



## **RAMSGATE TOWN COUNCIL**

### **Minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee**

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

**Date:** Tuesday 2 May 2017

**Present:** Councillors; Campbell, Connor, J Fairbrass, L Fairbrass, Falcon, Newman, L Piper, S Piper, Shonk and Stummer-Schmertzling.

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

244 **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Kennedy and Martin.

245 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None declared.

246 **MINUTES**

Proposed by: Councillor L Fairbrass, Seconded by: Councillor J Fairbrass, that;

The minutes of the meeting held on 25 January 2017 (minutes 189 to 198) are agreed as a true record.

**RESOLVED**

247 **END OF YEAR ACCOUNTS 2016-17**

It was noted that Town Clerk will contact TDC in order to establish the status of the Business Rate account for the Custom House.

Proposed by: Councillor Campbell, Seconded by: Councillor Stummer-Schmertzling, that;

The Election Fund budget to be increased from £12,000.00 to £15,000.00 for financial year 2017-18 and the report is noted.

**RESOLVED**

248 **COASTAL COMMUNITIES FUND AND HERITAGE ACTION ZONE**

It was noted that; a further bid to the Coastal Communities Fund may be made in or around July 2017; bids to other funding streams were also being looked into; the Commonplace survey had 3,175 contributions so far.

Proposed by: Councillor Campbell Seconded by: Councillor L Piper, that;

The Clerk is given the delegated powers to represent the Council's interests at various technical meetings with TDC Officers, Historic England Officials and others as appropriate, and when Members of Council are not in attendance.

Currently the bodies are:

RTC advisor: Coastal Community Team.  
RTC Advisor: Neighbourhood Plan.  
RTC Technical representative: HAZ Programme Board.  
RTC Advisor: HAZ Partnership meeting.

The Town Clerk to report back to the appropriate RTC committee for decision / instruction.

**RESOLVED**

249 **COMMUNITY GRANTS**

The committee noted that the Town Clerk had prepared two Memoranda of Understanding for a) Thanet CAB and b) Thanet Rape Crisis Centre following agreement of funding of £10,000.00 to both.

These were to be set in place in order the Council will be supplied the with full detail of how the funding is spent and the benefit to the public supported by them.

250 **AUDIT 2016-17**

It was noted that a new Internal Auditor had been approved and that he had made his first visit with the annual audit not completed but in hand.

251 **WAYFARING FUNDING APPROVAL**

It was noted that TDC were yet to approve the payment but the Town Clerk will make further contact with them on this matter.

The committee agreed the possibility of auctioning off any surplus / old signs when the new signs were in situ.

252 **RADFORD BEQUEST**

Proposed by: Councillor Campbell Seconded by: Councillor S Piper, that;

- a) The town Clerk to find out more about Mr Radford's background / history via an ancestry website.
- b) The already agreed Working Group made up of the Chairmen of the RTC Committees and the Chairman of Council to convene its first meeting when appropriate.
- c) A solicitor to be appointed to look into the lease on the Custom House and to act for RTC on any purchase of property in the future as determined by Members.
- d) The Town Clerk to look into the possibility of match funding from other sources such as English Heritage.

253 **TOWN CLERK'S REPORT**

1. Application for a Stopping Up Order, Highways Act Section 116, Land at Marina Esplanade, Ramsgate.

Proposed by: Councillor Campbell Seconded by: Councillor L Fairbrass, that;

Ramsgate Town Council raises no objection to the Stopping Up Order.

**RESOLVED**

2. Custom House – Room 1, now vacant.

Proposed by: Councillor Campbell Seconded by: Councillor S Piper, that;

The Ramsgate Society to trade from Room 1 with the understanding that they vacate the room as soon as it is required for use as an office by the Heritage Action Zone Officer.

**RESOLVED**

3. The committee noted that a Parish Lengthsman had been appointed and that an Apprentice Parish Lengthsman would start in June / July 2017.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 7.55 pm.