

WALMER PARISH COUNCIL
8 The Strand, Walmer, Deal, Kent, CT14 7DY

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Dated this 28th of June 2021

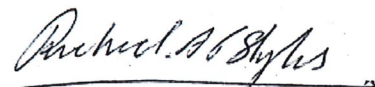
To: Councillors: J Lonsdale, P St Ange, M Eddy, D Thompson & Mrs S Le Chevalier

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the **Emergency Climate Working Group** to be held on **Wednesday the 30th of June** via 'Zoom' Video Conferencing at 7.00pm to transact the business set out below.

Meeting ID: 224 572 9770

Password: 294456

Telephone number (for audio access only) 0203 695 0088



Richard Styles
Clerk to the Parish Council

Copy to Cllr J Murray – Chairman

AGENDA

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 6 January 2021.

Attach 1

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE

5. PRIORITIES AND ACTIONS

- **EV charging points**

- i) To receive a verbal update from Cllr Lonsdale on the Canada Rd/ Rugby Club chargepoints installation
- ii) **Proposal** - following the withdrawal of the proposed Station Drive site, to consider re-assigning the £2k match funding previously budgeted towards an alternative location/ installation scheme elsewhere in Walmer – via DDC KCC or alternative grant schemes (see grant database proposal below).

- **Biodiversity on DDC land:**

See attached the reply sent to Cllr Bartlett's following his recent email. Comments welcome/ to note.

Attach 2

- **Outdoor gym:**

To receive a verbal update from Cllrs Thompson, Lonsdale, Eddy and Le Chevalier.

Previously resolved: That TGO are the preferred supplier. That WPC have budgeted £10k towards the scheme. Cllr Le Chevalier was to begin a search for potential grants to support the scheme.

Proposal

Cllr Lonsdale attended a WPC webinar recently, run by Matthew Godfrey from Idox. It introduced a grant funding database/ search engine that allows subscribers to find any grants available for projects across the UK. There is an offer that 3 Parish Councils can combine to cover the £998 annual fee, so £333 for WPC. Some details attached. Should we try this for a year (perhaps along with Deal TC and Kingsdown & Ringwould PC?), primarily to find grants for the outdoor gym, but potentially for other WPC projects too?

Attach 3

- **Involving schools:**

To receive a verbal update from Cllr Lonsdale regarding pupil engagement with Deal Parochial

- **Thermal Loss Heat Camera:**

Due to Covid the FLIR E4 camera purchase was delayed until the summer, with a view to implementing the scheme next Autumn (2020). Cllr Lonsdale was in touch with Frome Town Council who run a similar scheme. They sent through their guide to running the scheme, as well as their recommended camera. Details of both are attached again.

Proposal - we should now make the purchase (£770 + VAT) and start the scheme, adapting Frome TC's approach for Walmer.

Attach 4

- **Electric Buses**

A letter, drafted by Cllr Eddy, was sent to Leader of DDC Trevor Bartlett, copying in Nadeem Aziz (Chief Executive), Roger Walton (Strategic Director), Cllr Kevin Mills (Leader of the Opposition) and Cllr Peter Walker (Independent). This was to request unallocated S106 monies (as established in Cllr Gardner's FOI report) be allocated to ongoing and future WPC Climate emergency projects (including potential electric bus infrastructure).

Letter sent attached, along with the letter back from Cllr Bartlett. Comments welcome.

Attach 5 & 6

- **Beebombs for residents:**

At the October 2020 CEWG meeting councillors agreed this is a good idea, to buy 100 beebombs (www.beebombs.com) to give to residents one each with proof of residence via a Council Tax bill. Implementation was delayed due to Covid however.

Proposal - Sowing season is every Autumn and Spring, so now would be a good time to get ready to launch. The Clerk should seek the lowest cost possible (100 is believed to be less than our £500 limit) and report back to the September CEWG for final sign off.

