

WALMER TOWN COUNCIL
62 The Strand, Walmer, Deal, Kent, CT14 7DP

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Dated this 8th March 2022

**To: Councillors: M Eddy (Chairman), Mrs M Beard-Gould, T Byfield, J Lonsdale,
Mrs S Fisher, P St Ange**

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the **Amenity & Environment Committee** to be held on **Tuesday, 15th March 2022 at 8 The Strand, Walmer 7.00pm** to transact the business shown on the agenda below.

Richard Styles - Clerk to the Town Council

AGENDA

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive any declarations of interest from Members in respect of business to be transacted on the agenda.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 26th January 2022.

Attach 1

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE

5. CLIMATE EMERGENCY WORKING GROUP

To receive a verbal update from Cllr J Lonsdale

6. ALLOTMENTS + STONY PATH

Update on progress.

7. DRILL FIELD

- i. Parking issues.
- ii. Anti -Social behaviour.
- iii. Lease.

8. HIGHWAYS IMPROVEMENT PLAN

- i. Meeting at Cricket Club.
- ii. Future meetings at Elizabeth House.
- iii. Issues for the HIP.

9. YORK & ALBANY CLOSE & LAND OFF CHURCHILL AVENUE

To receive an update report.

10. TREE PLANTING PROJECT

To receive a verbal report if available.

11. NO 62 – REAR EXTENSION AND NO 8 LEASE

To receive a report.

12. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

TBA

Attach 1

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MINUTES

DRAFT Minutes of the meeting of the Amenity and Environment Committee held on Wednesday 26th January 2022 at 7pm at 8 The Strand, Walmer.

Present Councillors:

Cllr M Eddy (Chair), Cllr Mrs M Beard-Gould, Cllr T Byfield, Cllr Mrs S Fisher & Cllr J Lonsdale.

Officer Present: Richard Styles (Clerk).

Three members of the public were also present.

1267. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from: Cllr P St Ange - Holiday. The Chairman welcomed members of the public and, after ascertaining which items they were interested in and explaining members of the public did not normally have speaking rights at Council committee meetings, invited the members of the public to speak during the relevant items, which were brought forward for their convenience.

1268. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received.

1269. COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

Already adopted.

1270. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Members received the minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday, 18th November 2021.

AGREED: That the minutes be approved.

Proposed by Cllr Lonsdale.

Seconded by Cllr Eddy.

1271 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE

Cllr Beard-Gould informed the meeting that the tree planted by KCC at Gothic Close was part of the Queen's Canopy scheme and not a replacement. This is the first planting under this scheme in East Kent. A replacement tree has been planted in Dover Road opposite Gothic Place.

1272. ALLOTMENTS AND STONY PATH

The Clerk reported that the fencing repairs to the allotments and Stony Path were scheduled, as was the clearance of Stony Path. The Clerk also described the expenditure anticipated in 2022 on the Allotments and Stony Path. He stated that rent demands had been sent out to tenants and that 2 tenants had surrendered their plots, and these would be re-let.

Two allotment tenants expressed their concern at the revised allotment rents and the hardship this would cause. In response the meeting agreed to allow greater time to pay and staged payments, with an intention to avoid increasing the charges in the next two years, if possible. The allotment tenants expressed a desire for some self-management of the allotments, and in response the Clerk said he would be very willing to meet with the tenants to see if this could be done.

NOTED

1273. THE DRILL FIELD

The Clerk reported that the name change approved by the Council ('The Prince Philip Royal Marines Drill Field'), has been submitted to the Royal Names' Unit, within the Cabinet Office in Whitehall.

A member of the public expressed concern at a rumour circulating that the Drill Field may be developed into a housing scheme. The meeting made it very clear, that there was absolutely no substance to this rumour. Walmer Town Council owned the land, bought under certain restrictions from the MOD, and had no intention whatsoever to change the amenity status of the land to anything else. The Committee to see greater public use of the MUGA located on the field and is seeking a meeting with the Rugby Club to discuss its lease and the future community use of the Drill Field.

NOTED

1274. CLIMATE EMERGENCY WORKING GROUP

Cllr Lonsdale gave a report:

EV charging point statistics show that the facility has above average usage by EV owners. The Bee Bombs scheme take up is on target to meet the 100 applications level of take up. The publicity has produced considerable interest.

The Thermal Imaging camera scheme has got off the ground with 35 enquiries in Walmer and others elsewhere in the district. Visits to residents in Walmer will start shortly.

Trim Trail: Enquiries and an outline description of a viable scheme has been made to a funding source and the Clerk is awaiting a response.

NOTED

1275. COMMUNITY ASSETS

The Clerk presented a report which outlined proposals for the better management of community assets within Walmer, including WTC's own land. The proposals were:

- i. To discuss local management schemes, assets transfers and leasing schemes with Dover District Council on land held by them in Walmer.
- ii. To review the management of WTC's own assets.

- iii. To discuss with the Chairman of Walmer in Bloom the assets that both committees manage, and whether some combination of interests might improve Cllr and volunteer participation.

It was proposed by Cllr Beard-Gould that discussions be initiated and that the council undertake a full review of its land assets and that it collates the relevant land registry documents to each piece of land.

AGREED- To undertake a full review of council owned land

Proposed by Cllr Mrs Beard-Gould

Seconded by Cllr Mrs Fisher

1276. HIGHWAYS IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The Committee discussed two proposals for improved road safety at the former air raid shelter site in Station Road. Once these have been fully worked out, local residents would be asked for their views on the proposals.

Cllr Beard-Gould asked that the matter of increased parking on the pavements along Dover Road be taken up as a policy issue with KCC Highways and the DFT.

Cllr Byfield asked that his proposal for a traffic island to improve traffic safety at the junction of Court Road and Station Road be taken up and put before KCC Highways for consideration under the Walmer Highways Improvement Plan.

NOTED

1277. YORK AND ALBANY CLOSE

The Clerk reported that the cutback of vegetation along the boundary was programmed for the 31st January.

Cllr Lonsdale suggested that some of the land be allocated to treatment with Bee Bombs to increase the number of wildflowers and diversity.

NOTED

1278. TREE PLANTING PROJECT

A Liquidambar tree has been planted in Gothic Close under the Queens Canopy Scheme and a replacement highways tree (an Acer) has been planted across the road.

Cllr Beard-Gould asked that the Cttee could arrange for up to £2,000 be set aside from Council funds to acquire 4 soft or hard landscape trees under the Queens canopy scheme.

Cllr Beard- Gould proposed that there was suitable land at Marke Park aligning Liverpool Road, that could be gainfully allocated to amenity silviculture.

AGREED: Members agreed the quote

Proposed by Cllr Mrs Beard Gould

Seconded: Cllr Lonsdale

1279. NO 62 REAR EXTENSION

The Council has already sanctioned the work to improve extend the rear room at No 62, so that it will be fit for purpose as a meeting/training room for the Council.

The existing architects have been asked to revise their quotations accordingly and other architects have been contacted, so that a comprehensive appreciation of what could be done with the building, is received. This will allow a fully considered decision to be made.

NOTED

1280. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 15th March at 7pm.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 20 45.

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Signature

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Date