



RAMSGATE TOWN COUNCIL

STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONABLE STEPS

(October 2021 to May 2023; approved October 2021)

Ramsgate Town Council (RTC) was formed in in April 2009; there are fourteen staff and sixteen councillors that represent seven Wards (Central Harbour, Northwood, Newington, Eastcliff, Nethercourt, Pegwell and Sir Moses Montefiore).

There are five committees with different delegated areas of oversight:

- Amenities & Environment
- Finance & General Purposes
- Planning & Infrastructure
- Radford House & Custom House
- Town Promotion

RTC has a modest but growing asset list and actively seeks transfers of assets if funding is available and the transfer aligns with its regeneration policy. The current portfolio includes:

The Councillors, elected in 2019, have the following strategic objectives:

SO1. Provide facilities and services that support a well-connected town and promote health and well being

SO2. Provide a strong community voice and work in collaboration with our partners

SO3. Promote Ramsgate as a cultural community and visitor destination

SO4. Use the Town Council's influence to affect the decisions of public and private sector bodies for the benefit of Ramsgate

SO5. Ensure good governance and promote the Council's activities

ACTIONAL STEPS OCTOBER 2021 to MAY 2023

SO1. Provide facilities and services that support a well-connected town and promote health and well being

How will this be achieved:

- 1.1 Management of over 600 allotment plots over 5 sites (3 statutory, 2 non-statutory)
- 1.2 Grass cutting at Nelson Crescent (for TDC), Eskdale Avenue roundabout, Romilly Gardens (for KCC), Arklow Square and Dumpton Park Drive.
- 1.3 To explore the viability of a new green space for Ramsgate.
- 1.4 To organise a programme of high-quality markets at Charlotte Court and explore opportunities to manage other markets within the parish.
- 1.5 To manage the Montefiore Woodland in conjunction with the volunteer group
- 1.6 Develop a community centre at Radford House.
- 1.7 Provide community facilities at Customs House.
- 1.8 Provide funding and resources to assist those in need in the community.
Currently the following organisations are supported:
 - 1.8.1 East Kent Rape Crisis counsellors
 - 1.8.2 Citizens Advice Bureau
 - 1.8.3 The foodbanks
 - 1.8.4 The Salvation Army
- 1.9 To continue to provide grants via the Ramsgate Fund and Councillors Ward Grant Budgets.
- 1.10 Continue to work with Thanet District Council and be engaged with the asset devolution process to allow local management of amenity green spaces.
- 1.11 To provide assistance and encourage Friends Groups and volunteering opportunities.
- 1.12 To promote activities within Ramsgate via the CommunityAd Magazine – Delivered to 18,000 households within Ramsgate, the council website and social media platforms. Increasing this to 21,000 households will shortly be considered.
- 1.13 To keep a watching brief on matters relating to the quality of the sea and Southern Water's use of the sea for waste water dumping.
- 1.14 To explore the possibility for a Beach Club for the East Cliff.

SO2. Provide a strong community voice and work in collaboration with our partners

How will this be achieved:

- 2.1 Underwrite the development of the Ramsgate Neighbourhood Plan.
- 2.2 Produce a Highways Improvement Plan, and identify and fund improvements to be undertaken each year.
- 2.3 Ward Councillors to advocate for residents and provide assistance where possible.

SO3. Promote Ramsgate as a cultural community and visitor destination

How will this be achieved:

- 3.1 To provide a Visitor Information Centre that aims to be open 7 days per week.
- 3.2 To directly organise the following annual events:
 - 3.2.1 Remembrance Sunday Parade
 - 3.2.2 Christmas Lights Switch On
 - 3.2.3 New Years Eve Celebration
 - 3.2.4 Holocaust Memorial Day
 - 3.2.5 Armed Forces Day
 - 3.2.6 British Kitesurfing Championships in association with the Active Ramsgate initiative.
- 3.3 To provide a budget for community events (application required), in 2021 this has provided assistance to:
 - 3.3.1 Looping the Loop CIC
 - 3.3.2 Ramsgate Royal Harbour 200
 - 3.3.3 Ramsgate International Film & TV Festival CIC
 - 3.3.4 The Royal Temple Yacht Club
 - 3.3.5 Screaming Alley CIC
 - 3.3.6 Global Generation
 - 3.3.7 Ramsgate Bowls Club
 - 3.3.8 Miss Ramsgate Organisation
 - 3.3.9 Ramsgate Town Carnival
 - 3.3.10 Circa Rum Ba-Ba
 - 3.3.11 Ramsgate Festival of sound
 - 3.3.12 British Kitesports Association
- 3.4 To provide resources for community events (upon application), including market tables and the Ramsgate Event Organisers equipment.
- 3.5 Sustain civic and ceremonial traditions.
- 3.6 The Mayor to undertake civic and ceremonial duties in the town and attend community engagements and represents Ramsgate at civic events outside of the area on behalf of the town.

3.7 To promote Ramsgate as a visitor destination via the Visit Ramsgate website, Visit Kent along with a national and local distribution campaign of promotional leaflets and various online channels.

3.8 Support the Useum initiative for one year.

3.8 Fund Active Ramsgate initiative to promote the Town as a centre of activities, including a marketing executive and a co-ordinator promoting Ramsgate throughout the South-East including London.

3.9 Enhance plantings in the town centre.

SO4. Use the Town Council's influence to affect the decisions of public and private sector bodies for the benefit of Ramsgate

How will this be achieved:

4.1 Scrutinise and respond vigorously and robustly to planning applications made to TDC for developments in Ramsgate;

4.2 Ensure representation is made in respect of work being undertaken by other stakeholders for Ramsgate, currently this includes:

- 4.2.1 Heritage Action Zone (TDC)
- 4.2.2 Welcome Back Fund (TDC)
- 4.2.3 Safer Streets Fund (Kent Police)
- 4.2.4 Future High Street Fund (TDC)
- 4.2.5 Levelling Up Fund bid (TDC)

4.3 Respond to any planning application/consultation made to TDC outside the environs of Ramsgate which may impact upon the Town (i.e. Manston airport).

4.4 Advocate for an increased Police visibility and resources throughout the parish.

SO5. Good governance and promote the Council's activities

5.1 Develop and implement a Communications Strategy for the Council.

5.2 Undertake an audit of all areas of policy and procedure and seek a "Quality" standard Local Council Award Scheme (LCAS) accreditation.

5.3 Continue to invest in our staff and councillors; with agreed continuous professional development and training.

5.4 Be a living wage employer.

5.5 Work towards becoming carbon neutral by 2030

5.6 Use local and ethical supplies of goods and services wherever practicable.

5.7 Ensure that the Council's assets are well maintained and fit for purpose.

5.8 To work with East Kent College to provide a 2-year work experience placement for a young person from the Ramsgate area.