- **Centre for Sustainable Energy:**

This is a pilot programme to support town and parish councils with sustainability. Cllr Le Chevalier completed a survey aimed at joining WPC up at no cost. To receive a verbal update from Cllr Le Chevalier on whether any information or support has been made available since enrolment

- **Cycle storage at Walmer Station:**

Cllr Lonsdale to update councillors on the latest on the application to the Cycle Rail Fund for secure cycle storage at the station. WPC has committed £6k, in partnership with Southeastern.

iii) New/ future measures

- **62 Strand new office sustainability surveyor :**

At Full Council 4 quotes were narrowed down to two – a decision between PPL Architects and Conker Conservation – references are attached.

Proposal - Decide which surveyor to go with and engage them asap.

Attach 7

6. TRAINING EVENTS

None.

7. ANY OTHER QUESTIONS OR OBSERVATIONS.

- **Changing CEWG status from a Working Group to a Committee:**

The CEWG is already effectively functioning as a committee. It has multiple projects on the go, rather than one which is normal for a working group. The CEWG has clearly moved beyond it's original remit and it is impractical to have to wait for A&E sign off before taking action on projects which often have a deadline. We previously planned to action this in May, but due to Covid meetings were suspended.

Proposal – To seek sign off for new terms of reference from Full Council at the next meeting

8. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 1 September 2021 at 7pm

WALMER PARISH COUNCIL

DRAFT Minutes of the meeting of the Climate Emergency Working Group held at 7pm on Wednesday 6th January 2021 via Zoom Video Conference.

Councillors present: Cllrs Lonsdale (Chair), Mrs S Le Chevalier, M Eddy, D Thompson

Officer present: None officially, Locum Clerk Kevin Lynch observed

022. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Apologies with reason were accepted from Cllrs D Symons and P St Ange

023. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received.

024. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 14 October 2020 be approved.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meeting be approved as a correct record and will be signed by the Chairman at the earliest opportunity.

025. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE

None

026. PRIORITIES AND ACTIONS

i) Current/ ongoing items - reports and discussion

- **EV charging points**
 - a. To receive an update from Cllr Lonsdale
 - b. To consider assigning further monies from the working group's 2021/22 budget for the purpose of match funding the EV charging point scheme.

RESOLVED: That the proposal for £2k of match funding for EV charge points on Station Drive goes to Full Council On January 13th, with a view to Cllr Lonsdale making an application to KCC if authorised in principle.

- **Biodiversity on DDC land** – to receive any feedback from the Leader of the Council

RESOLVED: Cllr Lonsdale to reply to Cllr Bartlett's email, asking for increased focus on reducing pesticides and cutting, and to consider Walmer as a trial area for possible alternate methodologies. Also to query DDC's belief that Dover District has healthy tree coverage, justifying the lack of any planting strategy.

- **Outdoor gym** - to receive an update from Cllrs Thompson, Lonsdale and Symons.

RESOLVED: That TGO are the preferred supplier. That WPC have budgeted £10k towards the scheme. That a recommendation be put to Full Council to look for supporting monies to bring the project forward. That Cllr Le Chevalier begins a search for potential grants to support the scheme.

- **Involving schools** - To discuss any feedback from schools after receiving Cllr Mrs S Le Chevalier's letter

RESOLVED: That Cllr Lonsdale continues to liaise with Deal Parochial Head Teacher Justine Brown regarding pupil engagement once the pandemic allows.

- **Thermal Loss Heat Gun** - update from Cllr Lonsdale.

RESOLVED: That due to Covid the FLIR E4 camera purchase be delayed until the Summer, with a view to implementing the scheme next Autumn

- **Zero Waste Events** – update from Cllr Symons

RESOLVED: That Cllr Symons excellent report, with any additional local suppliers, be forwarded to Full Council in February or March with a view to implementation

- **Electric Buses** – update from Cllr Lonsdale.

RESOLVED: That Cllr Eddy draft a letter for the Chair to send to the leader of DDC requesting unallocated S106 monies (as established in Cllr Gardner's FOI report) be re-allocated to ongoing and future WPC Climate emergency projects (including potential electric bus infrastructure).

ii) New/ future measures

- **Cross Rd Community Woodland** – update from Cllrs Eddy and Lonsdale

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note.

- **Centre for Sustainable Energy** – to consider joining a pilot programme to support town and parish councils.

RESOLVED: Cllr Mrs S Le Chevalier to examine any cost implications with a view to enrolling.

