



**WALMER TOWN COUNCIL**  
**62 The Strand, Walmer, Deal, Kent CT14 7DP**

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**Dated the 16<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

F+GP Cttee: Cllr P Jull, Cllr J Murray, Cllr M Eddy, Cllr M Simpson, Cllr P Ludwig, Cllr L Ludwig, Cllr A Friend, Cllr K Lee, Cllr D Richardson and Cllr S Waite-Gleave.

**You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE to be held at 7pm Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2026 at:**

**Elizabeth House, St Marys Road, Walmer.**

**Roland Aldred**  
**Town Clerk**

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### **AGENDA**

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To receive any declarations of interest from Members in respect of business to be transacted on the agenda.

**3. OPENNESS AND TRANSPARENCY**

To remind those present of the following: -

The right to record, film and to broadcast meetings of the council, committees and sub committees is established following the Local Government Audit and Accountability Act 2014. This is in addition to the rights of the press and public to attend such meetings. While those attending meetings are deemed to have consented to the filming, recording, or broadcasting of meetings, those exercising the rights to film, record and broadcast must respect the rights of other people attending under the Data Protection Act 1998. Any person or organisation choosing to film, record or broadcast any meeting of the Council or a committee is responsible for any claims or other liability from them so doing.

**4. MINUTES**

Approve the minutes of the meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2025.

**Attach 1**

**5. COUNCIL FINANCE UPDATES**

- i. To receive the Q1-3 2025/26 update on the Council's spending vs the budget for 25/26 vs Q1-3 2024/2025. Attach 2
- ii. To note the Bank Reconciliation up to 31/12/25. ENC 1

**6. GRANTS**

ENC 2

To review and make recommendations regarding a grant request from the Deal Society for £100 toward advertising costs for the Heritage Open Days events.

**7. PREFERRED SUPPLIER**

Attach 3

To receive recommendation from the Walmer in Bloom Committee on adding preferred suppliers for cutting road side foliage and tree surveying.

**9. NEXT MEETING**

Apr 30<sup>th</sup> 2026



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## MINUTES

**DRAFT Minutes of the meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held at 7pm on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2025, Elizabeth House, St Marys Road, Walmer**

**Present:** Cllr P Jull, Cllr P Ludwig, Cllr A Friend, Cllr D Richardson, Cllr M Eddy and Cllr L Ludwig.  
**Officer(s)** Roland Aldred (Town Clerk)

### 362. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Cllrs Murray, Waite-Gleave, Simpson and Lee offered apologies that were accepted.

### 363. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

No declarations were made.

### 364. OPENNESS AND TRANSPARENCY.

The Chairman reminded all present of their responsibilities under the Local Government Audit and Accountability act in respect of the public attending and recording meetings.

### 365. MINUTES.

The minutes of the meeting held on the 24<sup>th</sup> July were received.

**RESOLVED** – To accept to minutes of the 24<sup>th</sup> July 2025 as a true and accurate record.

Proposed – Cllr A Friend

Seconded – Cllr M Eddy

For - 6

Against - 0

Abstain - 0

### 366. COUNCIL FINANCE UPDATES.

- i. To receive an update on the 2025/26 financial position vs the budget vs 2024/25 financial position for the councils spend.

**RESOLVED** – To note the financial update.

Proposed – Cllr M Eddy

Seconded – Cllr A Friend

For - 6

Against - 0

Abstain - 0

- ii. To note the bank reconciliation up to 30/06/25

**RESOLVED** – To note the bank reconciliation.

Proposed – Cllr M Eddy

Seconded - Cllr A Friend

For - 6

Against - 0

Abstain - 0

**367. 2026/27 BUDGET AND PRECEPT.**

Members reviewed the budget and reserves. Members considered the current and projected reserves. Discussions on the correct level of reserves that should be held and what if any projects should be considered for the reserves were had.

**RESOLVED** – To recommend to Full Council accepting the Budget and reserves as shown with the changes reinserting the Water refill station in to the reserves.

Proposed: Cllr M Eddy

Seconded: Cllr A Friend

For - 6

Against - 0

Abstain – 0

**RESOLVED** – To recommend to Full Council setting a precept once the tax base is known in December at the monetary amount that will result in a 0% increase in the average band D property.

Proposed -Cllr P Jull

Seconded – Cllr D Richardson

For - 4

Against -0

Abstain - 2

**368. DATE OF NEXT MEETING.**

22<sup>nd</sup> Jan 2026

The meeting ended at 19.45.

