



**WALMER PARISH COUNCIL**

8 The Strand, Walmer, Deal, Kent CT14 7DY

Tel/Fax: 01304 362363

Web site: [www.walmercouncil.co.uk](http://www.walmercouncil.co.uk) E-mail: [clerk@walmercouncil.co.uk](mailto:clerk@walmercouncil.co.uk)

**WALMER PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Walmer Parish Council held on Wednesday, 5 May 2021 via Zoom Video Conference.**

**Present Councillors:**

Cllr J Murray (Chair), Cllr M Eddy (Vice-Chair), Cllr T. Byfield, Cllr P Heath, 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, Cllr Mrs S Le Chevalier

**Officers Present:**

Richard Styles, Clerk

Sarah Plews (Technical Assistance)

**6149. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL FOR 2021/22  
AND SIGNING OF THE DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE AS CHAIRMAN**

The Clerk received nominations for the position of Chairman. Cllr J Murray was nominated by Cllr Mrs Beard-Gould and seconded by Cllr C Weale.

**RESOLVED:**

- i) that Cllr J Murray be appointed chairman for 2021/22**
- ii) that the Declaration of Acceptance may be signed at the next face-to-face meeting.**

**6150. APPOINTMENT OF VICE-CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL FOR 2020/21**

The Clerk received nominations for the position of vice chairman. Cllr M Eddy was nominated by Cllr Gardner and seconded by Cllr Murray.

**RESOLVED: that Cllr M Eddy be appointed Vice-Chairman of the Council for 2021/22.**

**6151. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

**6152. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr D Thompson

**6153. 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.

**6154. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEES, SUB COMMITTEES & REPRESENTATIVES**

Members considered the nominations received and appointed members as follows:-

**(A) Parish Council Committees**

(i) Planning Committee

**RESOLVED: That six Councillors be appointed to the Planning Committee as follows: - Cllrs J Murray, Mrs M Beard-Gould, Miss A Herring, B Gardner, J Lonsdale, G Bearman & T Byfield.**

(ii) Finance & General Purposes Committee

**RESOLVED: That six Councillors be appointed to the F&GP Committee as follows: - Cllrs P Heath, J Murray, Mrs S Le Chevalier, Miss A Herring, M Eddy & Mrs M Beard-Gould.**

(iii) Amenity & Environment Committee

**RESOLVED: That six Councillors be appointed to the A&E Committee as follows: -Cllrs Mrs M Beard-Gould, J Lonsdale, P St Ange, M Eddy & T Byfield**

(iv) Walmer in Bloom Committee

**RESOLVED: That four Councillors be appointed to the WIB Committee as follows: - Cllrs Mrs S Le Chevalier, Miss A Herring, D Thompson, Mr Vernon Recas**

(v) Human Resources Committee

**RESOLVED: That four Councillors be appointed to the Human Resources Committee as follows: -**

**Cllrs J Murray, P Heath, Mrs M Beard-Gould, Mrs S Le-Chevalier, B Gardner, M Eddy & C Weale be appointed to the HR Committee along with the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Council**

(vi) Events Working Group

**RESOLVED: That six Councillors be appointed to the Events Working Group as follows: - Cllrs Mrs M Beard-Gould, D Thompson, G Bearman, P Heath & C Weale (+1).**

(vii) Climate Emergency Working Group

**RESOLVED: That six Councillors be appointed to the Events Working Group as follows: - Cllrs M Eddy, A Herring, Mrs S Le Chevalier, J Lonsdale, P St Ange, D Thompson.**

**(B) Parish Council Representation on Outside Bodies**

(i) Police Parish Forum

**RESOLVED: that Cllr C Weale take on this responsibility.**

(ii) Joint Councils Committee

**RESOLVED: Cllr P.Heath take on this responsibility.**

(iii) Kent Association of Local Councils

**RESOLVED: That Cllr M Eddy be appointed to attend KALC branch meetings.**

(iv) Action with Communities in Rural Kent.

**RESOLVED: That Cllrs M Eddy, B Gardner, P Heath, C Weale take on this responsibility**

(v) Deal & Walmer Neighbourhood Forum

**RESOLVED: That Cllrs M Eddy, B Gardner, P Heath, J Murray, C Weale take on this responsibility**

These individual resolutions were agreed 'en bloc' by an all-encompassing resolution.

