

WALMER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the meeting of Walmer Parish Council held on Wednesday, 7 April 2021 via Zoom Video Conference.

Present Councillors:

Cllr J Murray (Chair), Cllr M Eddy (Vice-Chair), Cllr P Heath, Cllr D Thompson, Cllr J Lonsdale, Cllr G Bearman, Cllr C Weale, Cllr Mrs M Beard-Gould, Cllr Miss A Herring, Cllr P St Ange, Cllr B Gardner

Officers Present:

Cllr Mrs S Le Chevalier (Acting Clerk)

Sarah Plews (Technical Assistance)

6127. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None

6128. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Mrs S Le Chevalier VOI as Acting Clerk Walmer Parish Council
Cllr P Heath declared a VAOI Planning Committee Agenda Item 6136 member of Wellington Parade Residents Group

6129. 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 2018.

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.

6130. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr James Murray (Chairman) reported the following:-

As many of you are aware it has been busy time going meticulously through the process of finalising the employment of a new clerk, moving on the road congestion and improving traffic flow project in Station Road and going through the first stage of recruiting new councillors.

I regret the fact that we have lost Cllr Dan Symons who is off to become a farmer in the West Country and a group of residents have called for an election to fill his seat which will take place on May 6th alongside elections to other bodies.

I heard this week that the DDC Monitoring officer has rejected a complaint from Mr Ludwig alleging that while chairing a meeting in November 2020 I had, among other things, broken the code of conduct in relation to Integrity, Openness and Accountability (at least).

To a happier subject.

For some time 14 weeks Cllr Mrs Sue Le Chevalier has been working pro bono as our Acting clerk.

It has been an onerous task for her having to learn how a Parish Council runs from the other side and being called upon for legal and other advice as necessary.

All this having been parachuted into the role in an emergency.

I certainly owe her a vote of thanks - and a big drink. Tonight will be her last meeting as Clerk and there will be an opportunity to thank her formally at our annual meeting, but I wanted to thank her for her commitment, skill and growing expertise tonight.

She is a shining example of a dedicated Councillor serving her community without any thought of reward other than doing a good job.

6131. MINUTES

Members considered the minute of the meeting held on Wednesday 3rd and Extraordinary Meeting held on 10th of March 2021.

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the meetings of 3rd March and 10th March be approved as a correct record and will be signed by the Chairman at the earliest opportunity.

6132. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA

None.

6133. QUESTIONS AND/OR OBSERVATIONS FROM THE ELECTORATE OF WALMER

i) A resident shared her concerns regarding litter picking and the bins not being emptied as often as required up and York & Albany.

RESOLVED: Clerk has contacted the Deal and Walmer Litter picking Group and passed details for the resident to get involved. Resident requested to report full bins directly to DDC as required.

ii) A resident also commented on York & Albany stating a hedge and the grass area required maintenance and enquired as to what Walmer Parish Council's

maintenance schedule is to keep the area safe and tidy. The resident also asked if a fly tipping sign could be posted up in the area.

RESOLVED: Clerk to investigate matters

- i) An email from DDC representative Cllr Chris Vinson was received stating that there had been nothing of specific importance to highlight to Walmer Parish Council, and if there are any issues that the Chairman or members of the Parish Council would like to him to answer he was available to do so.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note.

6134. CRIME AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR REPORTS

- i) PCSO Adam Herold currently on leave and had provided a written report prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note

- ii) Councillor Surgeries: currently suspended.

6135. CO-OPTION

To conduct co-option procedure

- i) Members received a verbal presentation from one candidate.
- ii) Members all voted for this candidate joining Walmer Parish Council

RESOLVED: that Tony Byfield be co-opted onto the Council

- iii) Cllr Sue Le Chevalier (Acting Clerk) will arrange necessary paperwork to completed and returned accordingly

6136. PLANNING COMMITTEE

Members received the report of the Chairman and the draft minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 9 March 2021 and the draft minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 30 March 2021.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note

6137. WALMER IN BLOOM

Members received the report of the Acting Clerk and the draft minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 23 March 2021.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note

6138. HUMAN RESOURCES

Members received the report of the Chairman and the draft minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 9 March 2021 and 24 March 2021.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note.

6139. REPORT OF THE CLERK

The new Clerk, Mr Richard Styles will start on 1st May 2021

The next meeting is the annual meeting and forms to elect a Chairman and Vice-chairman need to be completed and returned to the office no later than 28th April. Forms for Councillors to indicate which committees they wish to serve can be returned electronically.

Zoom meetings are unlikely to continue past 7th May, due to legislation not being extended, although this is being challenged.

A meeting had been held with the Clerk and representatives from KCC highways to resolve the issue of gravel coming off the car parking area at Hawkshill Road. A report will be made through Walmer in Bloom, which manages that area.

6140. FINANCIAL ISSUES

- i) Members received the report of the Responsible Financial Officer and consider payments and orders as detailed.