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**Chairman:**

**Date:**

Quarter 1+2 2025/26 income and Expenditure vs budget vs 2024/25

| Year        |                          | 25/26       |             |             |                   | 24/25                 |             |                  |  |
|-------------|--------------------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------------|-----------------------|-------------|------------------|--|
| Income      |                          | Description | Budget      | Actual      | Balance remaining | % of budget remaining | Actual      | % 23/24 vs 24/25 |  |
| 100         | Admin                    |             | £0.00       | £0.00       | £0.00             | 0.00%                 | £0.00       | 100.00%          |  |
| 108         | Lloyds Income            |             | £0.00       | £0.00       | £0.00             | 0.00%                 | £0.00       | 100.00%          |  |
| 109         | Barclay's Bank BCP       |             | £0.00       | £0.00       | £0.00             | 100.00%               | £0.00       | 100.00%          |  |
| 110         | Allotments               |             | £2,640.00   | £336.64     | £2,303.36         | -87.25%               | £640.95     | -47.48%          |  |
| 111         | Bank interest - Co-op    |             | £0.00       | £0.00       | £0.00             | 0.00%                 | £0.00       | 100.00%          |  |
| 112         | Interest - unity deposit |             | £4,000.00   | £3,720.89   | £279.11           | -6.98%                | £5,775.86   | -35.58%          |  |
| 130         | Bank Interest            |             | £0.00       | £5,962.04   | £5,962.04         | 0.00%                 | £0.00       | -                |  |
|             | Bank Interest            |             | £0.00       | £4,000.41   | £4,000.41         | 0.00%                 | £0.00       | -                |  |
| 170         | Events                   |             | £10,400.00  | £7,641.19   | £2,758.81         | -26.53%               | £7,948.69   | -3.87%           |  |
| 175         | EV Charge Points*        |             | £0.00       | £0.00       | £0.00             | 0.00%                 | £511.07     | 100.00%          |  |
| 180         | Grants and donations     |             | £0.00       | £0.00       | £0.00             | 0.00%                 | £0.00       | 100.00%          |  |
| 190         | Hawthill                 |             | £80.00      | £0.00       | £80.00            | -100.00%              | £0.00       | 100.00%          |  |
| 200         | Land Management          |             | £1,500.00   | £0.00       | £1,500.00         | -100.00%              | £0.00       | 100.00%          |  |
| 210         | Office Premises          |             | £0.00       | £0.00       | £0.00             | 0.00%                 | £0.00       | 100.00%          |  |
| 215         | Public Works Loan        |             | £0.00       | £0.00       | £0.00             | 0.00%                 | £0.00       | 100.00%          |  |
| 220         | Precept                  |             | £261,312.20 | £261,312.20 | £0.00             | 0.00%                 | £249,190.00 | 4.86%            |  |
| 240         | Projects and Activities  |             | £0.00       | £0.00       | £0.00             | 0.00%                 | £100.00     | 100.00%          |  |
| Total       |                          |             | £279,932.20 | £282,973.37 | £3,041.17         | 1.07%                 | £264,166.57 | 7.12%            |  |
| Expenditure |                          |             |             |             |                   |                       |             |                  |  |
|             |                          | Description | Budget      | Actual      | Balance remaining | % of budget remaining | Actual      | % 23/24 vs 24/25 |  |
| 1000        | Admin                    |             | £21,700.00  | £7,709.57   | £13,990.43        | 64.47%                | £6,469.10   | 19.18%           |  |
| 1100        | Allotments               |             | £2,500.00   | £1,429.83   | £1,070.17         | 42.81%                | £2,055.16   | -30.43%          |  |
| 1300        | Audit Fees               |             | £1,350.00   | £910.00     | £440.00           | 32.59%                | £770.00     | 18.18%           |  |
| 1400        | Climate Emergency        |             | £2,400.00   | £1,449.57   | £950.43           | 39.60%                | £103.50     | -                |  |
| 1500        | Capital Expenditure      |             | £0.00       | £0.00       | £0.00             | 0.00%                 | £0.00       | 100.00%          |  |
| 1600        | Election Expenses        |             | £3,000.00   | £0.00       | £3,000.00         | 100.00%               | £0.00       | 100.00%          |  |
| 1700        | Events                   |             | £15,000.00  | £6,416.86   | £8,583.14         | 57.22%                | £9,174.40   | -30.06%          |  |
| 1800        | Grants and Donations     |             | £4,500.00   | £1,929.00   | £2,571.00         | 57.13%                | £1,850.00   | 4.27%            |  |
| 1900        | Hawthill                 |             | £13,500.00  | £2,388.56   | £11,111.44        | 82.31%                | £1,878.19   | 27.17%           |  |
| 2000        | Land Management          |             | £7,000.00   | £4,441.94   | £2,558.06         | 36.54%                | £2,324.43   | 91.10%           |  |
| 2100        | Office Premises          |             | £7,500.00   | £6,149.88   | £1,350.12         | 18.00%                | £25,329.02  | -75.72%          |  |
| 2150        | Public Works Repayment   |             | £15,130.00  | £15,128.80  | £2.20             | 0.02%                 | £15,126.80  | 0.00%            |  |
| 2300        | Professional and Legal   |             | £3,700.00   | £1,275.15   | £2,424.85         | 65.54%                | £292.05     | 336.62%          |  |
| 2400        | Projects and Activities  |             | £78,800.00  | £44,063.79  | £34,736.21        | 44.08%                | £4,888.44   | 801.39%          |  |
| 2500        | Publicity and Promotion  |             | £2,500.00   | £336.00     | £2,164.00         | 86.56%                | £0.00       | -                |  |
| 2600        | Quadrant Tree Survey     |             | £300.00     | £0.00       | £300.00           | 0.00%                 | £595.00     | -100.00%         |  |
| 2700        | Salaries and staff costs |             | £112,500.00 | £96,129.22  | £16,370.78        | 14.55%                | £75,963.48  | 26.55%           |  |
| 2710        | Staff Payroll Processing |             | £0.00       | £0.00       | £0.00             | 0.00%                 | £0.00       | 100.00%          |  |
| 2720        | Staff Training           |             | £0.00       | £427.20     | £427.20           | #DIV/0!               | £1,632.63   | -73.83%          |  |
| 2800        | Stony Path               |             | £9,000.00   | £525.00     | £8,475.00         | 94.17%                | £6.00       | -                |  |
| 2900        | Tree Planting            |             | £2,000.00   | £0.00       | £2,000.00         | 0.00%                 | £0.00       | 100.00%          |  |
| 3000        | Contingency              |             | £0.00       | £0.00       | £0.00             | 0.00%                 | £0.00       | 100.00%          |  |
| Total       |                          |             | £302,380.00 | £190,708.37 | £111,671.63       | 36.93%                | £148,458.20 | 28.46%           |  |