027. TRAINING EVENTS

- i) **KALC/KCC/ Kent and Medway Environment Board - Net Zero Environment Event**

To receive any feedback from the delegate to the event held on 3 November 2pm -4pm

RESOLVED: Report from Cllr Lonsdale. Members agreed to note.

- ii) **Kent's Plan Bee launch - 16th November 2020**

To receive any feedback from the delegate to the event

RESOLVED: Due to attendee Cllr Symons absence, report delayed until next meeting.

028. ANY OTHER QUESTIONS OR OBSERVATIONS.

- i) **Cycle storage at Walmer Station:**

Cllr Lonsdale updated members on Southeastern's recent email asking for 10% match funding to install significant secure cycle parking at Walmer station, an initiative WPC and the CEWG have been pursuing for over a year.

RESOLVED: That the proposal to contribute £6k towards Southeastern's application to the Cycle Rail Fund goes to Full Council for authorisation in principle.

ii) **Proposal to change CEWG status from a Working Group to a Committee:**

The CEWG is already effectively functioning as a committee. It has multiple projects on the go, rather than one which is normal for a working group. The CEWG has clearly moved beyond it's original remit and it is impractical to have to wait for A&E sign off before taking action on projects which often have a deadline.

RESOLVED: In May an application will be made to change the Terms of Reference.

029.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 10 March 2021 at 7pm

Signed: Date.....

Biodiversity Email response CEWG to Cllr Bartlett – Leader of DDC

Dear John

Thank you for your email and my apologies for not getting back to you sooner. I am very well thank you and hope you are too. I have asked the officers to look into the matters you mention and please find the following answers to your queries, in red.

What is DDC's cutting and pesticide regime?
It varies for all types of locations. The cutting regimes are: % day cut & collect, 10 day cut & drop, 20 day cut & drop, (there are some tailored areas with 2, 4 or 6 cuts too), and then we have an annual meadow cut (with the option of collecting grass cuttings). Pesticides are used more on hard standings, roads and paths and is generally two sprays per annum, however this is always under review.

We note there seem to be less areas routinely mown areas around Walmer, which is good news. We'd encourage further areas to be considered, perhaps the Easterly bank of Borrow Pit car park and areas of Walmer Green and Marke Wood. Sowing native wildflower seeds in these areas would be a great contribution to biodiversity too.

Does DDC use glyphosate weedkiller and if so are they prepared to switch to wildlife friendly foamstream instead?
DDC has already explored foam systems but they are expensive and labour intensive. We have also looked at blow-torch methods and whilst these alternative methods are improving each year, they are not viable options at this present time. We are exploring options of utilising both chemical and foam methods to reduce the glyphosate operations.

That's good to hear, we'd encourage you not to give up given the damage glyphosate does. If you'd like to carry out trials in Walmer then the Parish Council would support that.

Does DDC try to minimise per annum cutting of DDC or WPC owned grassed areas to maximise potential for pollinators and wild flora?
Grass cutting regimes are continually under review and areas identified to have annual cut added. Quite recently we changed the cutting regimes of all the grass banks in Victoria Park to annual and meadow cut on one occasion per annum (September). Again, that's very good news, we'd encourage further areas to be considered.

Are there areas currently mown that could be left entirely uncut and turned into wildflower areas – eg the bank to the East of Borrowpit Car Park, up towards the sea. As above

Yes good news about Victoria Park, but what other areas are being considered? As above, what about the Easterly bank of Borrow Pit car park and areas of Walmer Green and Marke Wood? Sowing native wildflower seeds too.

Does DDC have plans to create any entirely new biodiverse areas, perhaps on or at the edge of low grade farmland? A great example is the new area of wildflower meadows created by the National Trust on the cliffs at Wanstone near the South

Foreland Lighthouse. DDC already manages large areas of semi natural landscapes and some of the largest areas of chalk grassland in Europe through the White Cliffs Countryside Partnership. Again, this is always under review. Understood, we'd certainly encourage that new areas be found along the lines of Wanstone, which was on the edge of farmland. There is a large amount of land under monoculture cultivation in the district, farmed with fertilizers and pesticides which creates huge dead zones. The council should consider negotiating with landowners that certain areas be turned over to native wildflower meadows, both for biodiversity and public enjoyment.

