

**MINUTES**  
of  
**A Meeting of New Romney Town Council**  
**Held in the Assembly Rooms, New Romney**  
**on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2024**  
**Commencing at 6.45pm**

**PRESENT:** The Right Worshipful the Mayor of New Romney,  
Councillor John Rivers

**Town Ward:**

**Councillors:** W D Wimble, J Davies, J Houston and P Carey

**Coast Ward:**

**Councillors:** P Thomas, J Hiscock, P Coe, K Terry, Sarah O'Hare  
and A Meredith

**In Attendance:**

Deputy Town Clerk	-	Mrs C T Morris
KCC Councillor	-	Cllr Hills
Mayor's Chaplain		
1 x Member of Public		

**IN THE CHAIR**

The Mayor – Councillor J Rivers

The formal business of the meeting commenced **@6.45PM.**

096/2024-25 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received and noted, as follows:

Councillor Phillips	-	due to work commitments
Councillor Hodges	-	for personal reasons
Councillor Rev Cn McLachlan	-	for personal reasons
Councillor Glover	-	due to work commitments

097/2024-25 **DISPENSATION TO PARTICIPATE**

No new applications for Dispensation to Participate had been processed by the Town Clerk.

098/2024-25 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**@6.46PM** Councillor Hiscock declared a personal interest in respect of Town Council finance reports due to her employment of a contractor who is also employed by the Town Council. (Minute Refs 109/2024-25(i) & (ii) refer.)

**@6.48PM** The Mayor's Chaplain joined the meeting and was invited by the Chairman to lead the Council in prayer.

099/2024-25 **REPORT OF THE KENT COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

The written report from the Kent County Councillor, which included updates relating to Highways, power generation at Dungeness, Climate Change, Seawater Quality, Bus Transport and the Romney Marsh Visitor Centre was duly received and noted with questions having first been put and answered.

100/2024-25 **REPORTS OF THE DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

FHDC Councillor Thomas' written report, which included details of meetings attended, Ward Grant funding awarded, Romney Marsh Visitor Centre and matters pertaining to the Romney Marsh Partnership, was duly received and noted.

101/2024-25 **ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING**

It was not necessary to adjourn the meeting as no public questions or statements had been received in writing.

102/2024-25 **PUBLIC QUESTIONS**

None.

103/2024-25 **RE-CONVENING OF MEETING**

Not applicable.

104/2024-25 **MINUTES**

(i) The Chairman presented the minutes of the **Full Council Meeting** held on **10<sup>th</sup> June 2024**, copies of which had been previously circulated to all Councillors, and it was:

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor Coe

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Carey

**RESOLVED – that the minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2024 be approved and signed as a true and correct record.**

Councillors Carey and Wimble abstained from voting as they had not been present at the afore-mentioned meeting.

(ii) The Chairman presented the minutes of the **Especial Full Council Meeting** held on **26<sup>th</sup> June 2024**, copies of which had been previously circulated to all Councillors, and it was:

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor Thomas

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor O'Hare

**RESOLVED – that the minutes of the Especial Full Council Meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2024 be approved and signed as a true and correct record.**

Councillors Meredith, Houston and Wimble abstained from voting as they had not been present at the afore-mentioned meeting.

The afore-mentioned minutes were subsequently signed by the Chairman of the Council.

105/2024-25 **MAYOR'S REPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS**

- (i) The Mayor's report regarding civic engagements attended since the last meeting of Full Council was duly received and noted.
- (ii) No additional communications of note had been received by the Town Mayor.

106/2024-25 **TOWN CLERK'S REPORT**

The Town Clerk's report was received and noted and read as under:

**MEETING OF FULL COUNCIL – 9<sup>th</sup> JULY 2024**  
**DEPUTY TOWN CLERK'S REPORT**

**Actions completed since the Full Council meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2024**

- 1) The Schedule of Council Representative Appointments for 2024-25**, which was approved on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2024, is to be re-presented at this meeting for amendment prior to publication.
- 2) Composition of the Personnel Committee** was not formally approved by way of a vote on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2024 and is, therefore, re-presented at this meeting for formal approval.

**Additional Items of report**

- 1) The 2024 AGAR (Annual Governance and Accountability Return)**, which was approved on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2024, has been submitted for external audit along with associated documentation.
- 2) The Notice of appointment of date for the exercise of public rights** along with the **2024 unaudited AGAR** was published on the Town Council's website on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

Deputy Town Clerk

3<sup>rd</sup> July 2024

**Further Items of report**

The Clerk conveyed the thanks of the Facilities and PR Clerk to the Council for their flowers, wishes and support, during what had been a difficult time.