\*EV point payment from KCC not received we are in contact with KCC regarding this



**Item: Hawkshill Preferred Contractors-Tree Surveyor and Roadside Hedge Cutter**

**Date: 16<sup>th</sup> January 2026**

**Meeting: Finance and General Purposes**

**From: Walmer In Bloom Committee**

With each new requirement regarding works for the trees and hedges at Hawkshill, the WIB committee needs to request three quotes from different companies to bid for the works. This can take a substantial amount of time to gather and then put through the committee to allow the job to be completed. To reduce the amount of delay, Walmer In Bloom has agreed on several preferred contractors to allow for certain works to be completed quickly.

The preferred contractors would be the first companies contacted to get works done at Hawkshill Freedown, currently Hawkshill requires a tree survey expert and a preferred hedge cutter. If quotes are received, then they will later be authorised before any work can begin.

Two preferred contractors have been identified for the following works.

1. Invicta Arboriculture has been chosen for ongoing surveys of the Hawkshill area as well as the Walmer Peace Gardens. Invicta were responsible for the tree surveys in 2024, which led to the felling of eleven dead or dying trees from the location. Invicta have worked with the council several times over the last ten years, giving them experience and knowledge of the location.

Invicta Arboriculture are arboriculturists, they do not employ have arborists and any works to be done will be independent as they have no vested interest in recommending trees be cut.

2. Leaf Tree Services have been chosen for the ongoing requirements for tree works and the cutting of hedging along the Liverpool Road side of Hawkshill. Leaf Tree have also worked with the council over the last seven years, giving them experience and knowledge of Hawkshill.

Each works request will still require a quote from the preferred contract before works can begin and members to approve the quote, if they are unavailable to do so then the works will require a quote from three other companies as standard.

*It is the recommendation of the Walmer In Bloom Committee that Invicta Arboriculture and Leaf Tree Services are to be chosen as preferred contractors for Hawkshill Freedown.*

*Members to decide*