There are also many public footpaths in the district which run through barren farmland of monoculture non-organic crops. Creating joined-up biodiverse corridors around footpaths would be of huge benefit to the environment and population. Is this something that can be explored? The lack of any mention of wildlife corridors in the draft Local Plan is very disappointing. Is this going to be added?

Following a NALC and Woodland Trust webinar attended by our Cllr Amy Herring, Walmer Parish Council has now signed up to be a recognised Tree Charter branch. This allows us to work with other councils to protect and support trees, vital for biodiversity and carbon capture. Is this something DDC is also willing to do? Not at this time and needs to be reviewed. Carbon capture is slow whereas reducing carbon emissions is quick.

We need to do both, it's an emergency that requires action on all fronts. DDC should become a Tree Charter branch and develop a robust enforced policy to protect and support trees, as well as plant more. The absence of a proactive tree strategy in the draft Local Plan is astonishing, will this be addressed?

The Woodland Trust Emergency Tree Plan also recommends that local authorities take action to identify land for trees and to increase canopy cover. Walmer Parish Council is doing this. Could you let us know what process is in place for DDC to do the same? Dover District is fortunate to have a very healthy tree coverage. The Council has an unadopted policy of where possible to replace every tree it removes with two replacements. We also push for increased numbers of tree planting within new developments in the District. We do not currently have any designated land identified for solely tree planting.

Really disappointing to hear there's no policy to identify land for tree planting, nor is there anything substantive in the Local Plan - which will run most of the way up to when we're supposed to be carbon neutral in 2050. I'm not sure where you get the impression Dover District has healthy tree coverage? The attached 2019 report from the Woodland Trust comparing woodland cover across UK constituencies states that Dover only has 4.8% coverage, against a national average of 13%. The target for 2050 is 17%. Could you let us know on what basis DDC claim tree cover is healthy, and no tree planting policy is necessary?

Regarding the current trees we have, in Walmer and Deal there seems little protection – for example the Aldi development and the new Trafalgar Square housing estate. We're not sure what's meant by an 'unadopted' policy, does that mean it's not in force? Where are the double trees being planted to compensate for the losses? It'd be great if you could let us know where they are. Either way the fact that mature trees are being cut down and replaced with saplings that will take decades to mature is not ideal, so this should be avoided. New housing developments of course almost always result in biodiversity loss. Extensive tree planting to partly compensate is helpful, but new community woodlands on the same land area as each development would be a better environmental policy. Is DDC willing to adopt a policy along these lines as part of its declaration of a Climate Emergency?

I hope that information is helpful to you.

Best wishes
Trevor



Cllr Trevor Bartlett
Leader of the Council

Dover District Council Council Offices, White Cliffs Business
Park, Whitfield, Dover, CT16 3PJ Tel: 01304 872003 Email:
Cllr-Trevor.Bartlett@dover.gov.uk Web: <http://dover.gov.uk>



Provision of the Grant Advisor service

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1.1 Summary

This document outlines our proposal regarding the provision of the online funding search facility [Grant Advisor](#) for the period 2020-2021.

It is designed to present all the information you need to help you and your colleagues make an informed decision on the purchase of our service.

1.2 About Idox

Idox is Europe's leading provider of funding and policy information. It is part of the Idox Group, an AIM listed company that specialises in **solutions for clients across local, regional and national government**. Our division employs 97 people in offices based in London, Manchester, Glasgow, the Netherlands and Brussels.

1.3 Specific expertise

We have been providing funding solutions in the UK since 1985.

Grant Advisor provides an easy and cost-effective solution to help organisations keep on top of funds from the EU, national government, local councils and thousands of charitable trusts.

Its easy-to-use and cost-effective grants search is accessed by professional service providers, businesses, schools and the voluntary and community sector to maximise their funding potential.

