



WALMER PARISH COUNCIL

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WALMER PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Meeting of Walmer Parish Council held on Wednesday, 7th July 2021 at Deal Parochial C of E School, Walmer.

Present Councillors:

Cllr J Murray (Chair), Cllr M Eddy (Vice-Chair), Cllr T Byfield, Cllr G Bearman, Cllr Mrs M Beard-Gould, Cllr Mrs S Fisher, Cllr P Heath, Cllr P Jull, Cllr D Thompson.

Officers Present:

Richard Styles, Clerk

6192. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Mrs S Le Chevalier, Cllr B Gardner, Cllr Miss A Herring, Cllr J Lonsdale, Cllr P St Ange, Cllr C. Weale

6193. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

6194. OPENNESS AND TRANSPARENCY

The Chairman read out the Council statement and policy on openness and transparency.

6195. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr James Murray reported the following: -

The Chairman reported that any matters where he might have made a report, are being dealt with in elsewhere in the agenda.

6196. MINUTES

Members received the minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday, 9 June and the Extraordinary Meeting on Tuesday, 29 June 2021.

RESOLVED: That both set of minutes be approved.

Proposed by: Cllr Eddy.

Seconded by: Cllr Beard-Gould.

6197. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA

RESOLVED: None raised.

6198. QUESTIONS AND/OR OBSERVATIONS FROM THE ELECTORATE OF WALMER

- i) Nothing received from the public/electorate.
- ii) Cllr Bond gave a report on DDC and KCC matters as follows:
 - He had contacted the police commissioner regarding speeding in Walmer.
 - The Alcohol licence for the paddling pool and minigolf course had been granted, but if there were Anti-Social Behaviour issues that licence could be reviewed.
 - WPC can now access an Anti-Social Behaviour map of the district, which will show where there are repeated incidents and will inform all stakeholders about the Anti-Social Behaviour situation in Walmer.

RESOLVED: Note the report.

6199. CRIME AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR REPORTS

- i) PCSO Herod gave a report on items of interest since the last report.
 - The local police had confiscated quantities of alcohol and cannabis in the last month.
 - A community speed watch campaign was active in the Parish (new Dover Road) and surrounding localities.
 - Underage drinking in the Parish had been addressed in the last month. £100's of beer and spirits were seized and destroyed by the police, before the very eyes of the underage drinkers.

RESOLVED: Report received and noted.

- ii) Councillor Surgeries: review on restarting Cllr surgeries.

RESOLVED: that because of the uncertainties on Covid regulations and guidelines in the next few weeks, it was decided to defer the question of restarting Cllr surgeries, until the autumn (September or October 2021).

Proposed by: Cllr Murray.

Seconded by: Cllr Eddy.

6200. EVENTS WORKING GROUP

Members received the report of the Admin Assistant dated June 2021 and members were asked to volunteer to help during the day at the Brocante, Bank Holiday Monday 30 August. Cllr Beard-Gould reported that volunteers to marshal the event were needed, that the event was almost sold out and that after a review, consideration would be given to keeping the event scheduled for August bank holiday.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note.

6201. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND MINUTES

Members received the reports and agreed minutes as follows:

- a. Amenities + Environment – **Nothing reported.**
- b. Finance + General Purposes -**Nothing reported.**
- c. Walmer in Bloom – **1st stage of judging was in progress.**
- d. Events Working Group – Proposal to rename as Events Cttee.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note the reports and change the name of the 'Events working Group' to 'Events Committee', to reflect its true status as a Cttee and not a working group.

Proposed by: Cllr Eddy.

Seconded by: Cllr Heath.

6202. CLIMATE EMERGENCY WORKING GROUP

Members received a verbal report from the chairman of Amenities and Environment Cttee, on behalf of the chair of the Climate Emergency Working Group held on Wednesday, 30 June 2021 and reported on delegated decision on energy/carbon footprint consultant for 62 The Strand, Walmer.

- **Under powers delegated to the Climate Emergency Working group by Council, 'Conker' consultants were approved.**
- **The purchase of a thermal imaging camera was proposed but deferred until the September council meeting, where a full report will be submitted by the Working group.**

RESOLVED: Noted.

6203. REPORT OF THE CLERK

No items to report.