1 April 2021 (2020-2021)

Walmer Parish Council PAYMENTS LIST

Voucher Code	Date	Minute	Bank	Cheque No	Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
222	18/03/2021		Unity Bank		Allotment deposit return	A Wickenden	E	100.00	0.00	100.00
227	23/03/2021		Unity Bank		PAYE/NI	HMRC	E	106.08	0.00	106.08
230	23/03/2021		Unity Bank		Brocante refund	Mr A Deal (Pitch Pitch 21/202)	E	50.00	0.00	50.00
231	25/03/2021		Unity Bank		Brocante refund	Coastal Crystals	E	40.00	0.00	40.00
232	25/03/2021		Unity Bank		Royal Mail Stamps	Clr S le Chevalier	E	218.25	0.00	218.25
223	31/03/2021		Co-operative Bank		March salary	Admin assistant	E	575.25	0.00	575.25
224	31/03/2021		Unity Bank		March salary	Assistant Clerk	E	1,024.55	0.00	1,024.55
225	31/03/2021		Unity Bank		SLCC	Job Advertising Services	E	360.00	0.00	360.00
228	31/03/2021		Unity Bank		Tree Planting (Walmer Castle)	Clr M Beard Gould	E	245.20	0.00	245.20
234	31/03/2021		Unity Bank		MUGA (Maintenance)	DEC	E	1,118.88	0.00	1,118.88
235	31/03/2021		Unity Bank		Office Rent March	H Johnson	E	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00
236	31/03/2021		Unity Bank		TRO and installation of parking	KCC	E	2,525.35	0.00	2,525.35
237	31/03/2021		Unity Bank		Annual Membership Renewal	Society of Local Council Clerk	E	366.00	0.00	366.00
226	31/03/2021		Unity Bank		Payroll processing charge	Batchelor Coop	S	196.00	39.20	235.20
229	31/03/2021		Unity Bank		IT services	EDGE I.T	S	30.00	6.00	36.00
233	31/03/2021		Unity Bank		Web design	Vision ICT Ltd	S	710.00	142.00	852.00
Total								9,165.56	187.20	9,352.76

- ii) That the payment report dated 31 March 2021 be authorised as detailed below (vouchers 54):-

Walmer Parish Council
RECEIPTS LIST

Voucher Code	Date	Minute	Bank	Receipt No	Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
54 Campbell Road	05/03/2021		Unity Bank		Alzrment Rent & Deposit Pkt	Thomas Taylor	E	145.00	0.00	145.00
Total								145.00	0.00	145.00

RESOLVED Members agreed to make the payments as listed including the late payment as listed.

- iii) That the financial position of the Council as at 31st of March 2021 be noted as detailed on the summary of receipts and payments and statement of monies available in the Council's bank accounts as shown below:

Nat West Current	£35,862.93
Lloyds Bank	£76,613.48
Co-operative Bank	£75,192.86
Nat West Bank SIBA	£10,895.82
HSBC Bond	£75,316.29
Unity Bank	£54,599.21

- iv) Members received a grant request from Kent Air Ambulance

RESOLVED: Members agreed to provide a grant to Kent Air Ambulance for £400.00

- v) Members received an amended invoice from DDC re MUGA.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to pay the amended amount of £1,118.88 for the locking and unlocking of the MUGA

6141. KALC

- i) Members received the 2021/2022 membership of KALC and NALC.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note

- ii) Members received NALC Summary of Benefits Flyer.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note

- iii) Members received KALC Membership Information Leaflet 2021/2022.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note

- iv) Members received the subscription to KALC and NALC for 2021/2022

RESOLVED: Members agreed to pay the subscription to KALC and NALC at a cost of £1620.00 + Vat at a total of £1944.00.

6142. SLCC

Members discussed and agreed membership to the Society of Local Council Clerks.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to pay the membership to the Society of Local Council Clerks at a cost of £366.00.

6143. OFFICE PURCHASE UPDATE

Members to agree the deposit payment for 62 The Strand, Walmer.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to pay the deposit for 62 The Strand, Walmer at a cost of £33,500.00.

6144. YORK & ALBANY CLOSE

Members received a letter from a local resident concerning York & Albany Close.

RESOLVED: The letter asked a number of questions which were answered by Cllr Eddy. Members requested that Cllr Eddy shared his answers with the resident.

6145. TREES AT WALMER CASTLE

Members received an update from Cllr Marguerite Beard-Gould.

6146. QUADRENNIAL COUNCILLOR ALLOWANCE REVIEW

- i) Members received Walmer Parish Councilors annual allowance.

RESOLVED: Members received the allowance review. Members voted to pay a basic allowance to each elected Councilor at a rate of £450.00 per year for the year 2020/2021.

- ii) Members discussed a summary of allowance costings.

RESOLVED: Agreed to note

6147. DOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL LOCAL PLAN CONSULTATION

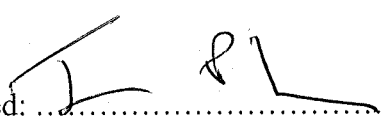
Members received a summary from Cllr Eddy of his response on behalf of Walmer Parish Council to the Dover District Council Local Plan consultation.

RESOLVED: Cllr M Eddy thanked all members of the planning committee for their contribution to this document

6148. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, 5 May 2021.

The meeting closed at 20:30pm

Signed:  Date: 13 - 7 - 2021

