

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Town Council held at the Town Hall, Rye, on
Monday 15 July 2013**

PRESENT Councillors Granville Bantick, Michael Boyd, John Breeds,
Jonathan Breeds, Mike Eve, Heidi Foster, Jo Kirkham

IN ATTENDANCE Richard Farhall - Town Clerk; District Cllr Lord Ampthill; 5
members of the public

The meeting commenced at 6.34pm and was chaired by Cllr Jonathan Breeds

44 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence – and the reasons (as notified to the Clerk) - were accepted from Cllrs Gemma Blumire, Bernardine Fiddimore (Deputy Mayor), Sonia Holmes, Nigel Jennings, Shaun Rogers (Mayor), Adam Smith, Mary Smith and Sam Souster

45 CODE OF CONDUCT

There were no disclosures of interest nor requests for dispensations.

6.35 Cllr John Breeds arrived

46 COUNCIL MINUTES

RESOLVED To adopt, as an accurate record, the Minutes of the meetings held on 17 June 2013 (C3) and 17 June 2013 (C4).

47 RYE NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT PLAN

a) Proposed Plan boundary

RESOLVED To approve the proposed Plan boundary/designated area – the Parish of Rye.

b) Amended Terms of Reference

The Clerk advised that these had been amended to reflect the outcome of the discussion on accountability and delegated authority at the Council meeting held on 17 June 2013 (C3) – ‘Option 2’.

It was noted that Cllr Adam Smith had suggested that the Terms of Reference should be amended further to make provision for the Steering Group drafting – and RTC approving – a Sustainability Assessment/Scoping Report.

Speaking from the Gallery, the Rye NPSG Vice Chairman, Anthony Kimber advised that there was some uncertainty over whether a SA was always required.

It was agreed to refer this matter to the Steering Group for further consideration.

Clerk

RESOLVED To approve the amended Terms of Reference, as presented.

c) Progress Report

Colonel Kimber reported that the SG was making progress following a considerable period of limited activity. Cllr Paul Osborne had facilitated at meeting at Rye Town Hall between the SG and representatives from most neighbouring parishes. It was clear that there was little awareness of neighbourhood planning. It was acknowledged that there are areas outside the Rye Parish boundary of particular significance to Rye – notably the Rye Harbour Industrial Area and Rye Winchelsea & District Memorial

Hospital. Taking advice from the Head of Planning Strategy it was agreed that, where appropriate, the Rye NP would make reference to such areas – and that protocols would be drawn up to ensure liaison between the SG and neighbouring parishes during the Plan's development.

The next stage is to ask RDC to approve the proposed designated area. This would require a statutory 6-week public consultation.

The SG still had to estimate likely costs – including consultation, writing up the Plan and the required referendum. A total figure of £15,000-£17,000 would be a reasonable guesstimate - expended over a 2-year period.

A public meeting is planned for 17 October.

RESOLVED To receive the update and issue a press release along the lines suggested.

48 COUNCILLOR MICHAEL BOYD

RESOLVED 1 To increase the membership of the Planning & Townscape Committee from 7 to 8 Members.

RESOLVED 2 To appoint Cllr Boyd to the Planning & Townscape Committee.

49 NETWORK RAIL LONDON & SE MARKET STUDY

RESOLVED To adopt – and submit - the proposed response (drafted by Stuart Harland and Recommended by the Public Services Committee). Clerk

50 RYE INTERNATIONAL JAZZ FESTIVAL 2013

Members considered an application for a grant of £500 towards the provision of additional free street entertainment.

It was noted that Cllr Mary Smith had written suggesting that the grant should not be considered without a full set of audited accounts.

The Clerk advised that normally RTC would be invited to consider applications from not-for-profit organisations providing their previous financial year's accounts. The Rye International Jazz Festival is a relatively new private company that does not have to file accounts until towards the end of the month. He added that there was no reason why RTC could not give a grant to a private company – particularly because the council had the Power of General Competence.

Cllr Eve observed that the applicant had provided a profit & loss statement for last year's festival which demonstrated the considerable support for the event from businesses in the town.

It was agreed generally that last year's festival had been successful.

RESOLVED (unanimous) To award the grant requested, subject to the receipt of documentary evidence that the applicant had expended (at least) £500 on the additional street entertainment. Clerk
statutory power: LGA1972 s145

51 URGENT ITEMS

There was none.

The meeting ended at 6.54pm

Date Chairman