairs, and alterations to what is a listed building, will be applied for by 1st October 2020.

The meeting asked for the following:

- ❖ Contact Louise Askew at TDC regarding the Future High Streets Fund application and the structure of the plan within the application.

Proposed by: Cllr Campbell.

Seconded by: Cllr Hetherington.

The sitaur

VM7: Endorse or otherwise post holders for next council year.

Cllr Rev. S. Piper proposed that the current Chairman, Mayor and Committee Chairs remain in post till 2021.

Cllr Crittenden seconded the proposal.

The meeting agreed to the proposal as a temporary measure, which will have to be formalised in June or possibly later, at a statutory council meeting, by then the situation regarding the coronavirus regulations may be clearer and the council can then confirm or alter its structure.

VM8: Ramsgate beach: Provision of lifeguards during the summer season.

The Clerk was asked by the meeting to contact the TDC Leader, CEO and Director of Operations to consider urgently the need to fill in the lack of Lifeguard provision at Ramsgate general sands.

Cllr Green said he had raised the matter with the TDC Cabinet and suggested that Thanet Leisure Force might fill in the gap in lifeguard provision.

The meeting concluded at 11.37am