1.4 Key features and benefits of Grant Advisor

What would investing in **Grant Advisor** mean to your organisation? There are 4 key reasons to choose **Grant Advisor**:

1. **Efficiency** – a cost-effective way of accessing funding opportunities at the click of a mouse. Funding is split into Business, Community, Learning and Public Sector areas so you only pay for the modules you need
2. **Flexible use of information** – weekly e-newsletters and personalised email alerts allow you to distribute details on all the latest funding announcements and approaching deadlines
3. **A complete funding service** – turn funding search results into MS Word reports that colleagues and clients can take away and read at their own convenience
4. **Peace of mind** – reassurance that you have access to comprehensive information, updated every working day

A tangible return on investment...

- Information on thousands of funding schemes including grants, loans and awards from local, regional and national UK government, European funding, charitable trusts and corporate sponsors
- Content ranging from modest community funds at one end of the spectrum to major, multi-million pound European initiatives at the other
- Information presented jargon-free allowing you to quickly select the most relevant funding schemes

A service you can rely on...

- A large Research team with many decades of funding experience, dedicated to searching for new funding opportunities all day and every day
- Content on the site updated every working day – as soon as we know about a funding opportunity, so will you!
- Personal support on offer from our Customer Service team to ensure maximum return on your investment
- First-class copywriting expertise – we present complex funding guidelines in an easily digestible format
- User-friendly funding platform which make searching easy for our enquirers

1.5 What our clients say

Comments from our clients across the UK have included:

“easy to use”, “provides relevant and extremely important information”, “saves a lot of time”, “an essential tool” and “I have recommended the product on a number of occasions”.

More comments from some of our existing service users can be found here:

<http://www.idoxgrantadvisor.co.uk/page.aspx?SPP=Testimonials>

1.6 Investment

Spanning more than 20 years, our strong client retention rates are testament to the fact that **Grant Advisor** presents tangible value and a return on investment that significantly outweighs its cost.

Annual cost is £998

Discounts available for multi-year subscriptions

1.7 Implementation

Implementation of the service couldn't be more straightforward. There is no need to download and install any software on your computers. All you need is a web browser – we support Internet Explorer, Chrome, Firefox, Safari – and you are good to go.

Our system is also very secure. You can access it using an http or an https connection. Access is controlled through passwords which can utilise strong authentication if required. All passwords are stored in an encrypted format.

Any user data held by the system is stored on servers located within our Tier 3 data centre which is compliant to ISO standards 9001, 14001 and 27001. A full server backup is performed every night.

There is generally no action required from your IT department to access the service but we are happy to answer any specific questions that they might have.

Once your licence begins, we are on hand to help set up key users, introduce them to **Grant Advisor** through an online demonstration (or where arranged a face-to-face demonstration) and support you in using the service.

1.8 Next steps

We would sincerely welcome the opportunity for you to join our growing **Grant Advisor** community. Should you have any further queries at this stage, please don't hesitate to contact: Matt Godfrey, matthew.godfrey@idoxgroup.com or Claire Whittaker-Smith Claire.whittaker-smith@idoxgroup.com 03330 111 245.

Frome Town Council, in partnership with SHARE a Library of Things, has a Thermal Imaging Camera available for people to see where their home is leaking heat and lacking in insulation and draft proofing.

Community volunteers provide this service for a donation, so it is preferable to get a few houses together in the same street or neighbourhood to have your houses thermal imaged during the same evening or weekend.

How It Works:

The thermal imaging camera shows up 'hot spots' where warmth is leaking from your home, usually through the roof, walls, floors, doors and windows. Seeing this visually helps to identify areas that need attention either by adding insulation, draft-proof strips, replacement of failed double glazing units, adding secondary glazing or repairs to masonry work or even simple low cost solutions such as installing thermal blinds and curtains or draft proof strips around doors, windows, and letter boxes.

The best time for taking thermal images is on a cold, dry and dull day when the heating has been on for a few hours. The greater the temperature difference between the inside and outside of the house the better. Rain and sun can give distorted readings so ideally on or at the end of a cold cloudy day is ideal.

Interested households register their interest at SHARE a library of things. Preference will be given to group bookings e.g. of 2 or more houses in the same street. Photos are available to keep if requested via email.

Volunteers

Local volunteers are given basic training to use the camera and will bring the camera to your home to use on your home and show you the thermal images as you go around the house. The suggested donation is a minimum of £10 per visit. This is to cover volunteer expenses and for a contribution to SHARE a library of things.

