



Ramsgate Town Council

MINUTES

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

DATE: 27th March 2019

VENUE: The Custom House, Harbour Parade, Ramsgate.

PRESENT:

Chairman: Cllr T. Shonk, Chairman and Worshipful Mayor of Ramsgate.

Councillors in attendance: Campbell, T. Connor, Brown, Falcon, J. Fairbrass, L. Fairbrass, Hartley, Larkins, Martin, Rev. S. Piper, L. Piper, H. Stummer- Schmertzling and B. Young.

Officers in attendance: Town Clerk: Richard Styles, Deputy Town Clerk: Eileen Richford and Digital Communications and Marketing Officer: Dean Williams.

There were thirteen members of the electorate in attendance.

Apologies received: None.

AM 37 MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING 2018

The Mayor opened the meeting and asked for the minutes of the 28th March 2018 to be approved.

Cllr P. Campbell proposed and Cllr T. Connor seconded.

RESOLVED

AM 38 RTC ACTIVITIES THROUGHOUT 2018-19 -PRESENTATION

The Town Clerk went through the presentation on the activities of the Council in the past year.

The meeting received the report.

Cllr Rev Piper made the following points:

- ❖ Manston Road Allotments case he asked how much was spent in legal fees. Answer £65,457.
- ❖ Effingham Street Fire station as a Town Hall – even though the minutes said otherwise he holds that the original intention was to acquire the building as a new Town Hall. Other members of the meeting did not agree and pointed to the minutes as substantive proof of a community use for the building.
- ❖ Councillors had not received an apology from the Clerk as to why a specific invitation was not circulated in regard to a public meeting on the future use of Effingham Street Fire Station. The Clerk gave that apology in full to the meeting.

AM 39 REGENERATING THE TOWN CENTRE

The previous presentation covered this agenda item, but reference was made to the 'Future High Streets fund' application and the Town Centre transport survey which will be released to the public when it is completed.

The meeting received the report.

AM 40 QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

The Ramsgate residents present fielded various questions to the Council.

Questions submitted were:

1. Mr Coombes: Ramsgate Commercial Port: Proposal to construct an enlarged berthing facility to include a conveyor with a 3,000 tonne/hour capacity. Concern expressed at the possibility of untreated waste being off loaded for processing as well as a greatly increased flow of aggregate for washing and processing. The meeting was informed of ongoing 'discussions'. Taking place between senior Thanet District Council Officers and Brett aggregates.

The meeting expressed concern at these possibilities. The Clerk was asked to write to Thanet District Council for more information and to express the concern of Cllrs and the meeting. The Clerk said he would draft a letter, circulate to all Cllrs and then send the amended document to Thanet District Council.

2. Mr Murphy: Ramsgate Town Council view on the future use of the Ramsgate Commercial Port.

In reply it was stated that an assurance was given by the Leader of Thanet District Council, that a full and comprehensive feasibility study will be carried out on future activity at the port before the end of 2019.

3. Mr Urwin: What action will the Council take to draw together the community?

In reply mention was made of all the many activities facilitated, funded or partnered by the council in the recent past, but it was agreed to do even more as Ramsgate's future wellbeing, relied on the community engaging even closer.

4. Mr Davis: What action had been taken to recover the £12,000 lost on the water slide project?

In reply it was pointed out that when legal action was taken, it was found that the supplier had gone into liquidation, so that there was little prospect of recovering any money. Any similar projects now only receive payment on production of a fully working event or attraction, which reaches the standard required by the event organiser.

5. Ms Morgan: Why is the tunnel approach road closed and that HGV traffic is now routed via Military Road? In reply it was believed that this was due to ongoing work to increase resilience in the event of a no deal Brexit.

Mention was also made of the traveller encampment at Westcliff and what solution could be applied to resolve that problem. A 'tolerated site' was an option, using somewhere such as the Manston lorry park.

Mr Coombs suggested that the resilience work consisted of new road signs and tarmac road marking additions/ renewals.

6. Mr Scutt: Thanked members and council officers for funding Ramsgate magazine.
7. Cllr Falcon: thanked the Town Clerk for his help with finding a room for the rape Crisis centre to operate.
8. Mrs Shonk: What is happening with the plastic bollard in Harbour Street?

In reply it was noted that RTC is working with KCC by producing a traffic plan to show as evidence.

9. Mr Sinden: Can the traffic plan be published?

In reply it was noted that subject to council approval it can be released

10. Mr Dawson: No crossings near St Augustine's, possibly in future?

The answer was that the High Street Fund may included crossings in the plan, but will be until next year if successful.

11. Ms Morgan: Whats happening to the benches outside charlotte court?

Answer given that benches have been restored and will be reinstated as soon as CCTV is implemented given previous remove of bench.

The meeting closed at 8.10pm