

WALMER PARISH COUNCIL  
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**WALMER PARISH COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held at 7pm on  
Wednesday, 16 June 2021 at 8 The Strand, Walmer**

Present Councillors: Cllrs M Eddy (Chairman), Mrs S Le Chevalier, Mrs M Beard-Gould,  
P Heath, J Murray

**Officers Present:** Richard Styles (Clerk)

**1096. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies received and accepted from Cllr A Herring.

**1097. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

As this was the first meeting of the committee in 2020/22 council year the Chairman called for nominations for Chairman.

Cllr Eddy was nominated by Cllr Beard-Gould.

Seconded by Cllr Le-Chevalier.

**RESOLVED**

The Chairman called for nominations for Vice-Chair.

Cllr Le-Chevalier was nominated by Cllr Murray.

Seconded by Cllr Beard-Gould.

**RESOLVED**

Cllr Eddy proposed that no Cllr auditors be appointed at this time.

Seconded by Cllr Le-Chevalier.

**RESOLVED**

**1098. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None received.

**1099. OPENNESS AND TRANSPARENCY**

The WPC policy statement on openness and transparency was made by the Chairman.

**1100. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes of the extraordinary meeting of the Cttee held on 25 January 2021 were approved as a true record and will be signed by the chairman at the next opportunity.

Proposed by Cllr Le-Chevalier.

Seconded by Cllr Murray.

**RESOLVED**

#### **1101. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE**

No matters were raised.

#### **1102. MANAGEMENT OF PAYMENTS & RECEIPTS**

Members received a report from the Clerk on payments and receipts management.

##### **RESOLVED:**

- The report is noted and received.
- Unity Trust bank will be the bank used for all WPC payment and receipts.

Proposed by Cllr. Murray.

Seconded by Cllr. Le-Chevalier.

#### **1103. MANAGEMENT OF COUNCIL BANK ACCOUNTS**

Members received a report from the Clerk on the Council bank accounts.

##### **RESOLVED:**

- The report is noted and received.
- That the Clerk will investigate the early repayment of PWLB debt. *(Note he has already spoken to the internal auditor on this matter).*
- Investigate using the CCLA organisation regarding on deposit cash-based funds and longer-term property-based funds.
- Investigate depositing funds with Triodos bank and other ethical banks.
- Unity Trust bank will be the bank used for all WPC payment/receipts.
- Coop bank will be retained for on deposit banking.
- All NatWest /Lloyds and HSBC accounts will be closed, and their balances reinvested in the other banks/financial institutions when they are approved by Council.

Proposed by Cllr. Beard-Gould.

Seconded by Cllr. Le-Chevalier.

#### **1104. COUNCIL STRUCTURES**

Members received a report from the Clerk on options on Council structures.

##### **RESOLVED:**

- The report is noted and received.
- The committee felt that the existing committee structure should be retained.
- That committees have discretion to use their terms of reference and budget allocations as given to them by council.
- Council should continue to receive reports of Cttee work.
- Committees are required to seek permission from Council if they wish to exceed the bounds of their terms of reference or budget allocation.
- All Committee papers should be circulated to all members electronically.

Proposed by Cllr. Heath.

Seconded by Cllr. Beard-Gould.

**1105. ASSET MANAGEMENT**

Members received a report from the Clerk on managing its assets.

**RESOLVED:**

- The report was noted and received.
- Contents of the report to be circulated to all Cllrs for information.
- Draw up a paper investigating the possibility of employing a parish lengths-person to carry out light maintenance work in Walmer or jointly with other local parishes.  
*Cllr Eddy declared a VAOI interest at this juncture, as a member of Kingsdown PC.*

Proposed by Cllr. Le-Chevalier.

Seconded by Cllr. Beard-Gould.

**1106. ALLOTMENT FENCE REPORT**

Members received a report from Cllr Byfield on the condition of the allotment fence.

**RESOLVED:**

- The report was received and noted.
- A request has been made to KCC, asking them to respond on any issues they may have regarding the fence and the adjacent pavement.
- The Committee felt that a repair in situ, is an effective remedy to repair those parts of the fence in need of maintenance.
- Any vegetation requiring cut back will be programmed for the autumn/ winter seasons.
- The Clerk is to investigate an onsite repair schedule of works. (*The gate chain and padlock have already been welded together under Cllr Murray's oversight*).
- The Council should consider using Geotextile to stabilise the bank behind the fence.

Proposed by Cllr. Murray.

Seconded by Cllr. Le-Chevalier.

**1107. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

- **13 October 2021**

The Meeting closed at 8.30 pm.

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