Advice

Once hot spots and areas leaking heat have been identifying, head to Frome Town Council website for some tips, solutions ideas and links to further support and possible funding. Reducing heat loss from your home will save you money on your heating bills, keep you warmer and reduce pollution.

How to use the Thermal Imaging Camera for volunteers trained by Frome Town Council



This is a FLIR thermal imaging camera model E4 1.2L

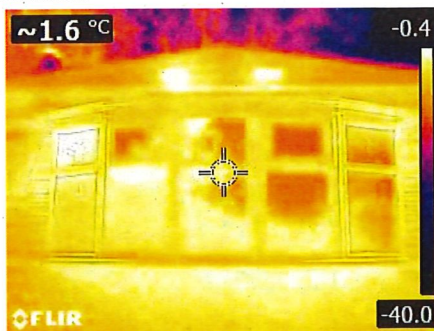
1. Inside the case you will find the camera and a box containing the cable to download the pictures onto a computer via USB, the charger, a CD with the manual and paper versions of the manual. Please be careful and avoid dropping the camera and make sure all the items are returned in the case.
2. The 'Getting Started Manual' will give you basic instructions about how to familiarise yourself with the functions.
3. Switch on using the power button – bottom right button – circle with a line in it.
4. Slide the lens cap open using the slider switch beneath the lens.
5. The camera has been set to the optimum setting for taking thermal images of buildings.
6. Point the camera towards the building/window/door and hold as still as you can and as square on to the building as you can. The image may calibrate so be patient. To get the whole building in, you will need to stand back quite a long way.
7. To save the image, pull the trigger button beneath the lens.
8. To view an image, press the play button (on the left with a triangle on it), then select the image by pressing the larger central square button.

Images are deleted when you a) select the image you want to delete then press the large square button to bring up a sub selection menu (shows Full screen, Information and Delete options) you then select the "bin" icon by scrolling right (by pressing to the right on the large square button) and then press the centre of the same button when the bin icon is selected. It will ask you to confirm you wish to delete the image – press on the left on the large button to select delete then press the centre of the button to activate delete.

or b) you can delete photo (s) when camera is plugged into a computer via the USB cable) and manually delete in file view or in image viewer.

Please make sure the camera is returned with images deleted and its battery fully charged, ready for the next user.

9. The cross hair in the centre of the image reads the temperature that is displayed in the top left of the image. The scale on the right gives you the average temperature spectrum in the image – black is the coldest, white is the hottest.
10. The camera will turn itself off if left dormant for around 20 minutes. Press the power button again to turn it back on.
11. For more detailed and advanced user guidance see the CD at the bottom of the 'Documentation and Accessories' box.
12. When finished, press the power button until the camera turns off. Please close the lens cap and then return to the case, making sure the download USB cable and charging cable, plus the manuals and CD are also in the box and return to Frome Town Council.



Thermal Image of failed double-glazing units & heat escaping below bay window & through open vents in the roof – white areas.



WALMER PARISH COUNCIL
8 The Strand, Walmer, Deal, Kent, CT14 7DY

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26th May 2021

Cllr T Bartlett Leader
Dover District Council
Council Offices,
Whitfield
White Cliffs Business Park
Dover CT16 3PJ

Re: Section 106 monies

Dear Trevor,

As you will be aware, since 2011 Dover District Council has collected some £323,000 in unspent Section 106 monies for the provision of play areas, play equipment and much needed open space, along with some £722,000 since 2012 for affordable housing. To this should be added an unspent £15,000 for tree planting from the Aldi development and in 2016 some £2,100 for "environmental mitigation". This is a very large total of unspent monies.

You will also be aware that Walmer Parish Council has an ambitious list of projects for the improvement of the parish for residents and visitors alike and is seeking contributions from other parties in order to deliver these projects in as timely a fashion as possible.

Walmer Parish Council would like to discuss the possibility of refining the description of these various unspent Section 106 monies to establish whether they could be used for projects in Walmer - projects which are "shovel-ready" or very nearly so. I am thinking in particular of Walmer's projected "trim trail" outdoor gym, an affordable housing project, EV charging points, secure cycle parking, electric bus infrastructure, community woodland and biodiversity projects and a thermal imaging camera loan scheme for residents.

