



WALMER TOWN COUNCIL

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

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Minutes of the Events Committee held on Wednesday 22nd April 2026 at No. 62 The Strand, Walmer at 5.30pm.

Present: Cllr Tony Grist (Chairman), Cllr Diana Richardson, Cllr Louise Ludwig and Cllr Adrian Friend.

Officer Present: Roland Aldred – Town Clerk.

596. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Cllrs E Crockford and M Simpson offered apologies.

597. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

No interests were declared.

598. OPENNESS AND TRANSPARENCY.

The Chairman reminded those present of the terms of openness and transparency.

599. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING.

Members considered the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 25th March 2026.

RESOLVED – That the minutes be taken as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Proposed by Cllr Friend

Seconded by Cllr Grist

For 4 Against 0 Abstain 0

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

None.

601. EVENTS BUDGET.

- i. Events budget 2026/27.

Members received a verbal update that Envisage had now been paid for the Brocante in August 2026.

NOTED

602. CHRISTMAS CAROLS & CLASSICS EVENT DECISION 2026.

- i. Members received a copy of the results from the public survey conducted from 7th April 2026 to 21st April 2026. Overall Walmer Town Council received 37 responses with 25 responses from Walmer residents. The 25 responses from Walmer residents represented 0.38% of the population of Walmer, based on the November 2025 DDC electoral register.

The results of the survey were as follows:

How often have you attended the Christmas event?

Number of events previously attended	All answers	Walmer Residents
1 to 3	19	12
4 or more	15	11
Never attended	3	2

How important do you consider the WTC event at Christmas?

Importance	All answers	Walmer Residents
Very important	10	7
Nice to have	18	11
Not important	9	7

Does the event represent value for money?

Answer	All answers	Walmer Residents
Yes	21	16
No	16	9

What is your preferred format?

Format	All answers	Walmer Residents
Mix of Christmas Carols and Christmas Songs	32	21
Christmas Carols only/Celebration of birth of Jesus Christ	2	2
Other	3	2

The conclusions taken from the survey were:

- Overall, a very small number of residents responded to the survey.
- Only 7 Walmer residents indicated that they believed the event to be very important.
- None of the questions resulted in an overwhelming majority of views, other than the preferred format of any future event.

RESOLVED – Due to the low participation rate from the public consultation (0.38% of Walmer Residents) members are of the opinion that there is no clear mandate from residents to re-instate the event.

Proposed – Cllr Grist

Seconded – Cllr Ludwig

For 3 Against 0 Abstain 1

603. CHILDREN'S FESTIVAL 2026

Members received a verbal update from the officer on the progress of the Children's Festival event planning.

The additional face painter has agreed to attend at a cost of £225.

A local food vendor has indicated interest in attending.

Deal Radio have indicated that their trailer is available for the event to act as both PA and a broadcast centre for the event.

RESOLVED – Members agreed that the trailer would be very welcome at the event, particularly for the use of the PA system. Members asked the officer to liaise with Deal Radio to agree how best to use the options offered by use of the trailer, alongside the volunteer DJ also attending.

Proposed – Cllr Richardson

Seconded – Cllr Friend

For 4 Against 0 Abstain 0

Dover District Council have confirmed the costs for the additional waste bins are £15.95 more than originally presented.

NOTED – bins have been agreed previously as a requirement.

The event management plan and all supporting documentation has been submitted to DDC.

604. BROCANTE 2026.

Members received a verbal update on the Brocante.

Walmer Town Council has sold 119 of 140 of the standard pitches and 2 of the 4 charity pitches. Members asked officers to keep an eye on the sales with a view to potentially increasing the number of pitches if space permits.

We are awaiting a response from DDC on the plans to repair the sink holes, this may need to be taken into account when planning where pitches will be sited.

Waste bins have also increased in cost for this event (see 603 above).

NOTED – The report was noted.

605. FUTURE/OTHER EVENTS.

i. Outdoor Gym Launch

The Clerk gave a verbal update that all formalities and paperwork for the installation of the Outdoor Gym are now complete, and we are now waiting for an installation timeline from KOMPAN. Members discussed ideas for a suitable launch event, including music and taster sessions on the day plus further post event support sessions.

This Item will be brought back to the next meeting, for further discussion and clarification of what the proposed launch event will include.

RESOLVED – To allocate the £3,000 set aside for a new event for the launch event of the Outdoor Gym. To also delegate to officers an amount of up to £500 of this agreed budget, to spend on initial set up costs of launch event.

Proposed – Cllr Friend

Seconded – Cllr Ludwig

For 4 Against 0 Abstain 0

ii. Additional Brocante Event

Cllr Grist reported that he had been contacted regarding the idea of a second Brocante event. The idea had previously already been reviewed and due to bookings on the green there are limited options as to when another event could take place. The day is a long day for staff and a lot of work; and staff already work one of the two bank holidays during the summer period. Members did not move forward with the option of a second Brocante.

606. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting is Wednesday 27th May 2026 at 5.30pm.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 18.10pm.

Signed

Date