Proposed by: Cllr Eddy.      Seconded by: Cllr Murray.

**RESOLVED**

## 6155. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr James Murray (Chairman) reported the following: -

- Under present legislation this is our last Zoom meeting of the full council. Before he left Cllr Pitcher was good enough to prepare a list of potential covid safe venues and they are currently being looked at. The government is still consulting on this issue so things may change. However, our new clerk is investigating whether working groups are covered by the prohibition. As soon as the picture is clear he will let us know.
- Staff are now back working in the office which will be open to the public from nine until one every day.
- I received a letter from a resident who claimed that this council was corrupt and undemocratic. I spoke to the resident on the telephone and  
  
they now realise that they should have been aiming their comments elsewhere and have apologised. The point of telling you about this is if you do receive such inaccurate reports, please explain the true situation to whoever is complaining.
- In the midst of all the work that the office staff have to do they are now dealing with several Freedom of Information requests including one from Cllr Vinson who is asking to see all correspondence between the council in connection with the office purchase. The Freedom of Information act does not require applicants to explain why they want information so I am afraid that I cannot offer you any explanation about why he wants to scrutinise our affairs so intently. However, there is scope in the legislation to make charge if the time taken to respond becomes too burdensome.
- On a happier note, this is the first meeting to be clerked by Richard Styles, until last week Town clerk of Ramsgate. A resident of Walmer, Richard, has spent many years on local government on both sides of the fence including a spell as a Kent County Council member. Before that he was a seagoing engineer specialising in steam engines and is a volunteer for a local railway preservation group.
- So, it's welcome Richard and I would also like to repeat my thanks to our now retired - and relieved - acting clerk Cllr Mrs Sue Le Chevalier for the sterling work she has done keeping the ship not only afloat but on its proper course.

## 6156. MINUTES

Members received the report of the Chairman and the draft minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 7 April 2021.

Proposed by: Cllr Eddy.

Seconded by: Cllr Gardner.

**RESOLVED: That the minutes be approved.**

## 6157. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA

**Minute 6144:** Notice York + Albany –No progress reported.

**Minute 6147:** Dover District Council Local Plan consultation – The Planning Cttee had responded on behalf of the Council based on its policies and responses made during its

statutory planning consultations. Members of the public were able to respond directly to DDC, therefore the Council had no basis to consult the public on a Planning authority consultation.

**6158. QUESTIONS AND/OR OBSERVATIONS FROM THE ELECTORATE OF WALMER**

Mrs C. Walker: Asked a question about Fly tipping in York + Albany. The Chairman responded and asked if Mrs Walker knew where the waste originated. Mrs Walker said she did not know.

**6159. CRIME AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR REPORTS**

- i) PCSO: No report.
- ii) Councillor Surgeries: currently suspended. The Clerk is investigating how these surgeries can be restarted in a Covid safe manner.
- iii) No KCC/DDC members available to report to the Council.

**RESOLVED: Members agreed to note**

**6160. PLANNING COMMITTEE**

Members received the report of the Chairman and the draft minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 20 April 2021. The Chairman gave his appreciation of the work of the Cttee and the diligence of its members.

**RESOLVED: Members agreed to note.**

**6161. EVENTS WORKING GROUP**

Members received the report of the chairman and the draft minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 6 April 2021.

CLlr Heath raised the question of the 'valuation stall'. The Group will consider this event at a future meeting.

**RESOLVED: Members agreed to note**

**6162. WALMER IN BLOOM**

- i) Members received the report of the chairman and the draft minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 23 March 2021.

**RESOLVED: Members agreed to note.**

- ii) Members received/approved a quotation to resurface entrance to prevent grit from down washing onto Liverpool Road.

Proposed by: CLlr Eddy. Seconded by CLlr Weale.

**RESOLVED: Members agreed to note.**

## 6163. REPORT OF THE CLERK

The new Clerk, Mr Richard Styles, thanked the Council for their kind words and that he was taking stock of the Council and its activities and would be reporting in due course.