I look forward to meeting with you and to being able to advance these various projects which will be to the advantage of both councils and to our residents.

Yours sincerely

Cllr John Lonsdale
 Chair, Climate Emergency Working Group
 Walmer Parish Council



Cllr J Lonsdale
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Councillor Trevor Bartlett
Leader of the Council

Direct Line: (01304) 872090
Our Ref: RW/TB/DJD
Your Ref:
Date: 24 June 2021

Dear John

Section 106 monies

Thank you for your letter dated 26 May concerning the application of Section 106 funds within Walmer.

I apologise for the slight delay in replying, however the points raised in your letter have taken some time to research as I am not entirely clear as to the source of the figures contained in your letter, although that's not to say they are incorrect. My own source of data on this matter is the most recent Infrastructure Funding Statement Report (IFS Report) which is available on our website and was published last November. However, as this covers the 2019/20 period, I accept that some of the data it contains will now be out of date.

Having discussed your letter with senior officers, I am advised that we are not holding any funding for Open Space/Play Space/Outdoor Sports specifically for Walmer and that most of the funds we currently hold have been collected for an identified project as per the wording in the S106 agreement. With regards to the Affordable Housing funding that we are holding I am advised that we are in the process of transferring £282,316 to support the delivery of two housing projects by our Housing Development team and thus the funding available is much reduced.

As regards expenditure within Walmer, there are a number of investments planned in the coming years as set out in this most recent IFS report, including at Balmoral and Cedars' surgeries, and in the sports pitches and facilities at Marke Wood, together with other projects that are not S106 funded (such as the EV charging points on Canada Road and the Strand).

Payments made by developers under S106 agreements are determined on the basis of a defined need and we certainly are not holding funds with no clear plan as to what they should be spent on. As regards redirecting funds collected for a particular purpose, if there is a clause in the S106 that specifies a particular project, then that cannot be changed without a Deed of Variation to the S106 – that would need the developers agreement and they might rightly point out that a) if the sum is being spent in Walmer how is it benefitting and meeting the needs of the occupants of their development (which is the main point of S106 funding), and b) does that mean that there are no longer such needs in which case why should they pay anyway.

In conclusion, I am pleased to hear of the work that Walmer Parish Council are doing in response to the Climate Emergency. As chair of the Council's Climate Change Project Advisory Group, I am keen to encourage action across the District to combat what I believe is the greatest challenge faced by this generation. If you would like to discuss the points raised in your letter, I would be pleased to meet with you and the relevant ward councillors to see how we can assist.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'T. Bartlett', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Trevor Bartlett
Leader of the Council

References for Sustainability Survey – 62 The Strand

Paul Mallion @ Conker Conservation

Client Reference 1

Alan Brown <a.brown@maysbuildingservices.co.uk>
Mon 21/06/2021 09:17

To: Cllr. John Lonsdale

Hi John

Thank you for your request.

Following your email, we have been working with Paul and Conker Conservation for quite some time, they are friendly and professional with many years' experience

We use conker conservation for detailed surveys, planning /designs and Eco Logical recommendations on new and listed buildings, we have always found them very professional and the knowledge second to none with exceptional support and communication

Their surveys, reports and recommendations are very detailed and precise with photos, suggestions/ recommendations as well as precise sketches, designs and drawings

They also provide laser scanning and have a vast experience of conservation which we use them for on Many 'Lloyds / Halifax bank listed buildings

And would not hesitate to recommend them

Regards

Alan Brown

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Client Reference 2

Robin Peters <robin@camberconsulting.me>
Fri 18/06/2021 10:41

To: Cllr. John Lonsdale

Dear Councillor Lonsdale,

In response to your email, I would be delighted to give my opinion on working with Paul and the team at Conker Conservation.

Having worked with them on several projects, I can inform you that it has been nothing but a pleasure working with Paul and the entire team at Conker Conservation. They have worked with us on a number of projects from new builds to refurbishments and upgrading efficiency of properties. Their designs, help and advice have been invaluable to us and I highly recommend them. They have helped us achieve the best possible results with all projects, and have always found the most appropriate methods to achieve maximum efficiency from the buildings we have completed, whilst also ensuring we were able to stay within our budgets.

