

## RAMSEY TOWN COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF RAMSEY TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

held on Thursday 9 March 2023 at 7pm Ramsey Town Council 7 Church Green, Ramsey

**Present:** - Councillors R Brereton (Mayor), J Aubin, J Bufton, J Clarke, M Clarke, S Corney, A Costello, B Davidson, J Howe, A Lavender, C Maskell, J Palmer, G Rayment, N Soer and P Taylor. **In Attendance:** - G Cook, Town Clerk.

24. **Apologies for Absence** – Cllrs V Fendley and E Welsh.

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

Councillors Brereton and Corney declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute No.30, 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. Cllrs Brereton, Maskell, Rayment and Soer also declared a non-pecuniary interest in Minute no. 34 (a.)

26. **Public Participation** – There were three members of the public present. Two of whom spoke on the proposals put forward by Ramsey Neighbourhoods Trust for the Vibrant Communities Grant.

27. **Minutes of the last Meeting to be Approved** – Minutes of 9 February 2023 were **APPROVED** by 13 votes with 1 abstention and duly signed.

28. **Masterplan & Produce Hub**

Two officers from HDC were in attendance to present current proposals. Despite several questions and concerns shown by Councillors, on the whole the plans were welcomed. The Mayor and Clerk would feed back information to the Council following further meetings

29. **Town Clerk Vacancy**

As chair of the working party Cllr Costello outlined the interview procedures that had been followed when interviewing the two candidates and made a recommendation from the working party that Lisa Renfree be offered the position. **APPROVED** by 9 votes with 4 abstentions.

Cllr Costello gave her apologies and left the meeting at 8pm.

30. **Planning Applications for Consideration**

1.1 **23/00200/FUL** Conversion of public house to 5 x 2-bedroom flats and 1 x 1 bedroom flat to include elevational alterations, new fenestration, bin/cycle store, parking and landscaping – The Lion, 201 Herne Road, Ramsey St Marys. Unanimously **REFUSED**. It was agreed that the proposals were an overdevelopment of the site and would create a loss of privacy in overlooking neighbouring properties. Council also agreed that comment made last May in respect to planning application 20/00528/FUL were still relevant.

1.2 **23/00278/FUL/LBC** Proposed replacement/repair of existing decayed sliding sash windows/doors/frames to match existing. Conversion of first floor offices to residential flat – 11A Great Whyte, Ramsey. **APPROVED** by 12 votes with 1 abstention. Would not impact on the street scene.

1.3 **22/02035/HHFUL** Removal of existing hedges and erection of 1.93m fence, relocation of gates 1.93m in height (retrospective) – 80 Ramsey Road, Ramsey Forty Foot. **REFUSED** by 11 votes with 2 abstentions. Retrospective application, works have had a detrimental impact on the street scene.

1.4 **23/00288/S73** Variation of condition 2 (approved plans) of 21/01874/FUL – 14A Star Lane, Ramsey. Unanimously **APPROVED**. Variation of condition has not increased the overall floorplan of proposed building and will not impact on neighbouring properties.

1.5 **CCC/22/151/FUL** Construction and operation of Thermal Treatment Facility for the generation of electricity from non-hazardous residual waste(post-recycling); including associated plant and infrastructure, vehicular access, car parking and landscaping – The Old Brickworks, Puddock Hill, Warboys. Cllr Corney declared an interest and left the room during the discussion. Unanimously **AGREED** that Warboys Parish Council's comment are to be supported.

1.6 **23/00296/HHFUL** Proposed two storey side and rear extensions (Retrospective) – 16 Hollow Lane, Ramsey. **REFUSED** by 10 votes with 3 abstentions. Overdevelopment of site.

**Planning - any other business**

a) Local Plan Update – No further information as yet.

31. **Financial Matters**

a) Bank reconciliation figures to 28/02/23 – Noted.

b) Financial Budget Comparison to 28/02/23 – Noted.

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

d) Funding for Coronation events – The Clerk had received requests from the villages and organisations within the Town. If all were to be granted along with Council's own plans to supply a commemorative badge to school children the budget would need to be increased from £5,000 to £6,500. **APPROVED** by 10 votes with 1 against and 2 abstentions.

e) Ramsey Horticultural Society request for grant. A donation of £100 was unanimously **APPROVED**.

**32. Amenities, Highways, Leisure and Cemetery Items**

a) Cambridgeshire Highways 20mph Application – The proposal was for a Town wide 20mph limit. **APPROVED** by 8 votes with 5 against

**33. New Civic Centre Update**

Cllr Corney gave a resume of the work within the building. There would be a delay in receiving and fitting the lift shaft. The Clerk mentioned that we had to give notice at some point to the Estate but this was not felt imminent at the moment. A quote for external lighting was tabled and discussed, these would match the heritage lights of the Memorial Clock. Unanimously **APPROVED**.

**34. Town Mayor's and Clerk's correspondence**

- a) Vibrant Communities Grant – Unanimously **APPROVED** that the Council apply for the grant on behalf of RNT.
- b) Health & Exercise Day – Council gave its unanimous **APPROVAL** for the use of QEII playing field and adult gym equipment.
- c) Email from Democratic Services HDC – Regarding issues at Wood Walton Parish Council. It was agreed that Ramsey Council were unable to assist.
- d) Cambridgeshire Science Centre – Email tabled. It was agreed that suitable venues were in short supply and that the clerk's proposal to contact the Rural Museum was acceptable.
- e) The Clerk asked for the Council's thanks be recorded to the electrician for his work in repairing the Clock's lighting, much of which was undertaken on a Sunday.

**35. Attendances at Meetings and Organisations.**

The Mayor and Cllr Costello had attended the Abbey College safety meeting. The Mayor reported that the Youth shelter had been fitted in QEII playing field and that work on Slade Dyke and Booths Hill bridge were both due to start next week.

**36. Date of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of Ramsey Town Council will take place on Thursday 23 March 2023 at 7pm pending receipt of any planning applications. Next full Council Meeting will take place on Thursday 13 April 2023.

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