

Minutes of a Meeting of the Town Council held at the Town Hall, Rye, on Monday 11 March 2019

PRESENT Councillors Sam Barnes, Mike Boyd (**Mayor**), John Breeds, Cheryl Creaser, Charlie Harkness, Pat Hughes, Jo Kirkham, Ray Prewer, Andi Rivett, Shaun Rogers, Andy Stuart

IN ATTENDANCE Richard Farhall - Town Clerk; Colonel Anthony Kimber – RNPSG Vice-Chairman; 3 members of the public

The meeting commenced at 6.30pm.

151 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence – and the reasons as lodged with the Clerk – were accepted from Cllrs Jonathan Breeds, Bernardine Fiddimore, Rebekah Gilbert (**Deputy Mayor**) and Ian Potter.

152 CODE OF CONDUCT

There were no disclosures of interest at this point.

153 PUBLIC QUESTIONS/COMMENTS

Colonel Kimber and a member of the public both indicated that they would like to speak at item 155.

154 COUNCIL MINUTES

RESOLVED To approve the draft Minutes of the meeting held on 28 January 2019 (C16).

155 RYE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN

Members were invited to agree the Council's response to the questions posed by the Independent Examiner.

At the Mayor's invitation, Colonel Kimber introduced the RNPSG's draft response to the Examiner's initial questions:

- RTC approved the RNP at the end of 2018, prior to moving to the Regulation 16 stage.
- The RNPSG worked with RDC planners on Reg 16 preparation.
- RDC led the Reg 16 process, including considering the c40 representations received and liaising with the External Examiner.
- The Examiner has assessed all the documentation provided to him (including the representations) and put (the same) initial questions to both RDC and RTC.
- The proposed responses to the Examiner's questions have been run by RDC. They have been framed in such a way so as to preserve the RNP's intent and policies.
- Importantly, RDC has confirmed that the RNP housing provision meets its minimum requirement.

Colonel Kimber added that, since the draft response to the Examiner's questions were provided to Members, RDC had provided a new map placing Rye Primary with the development boundary.

RESOLVED 1 To agree the inclusion of the amended map.

He confirmed that the RNP protects Gibbet Marsh from development by making provision for the current usage to remain – ie a hard surfaced parking area, overflow parking and a 'green corridor' between the car parking and the river.

Cllr Stuart observed that Map 2 showing the EA's landholding appeared to be imprecise – and suggested that the accompanying text was inaccurate because the EA is considering giving up the freehold of some of its land. Furthermore, sale particulars of five properties proposed for what appears to be EA land suggest that they will be sold freehold.

Colonel Kimber advised that the map was intended to be indicative only (to help the Examiner) and did not form part of the RNP. He was aware that the EA had recently accidentally sold land freehold when it had intended to grant a lease. He had no evidence that the EA had sold the land associated with the five dwellings.

RESOLVED 2 Map 2, line 1 insert 'normally' after 'not'. AK

Responding to a question from a member of the public, Colonel Kimber advised that, after the RNP had been adopted, Gibbet Marsh could not be developed with the consent of the Secretary of State.

The member of the public asked if RTC's aspiration of holding the referendum on 2 May (to coincide with the parish and district elections) was achievable. Colonel Kimber considered that this could depend on whether the Examiner has further questions. He added that he had a draft flyer that could be distributed to all households to highlight the upcoming referendum.

RESOLVED 3 To endorse the proposed response to the Examiner's questions, as amended (deadline: 12.3.19). Clerk

156 PROPOSED PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

RESOLVED 1 To adopt the Draft Terms of reference.

RESOLVED 2 To defer the appointment of Members to Committee Formation. Clerk

157 EXCLUSION OF THE PUBLIC AND PRESS

RESOLVED In accordance with the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 (1)(2), to exclude the public and press from the item following on the grounds that it involves consideration of the safeguarding of Council property.

158 RYE HERITAGE CENTRE

Cllr Stuart advised that one of his friends worked for the company that had quoted to supply the security system to be considered – and is a shareholder.

RESOLVED To purchase the property marking system considered. Clerk

The meeting ended at 7.08pm

Date Chairman