6204. FINANCIAL REPORT

- Members received the report of the Responsible Financial Officer that the financial position of the Council as of 1st July 2021 be noted as detailed on the summary statement of monies available in the Council's bank accounts as shown below:

WPC bank balances	July 1st 2021
Bank	Balance £
Unity trust	100,891.64
NatWest current	34,309.04
Nat west SIBA	10,896.27
Coop	75,468.63
HSBC	75319.51
Lloyds	77,795.79
Total	374,680.88

RESOLVED: members agreed to note the report

- **Payments from 1 June 2021 to 2 July 2021** were received and approved.

RESOLVED: members agreed to approve the payments.

Proposed by: Cllr Eddy.

Seconded by: Cllr Murray.

- **Bank Accounts** – recommendations on changes to the number and type of bank accounts were received from the F&GP Cttee. A series of resolutions were proposed and were taken as a combined resolution as follows:.

RESOLVED:

1. NatWest current account

' Walmer Parish Council approves the recommendation received from the finance + General purposes Cttee to close the NatWest current account. Walmer Parish Council therefore authorises the Clerk to write a letter to NatWest bank, formally closing the account. The balance from the account to be deposited into the Unity trust current account, until a decision on future investment policy is made by the Council. All the signatories of that account, if they are council members, are requested to endorse each letter, so that the formalities can be speedily observed'.

2. NatWest SIBA account.

' Walmer Parish Council approves the recommendation received from the finance + General purposes Cttee to close the NatWest SIBA account. Walmer Parish Council therefore authorises the Clerk to write a letter to NatWest bank, formally closing the

account. The balance from the account to be deposited into the Unity trust current account, until a decision on future investment policy is made by the Council. All the signatories of that account, if they are council members, are requested to endorse each letter, so that the formalities can be speedily observed'.

3. Lloyds Bank treasurers account

' Walmer Parish Council authorises the closure of the Lloyds Bank treasurer's account . Walmer Parish Council therefore authorises the Clerk to write a letter to Lloyds bank, formally closing the account. The balance from the account to be deposited into the Unity trust current account, until a decision on future investment policy is made by the Council. All the signatories of that account, if they are council members, are requested to endorse each letter, so that the formalities can be speedily observed'.

4. In the event of replacement accounts or safe deposits not being available in time the process to be suspended until alternatives are agreed.

Proposed by: Cllr Eddy.

Seconded by: Cllr Beard-Gould.

- **Accounting System**

A report was received from the clerk recommending a changeover from the current 'Scribe' accounting software to 'AdvantEdge' operated by Edge IT. Training to begin in January 2022 and changeover as from April 2022.

RESOLVED: Authorised the clerk to contract with Edge IT to replace Scribe accounts software with AdvantEdge accounts software as from 1st April 2022.

Proposed by: Cllr Eddy.

Seconded by: Cllr Fisher.

6205. PROPOSAL FOR BORROW PIT CAR PARK BY Cllr M EDDY

RESOLVED: That the report from Cllr Eddy be received and that an application for improved signs to the Borrow pit carpark from the DDC 'Welcome back fund 'be applied for. Following the outcome of this proposal, further proposals may be made.

Proposed by Cllr Eddy.

Seconded by Cllr Bearman.

6206. INVITATIONS & EVENTS

- Dover Patrol Memorial Service.
- Deal Town Council Civic event – Inauguration of Mayor 2021/22.

6207. Exclusion of the Public under the Public bodies (admission to meetings) Act 1960

RESOLVED: Under the terms of the Public bodies (Admission to meetings) act 1960 by virtue of the business to be transacted involving contract terms for the repair/conversion of 62, The Strand, Walmer.

Proposed by Cllr Eddy.

Seconded by Cllr Beard-Gould.

6208. ADAPTION/REFURBISHMENT/REPAIR OF NEW COUNCIL OFFICES

a. Estimates were received and approved for work from building contractors.

RESOLVED: That the estimates received from RJW Construction be approved and that RJW Construction be engaged to carry out the work.

Proposed by Cllr Beard-Gould.

Seconded by Cllr Bearman.

b. Telecoms estimates received and approved -VOIP phones and Wi-Fi installations.

RESOLVED: That the estimates received from Mitec Group Ltd were approved and that Mitec Group Ltd be engaged to carry out the work.

Proposed by Cllr Eddy.

Seconded by Cllr Fisher.

c. Selection of removal contractors

RESOLVED: The Clerk is authorised to seek 3 estimates for the removal of council items from 8, the Strand to 62, the Strand, and to engage with the removal firm with the most competitive estimate.

Proposed by Cllr Beard- Gould.

Seconded by Cllr Eddy.

6209. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, 8 September 2021, Deal Parochial School, Walmer.

The meeting closed at 9pm.

Signed: Date: