

## RAMSEY TOWN COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF RAMSEY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

held on Thursday 14 December 2023 at 7:00pm Ramsey Town Council 11 Great Whyte, Ramsey

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

**The Mayor Cllr Roger Brereton welcomed the councillors and residents to their first meeting in the Civic Hub.**

195. **Apologies for Absence** – There were no apologies.
196. **To Receive Declarations of Interest** -  
Councillors Brereton and Corney declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute No.200, Planning Applications, as a Member of the District Council’s Development Management Panel and reserved the right to change their views when presented with applications at the Panel. Cllrs Brereton & Costello declared a non-pecuniary interest in item 201 6e.
197. **Public Participation** There were 13 members of the public present.
198. **Minutes of the last Meeting to be Approved** – Minutes of 9th November 2023 were **APPROVED** as a correct record with 1 abstention. The minutes were duly signed.
199. **Co-option of New Town Councillor** There were two applications Mrs Lorraine Knight and Mr James McHugh. Mr McHugh did not attend the meeting. Mrs Knight gave Council an overview of herself and her working life. Council **Voted Unanimously** for Mrs Knight to join the Council.
200. **Planning Applications for Consideration**  
**1.1 23/02174/FUL** Proposed change of use of garage to form small animal clinic – 288 Ugg Mere Court Road, Ramsey Heights. **APPROVED** with 1 abstention Cllr S Corney. Council felt it was a business needed within the Ramsey Heights community and there were no neighbouring objections just support.  
**1.2 23/02147/FUL** Proposed demolition of existing bungalow and build two new bungalows and detached garages – 294 Herne Road, Ramsey St Mary’s. **APPROVED** 15 For and 1 against. Council felt it was in keeping with the local area.  
**1.3 23/02168/HHFUL** erection of a single storey rear and side extension – Living Accommodation 171 Herne Road, Ramsey St Mary’s. **APPROVED** unanimously. Council felt it was in keeping with the local area.  
**1.4 23/02187/OUT** Outline application with access (all matters reserved) for the erection of up to 4 dwellings and detached garages – Land rear of Westward House, Bury Road, Ramsey. Council felt it was a good use of the ground behind Westward Ho. **APPROVED** 9 For, 4 Against and 2 Abstentions.  
**1.5 23/02167/FUL** Proposed single traveller pitch with associated mobile home, touring caravan and day room for family who have their immediate family adjacent site – Whites Yard, Middle Drove, Ramsey Heights. **REFUSED unanimously**. Council sited the following reasons and asked the Clerk to forward the email from the Police to the Planning Department with the issues of theft and drugs down Middle Drove. Highways- extra traffic going in and out of Middle Drove, Drainage, there is no public drainage, Density of building design, Flood zone 3A as a permanent site, it is in the open countryside.
201. **Planning Other Business**  
a) Disabled parking place, Mill Lane for resident in Oswald Close – **Noted**  
b) Tree Preservation Order 23/027 – 1 Hollow Lane, Ramsey. - **Noted**
202. **Finance Items**  
a) Bank reconciliation figures (Cash Book) to 30/11/23 – **Noted**  
b) Financial Budget Comparison to 30/11/23 – **Noted**  
c) Expenditure Transactions – **APPROVED** Unanimously.  
d) Budget 24/25 **APPROVED** unanimously the budget but will wait until the January meeting to decide the precept.  
e) LHI Bid 2024 – Road Safety Improvements on behalf of Abbey College. Council **APPROVED** 10 For, 4 Against and 1 abstention for £3000 to be allocated to the bid which RTC will deliver on behalf of Abbey College.

**Councillor A Costello left the meeting at 8:33 pm**

- f) Grant Request -Neotists Tourism Website – Finance Working Party recommended refusal but after a lengthy discussion and hearing from Mr Richard Slade felt the item should be deferred for further information.
- g) Grant request Ramsey Senior Citizens’ dinner – **APPROVED** unanimously £250 towards the meal.
- h) Grant request for grass cutting – St Thomas’ Church, Pondersbridge – Finance Working Party recommended Approval. **APPROVED** unanimously.

**203. Amenities, Cemeteries, Highways and Leisure Items.**

- a) To consider applying for a Vehicle Weight Limit through High Street and Great Whyte. **APPROVED** unanimously for the Clerk to apply on behalf of the Council.
- b) New bus shelter maintenance (Biggin Lane development s106 agreement). **APPROVED** unanimously for Ramsey Town Council to take over the maintenance of the bus shelter.

**204. New Civic Centre Update.**

- a) Notice to vacate the current office on 31<sup>st</sup> December 2023 and the new office to operate from 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2024. **APPROVED** unanimously.
- b) Evacuation Chair – APPROVED unanimously to provide an evac chair for the building. **APPROVED** unanimously.
- c) Official Opening – Saturday 1<sup>st</sup> February. An invitation to be sent to the Combined Authority. Open for business 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2024.
- d) Annual photograph – To be organised for May 2024.
- e) Rental of separate office. - Council agreed to the Hunts VC to have the 12-month licence for the separate office £6k per year and Clerk to set up direct debit with them.
- f) Neighbourhood plan postcard – Council agreed to the postcard and the meeting will be held on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March.

**205. New Email Addresses.**

The following Councillors require support in setting the email address up. Cllrs Bufton, M Clarke, J Clarke, Maskell, Taylor, and Welsh. Clerk to organise support.

**206. Town Mayor’s and Clerk’s Correspondence.**

- a) Current Update of ongoing projects was tabled. **Noted**
- b) police email in response to resident’s concerns. **Noted**
- c) HDC Garden Waste Subscription Service -Councillors’ Handbook - **Noted**
- d) Anglian Water email – new storm tank – **Noted**

**207. Attendances at Meetings and Organisations.**

Nothing to report.

**208. District and County Councillor Update.**

Cllr Clarke updated about the new Council Tax brief from the District Council. There is a CIL application now open for projects ready to go or in progress.

**209. Meeting Dates for 2024. Noted**

**194. Meeting Dates.**

The next meeting of Ramsey Town Council would take place on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January at 7pm.

Town Mayor \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_