## 6164. FINANCIAL REPORT

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

27 April 2021 (2020-2021)

### Walmer Parish Council PAYMENTS LIST

Voucher Code	Date	Minute	Bank	Cheque No	Description	Supplier	VAT Type	Net	VAT	Total
248 Brocante	01/04/2020		Unity Bank		Brocante refund	Houghton	E	-80.00	0.00	-80.00
247 General and Office costs	01/04/2020		Natwest Current Acco		Office photocopier	KCC Ricoh	S	404.22	80.84	485.06
242 General and Office costs	30/03/2021		Unity Bank		New Office Deposit	Hardmans & Co	E	23,500.00	0.00	23,500.00
243 Insurance	30/03/2021		Unity Bank		Insurance	Came & Company	E	1,169.75	0.00	1,169.75
244 Premises maintenance	30/03/2021		Unity Bank		Window cleaner	David Halpin	E	10.00	0.00	10.00
245 General Grants	30/03/2021		Unity Bank		Kent Air Ambulance Grant	Kent Air Ambulance	E	400.00	0.00	400.00
246 Campbell Road	31/03/2021		Unity Bank		Replacement tap	R G Williams	S	51.63	10.33	61.96
249 Brocante	31/03/2021		Unity Bank		Toilets hire	Four Jays Group	S	561.00	112.20	673.20
250 Salaries and pension	31/03/2021		Unity Bank		PAYE/NI	HMRC	E	163.16	0.00	163.16
251 General and Office costs	31/03/2021		Unity Bank		New Office Solicitor Costs	Hardmans & Co	S	965.00	193.00	1,158.00
252 General and Office costs	31/03/2021		Unity Bank		1 Copy of Arnold Baker Local C	Ramsgate Town Council	E	119.00	0.00	119.00
253 Office Equipment	31/03/2021		Unity Bank		Office Stationery	viking direct	S	33.01	6.60	39.61
254 General and Office costs	31/03/2021		Unity Bank		IT services	EDGE I.T	S	30.00	6.00	36.00
255 Premises maintenance	31/03/2021		Co-operative Bank		Window cleaner	David Halpin	E	10.00	0.00	10.00
256 Salaries and pension	31/03/2021		Unity Bank		March salary	Assistant Clerk	E	1,021.95	0.00	1,021.95
257 Salaries and pension	31/03/2021		Unity Bank		March salary	Admin assistant	E	574.65	0.00	574.65
234 Drill Field	31/03/2021		Unity Bank		MUGA (Maintenance)	DDC	E	0.00	0.00	0.00
235 Premises maintenance	31/03/2021		Unity Bank		Office Rent March	M Johnson	E	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00
236 new projects	31/03/2021		Unity Bank		TRO and installation of parking	KCC	E	2,525.35	0.00	2,525.35
237 Subscriptions and Training	31/03/2021		Unity Bank		Annual Membership Renewal	Society of Local Council Clerk	E	366.00	0.00	366.00
238 81 Hawkshill	31/03/2021		Unity Bank		Waste disposal	Redfern Clearances	E	50.00	0.00	50.00
239 Subscriptions and Training	31/03/2021		Unity Bank		KALC Subscription	KALC	S	1,620.00	324.00	1,944.00
240 A&E Committee	31/03/2021		Unity Bank		Maintenance of MUGA	DDC	S	932.40	186.48	1,118.88
241 General and Office costs	31/03/2021		Unity Bank		New Office Deposit	Hardmans & Co	E	10,000.00	0.00	10,000.00
<b>Total</b>								<b>45,927.12</b>	<b>919.45</b>	<b>46,846.57</b>

- iii) That the financial position of the Council as at 27 April 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:

<b>Nat West Current</b>	<b>£35,862.93</b>
<b>Lloyds Bank</b>	<b>£77,795.75</b>
<b>Co-operative Bank</b>	<b>£75,192.86</b>
<b>Nat West Bank SIBA</b>	<b>£10,895.82</b>
<b>HSBC Bond</b>	<b>£75,316.29</b>
<b>Unity Bank</b>	<b>£54,599.21</b>

Proposed by: Cllr Eddy.

Seconded by: Cllr Weale.

**RESOLVED: members agreed to note the report and approve the payments.**

## 6165: COUNCIL GRANTS

Members received a grant request from Deal Music and Arts.  
Cllr Murray declared an interest on this item.



**6168. INVITATIONS & EVENTS**

None reported.

**6169. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Parish meeting: 19<sup>th</sup> May 2021.

Council: Wednesday, 9 June 2021.

**The meeting closed at 19.55 pm**

Signed: ..... Date: .....