107/2024-25 **STANDING ORDER NO.14**

No questions had been submitted in accordance with Standing Order 14.

108/2024-25 **STANDING COMMITTEES**

(i) Councillor Rivers presented the minutes of the **Health & Wellbeing Committee** meeting held on **25<sup>th</sup> June 2024**, which were duly received and noted.

(ii) Councillor Coe presented the minutes of the **Planning and Environment Committee** meeting held on **19<sup>th</sup> June 2024**, which were duly received and noted.

(iii) Following due consideration, it was:

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor Davies

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Housten

**RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY – that the composition of the Town Council’s Personnel Committee, as listed below, be formally approved.**

**Councillor Rivers  
Councillor Thomas  
Councillor Coe  
Councillor Davies  
Councillor Rev Cn McLachlan**

**Reserve Member:  
Councillor Hiscock**

109/2024-25 **RFO’S FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR 2024-25**

(i) The Clerk presented final payments and receipts and final bank reconciliation for the month of **April 2024**, which were duly received and noted and it was:

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor Davies

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Hiscock

**RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY – that the finance reports for the month of April 2024 be hereby received and approved.**

Payments and receipts for the month of **April 2024** being in the amounts as detailed below:

<b>April 2024</b>	<b>Receipts:</b>	<b>Payments:</b>
NatWest Current Account	£350,889.19	£350,889.19
Unity Trust Current Account:	£0.00	£1,554.35

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Lloyds Bank Business Account:	£803,941.69	£612,327.23
NatWest Business Reserve Account:	£202,235.95	£151,238.79
Petty Cash:	£0.00	£10.00
Lloyds Bank Corporate Card:	£70.77	£450.74
Lloyds Bank Instant Access Online Saver	£502,190.96	£0.00
NSIB	£0.00	£641,000.00

(ii) The Clerk presented final payments and receipts and final bank reconciliation for the month of **May 2024**, which were duly received and noted and it was:

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor Wimble  
**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Housten

**RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY – that the finance reports for the month of May 2024 be hereby received and approved.**

Payments and receipts for the month of **May 2024** being in the amounts as detailed below:

<b>May 2024</b>	Receipts:	Payments:
NatWest Current Account	£101,405.36	£101,405.36
Unity Trust Current Account:	£3,621.66	£2,106.73
Lloyds Bank Business Account:	£888,914.13	£39,443.57
NatWest Business Reserve Account:	£1,644.95	£100,230.96
Petty Cash:	£0.00	£85.43
Lloyds Bank Corporate Card:	£551.40	£684.01
Lloyds Bank Instant Access Online Saver	£2,821.31	£0.00

110/2024-25 **COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES' REPORTS**

(i) There were no Council Representatives' reports on this occasion.

(ii) Following due consideration it was:

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor Thomas

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Davies

**RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY – that the attendance rota for monthly Councillor Surgeries be hereby approved as presented.\***

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor Rivers

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Coe

**RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY – that, amendments to the Schedule of Town Council Representatives on Outside Bodies for 2024-25 be hereby approved as presented.\***

\*See meeting agenda for presented attendance rota and amendments to Schedule of Town Council Representatives on Outside Bodies.

111/2024-25 **CAPITAL PROJECTS REPORT**

(i) The Maude Community Centre Project Report was duly received and noted.

(ii) The Maude Community Centre Project Financial Update Report was duly received and noted.

112/2024-25 **USE OF ST MARTIN'S FIELD**

Due consideration was given to the request received to use St Martin's Field for parking for the 2024 Romney Marsh 10K run. It was:

**PROPOSED BY:** Councillor Rivers

**SECONDED BY:** Councillor Thomas

**RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY – that the request to use St Martin's Field for parking for the 2024 Romney Marsh 10K run, be declined.**

113/2024-25 **EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

The Clerk confirmed that it was not necessary to exclude members of public and press on this occasion.

114/2024-25 **ON-GOING MATTERS**

The Clerk confirmed that there were no matters of report on this occasion.

115/2024-25 **PERSONNEL MATTERS**

The Clerk confirmed that there were no matters of report on this occasion.

116/2024-25 **LAND AND TENANCY MATTERS**

The Clerk confirmed that there were no matters of report on this occasion.

117/2024-25 **CONCLUSION OF PRIVATE SESSION**

Not applicable.

The Chairman thanked the Councillors and Clerk for their attendance and the meeting then concluded @ **7.20PM**.

NB: All documents referred to herein are available at the Town Hall for perusal on request, except for those documents of a sensitive / legal nature discussed in private session, including documents relating to staff matters which remain Private and Confidential in accordance with Data Protection legislation.

Minutes prepared by the Deputy Town Clerk