

RAMSEY TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF RAMSEY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

held on Thursday 13 July 2023 at 7pm Ramsey Town Council 7 Church Green, Ramsey

Present: - Councillors J Aubin, R Brereton (Mayor), J Bufton, J Clarke, M Clarke, S Corney, A Costello, V Fendley, A Lavender, C Maskell, J Palmer, G Rayment, N Soer, P Taylor. **In Attendance:** - L Renfree, Town Clerk.

104. **Apologies for Absence** – Cllrs B Davidson, J Howe, and E Welsh.

105. **To Receive Declarations of Interest** -

Councillors Brereton and Corney declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute No.108, Planning Applications, as Members of the District Council's Development Management Panel and reserved the right to change their views when presented with applications at the Panel. Councillors Fendley, Maskell, Rayment and Soer declared a non-pecuniary interest agenda item 5d. Cllr G Clarke declared a non-pecuniary interest on item 6e.

106. **Public Participation** – There was 1 member of the public present.

107. **Minutes of the last Meeting to be Approved** – Minutes of 22 June 2023 were **APPROVED** unanimously. The minutes were duly signed.

108. **Planning Applications for Consideration**

1.1 **23/00737/FUL** – Demolition of existing property and replacement with two storey residential dwelling and car port – 1 Biggin Lane, Ramsey. Unanimously **APPROVED** with no neighbouring objection and felt it was in keeping with the local area.

1.2 **23/01039/HHFUL**- Erection of a single storey side extension – 33 Grenfell Road, Ramsey. Unanimously **APPROVED** there were no neighbouring objections.

109. **PLANNING – OTHER BUSINESS**

Councillors asked for an update on King George V pillar and capping. Cllr Brereton informed that the pillars are complete one original cap is on and the other one is being sourced.

110. **FINANCE ITEMS**

a) Bank reconciliation figures to 30/06/23 – Clerk had to read the figures out due to a system error. Noted.

b) Financial Budget Comparison to 30/06/23 – The Clerk was unable to provide due to a system error. Noted

c) BACS/Cheque list to be approved – **APPROVED** Unanimously

d) Bus Feasibility Plan - £1500 grant request from Ramsey Neighbourhood Trust – Cllr Brereton informed the Council that this is no longer an agenda item due to CPCA taking the project over. Cllr Corney asked the Clerk to ensure the Town Council are asked for comment as a consultee.

111. **AMENITIES, CEMETERIES, HIGHWAYS AND LEISURE ITEMS**

a) Town pond future maintenance – Cllr Brereton read an email from Froglife with a proposal of maintenance costs for £400 per day for two men. Council asked the Clerk to draw up a letter of agreement with Froglife.

b) Mortuary Chapel – The Clerk outlined the fact that the Friends of the Mortuary Chapel are using the Town Council public liability insurance for events not on Council land. The Clerk has been asked for the current provider Zurich be contacted for clarity. Clerk has been asked for a letter to be sent immediately to Jane Yardley explaining the situation. Cllr Fendley suggested a memorandum be set up between Council and Friends of the Mortuary Chapel.

c) Office bench – Clerk asked Council if a bench could be donated to Busy Bee Nursery as a goodbye gift. Council **AGREED** Unanimously.

d) Green Bins (HDC) Cllr Brereton outline the plans from Huntingdonshire District Council to start charging for green bins from 1st April 2024. The cost will be £57.50 per bin with £30 charge for extra bins up to a maximum of four. Any resident not paying for a bin will have them removed within six months. A Council discussion took place with concerns for extra fly tipping especially in Slade Dyke, and the impact on residents who are already struggling to pay their mortgages. Cllr Fendley pointed out that there had not been any consultation on this matter. Cllr Corney proposed and Council **AGREED** Unanimously that the Clerk to write a letter on behalf of the Town Council outing all the points discussed.

e) Request for play equipment – Ramsey St Marys Recreation Ground – The Clerk informed Council that the play equipment authorised in July 2022 is being ordered on Friday 14th July 2023. The benches have been received and are in place. Noted

112. NEW CIVIC CENTRE UPDATE – OFFICE COSTS AND CIVIC CENTRE WORKING PARTY

RECOMMENDATIONS

Cllr Corney gave an update about the status of the building. Stairs are now in, lift issues have been resolved and hearing loop is installed. Waiting for Cromwell Fire ref emergency lighting and fire doors. The flat roof is now requiring work as it is leaking. A quote would be brought to the next Full Council meeting along with a quote for the building of the shed which has planning permission granted.

113. EMPLOYMENT WORKING PARTY RECOMMENDATIONS

The Working Party recommends the recruitment of a support worker for 1 day per week and a receptionist for up to 12 hours per week. Cllr Costello proposed, and Cllr Soer seconded, Council **APPROVED** Unanimously.

114. TOWN MAYOR'S AND CLERK'S CORRESPONDENCE

a) Taste of Ramsey Promotion – A flyer was tabled for all Councillors. Noted
The Clerk tabled a project update list – Council asked for it to be on the Council web site.
The Clerk tabled a working list which Council Noted

115. ATTENDANCES AT MEETINGS AND ORGANISATIONS

Cllr Brereton had been to a local restaurant and had his taste of Ramsey card stamped. Cllr Brereton attended a Waste Management meeting at HDC, Cllr Brereton and Cllr Maskell attended a Waste Reduction meeting, Cllr Brereton and Clerk met with Emma Stannard HDC ref grass cutting. Cllr Brereton met with Thomas a Beckett Church about Biodiversity and Cllr Fendley and Cllr Brereton met with students from Abbey College's 'Student Voice'.

116. DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS


Cllr Costello reported as the County Councillor – CC will not be spraying weeds on the footpaths unless it is a health and safety issue. There is a new Communities Capital Grant with £1.5 million, CC are diverting £500,000 to put towards County Council buildings leaving £1million for grant applications. Apply from end of June 2023 to September 2023 for a maximum of £40k. Local groups need to be informed.

District Councillors Brereton, Corney and Clarke reported on the green bin waste management, the new Parliamentary boundary changes for the next General Election and licensing issues across the district

117. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Ramsey Town Council will take place on Thursday 27 July 2023 at 7pm.

Town Mayor _____



Date _____