The quality and detail of drawings and instructions provided is second to none, and has ensured our projects run in a timely and efficient manner. By providing us with such high quality and detailed work has allowed contractors to fully understand what needs to be built and how to complete it to the highest standard, avoiding delays in construction. The technical ability of Paul and his team has been crucial for us in maintaining our construction timelines. To answer your query directly he definitely has the skill and expertise to carry out any task that is required of your project to the highest level of quality.

Working with Paul and the team is always a pleasure and I am very much looking forward to working with Conker again at some point in the near future. Furthermore, if I have had any questions or am seeking advice Paul and the team have always been available and extremely helpful in assisting me to find the best solution moving forward.

If you do choose to proceed with Paul and Conker Conservation I am sure that you will be extremely impressed with everything that they undertake for you. I would highly recommend them for any project but especially for anyone who has sustainability and efficiency at the forefront of requirements.

If there is anything else I can do to help, or any further questions please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind Regards,

Robin Peters

Business Development Manager
Camber Consulting
07921267827
robin@camberconsulting.me

Phil Simpson @ PPL Architects

Client Reference 1

Wendy Saunders <wendysaunders@clara.co.uk>
Tue 22/06/2021 20:40

To: Cllr. John Lonsdale
Cc: Rob Saunders <rob.saunders@hlhld.co.uk>

Dear John

Thank you for your email and we are very pleased to give you our opinion about Phil Simpson.

We have engaged Phil to upgrade our 1970's house in terms of energy efficiency and appearance. On first meeting him we found him to be very attentive, he listened carefully to our requirements and objectives. Having never engaged an architect before we were concerned that we may be pushed into doing things that we didn't want to do. With Phil we realised these worries were unfounded as he was not at all pushy and really easy to work with. He quickly identified where the significant weaknesses of the building are and with the help of software has produced detailed plans to address insulation and fabric in general and thermal bridging and weaknesses in particular. He quickly picked up details in relation to ventilation and condensation risk and he appears to have a good background knowledge of building regulations and planning requirements. He has been really helpful in talking to and setting up appointments with builders.

In terms of design, we are really happy with his suggestion. It looks so right and yet we would never have come up with it ourselves. He took into account the surroundings and what we thought were important elements of design (eg we thought our house looked rather 'dumpy' and he has addressed this beautifully in his design). We are still at the stage of awaiting builders quotes so can't comment on his support later in the process but given our experience thus far we are keen to keep him involved as we have found his input so valuable.

We hope this is helpful and if you have any more questions please don't hesitate to get in touch again.

Wendy and Rob Saunders

Client Reference 2

Daniel King <dan1944@hotmail.com>
Thu 17/06/2021 17:36

To: Cllr. John Lonsdale
Cc: gennieking2010@aol.com

Dear John

We have been working with Phil for around a year and a half now on some house renovations/improvements we have been doing. We were intending to start the work in April 2020 but in the end had to delay things until this year for obvious reasons.

We have a 2* listed farmhouse with parts dating back to the 14th or 15thC and later additions so there have been a number of considerations involved including listed consent for the works and all the unknowns that arose as different parts of the house were 'unpeeled'. On the conservation point he has formed a good working relationship with Chris Rainsford at Maidstone Borough Council.

I can't really speak highly enough of Phil. We found him by recommendation and we have been very happy to work with him. He is very easy to deal with and talk to. His drawings are excellent, including his freehand sketches. One example being some hand-drawn sketches of different shapes of wooden mouldings we could have at the top of a steel support post we are cladding in old floorboards to look like another beam.

Although energy efficiency hasn't been the focus of this project, he has been very knowledgeable on this topic and guided our builders on the best floor insulation layers to lay as we were replacing the floor in two rooms and had very little height from a concrete base to the final floor level to work with.

Our project is still ongoing and so we continue to work with him. In general he's very approachable, efficient, responsive to queries, has a good eye for detail and design and has formed good relationships quickly with us, our builders, the structural engineer, our floorers and many others. I'm very happy to recommend him.

Hope that helps

Kind regards

Dan