



WALMER TOWN COUNCIL

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

Tel: 01304 362363

Web site: www.walmercouncil.co.uk E-mail: clerk@walmercouncil.co.uk

Dated the 11th January 2024

Amenities & Environment Committee: Cllr P Findley, Cllr P Jull, Cllr P Ludwig, Cllr R Blackwell, Cllr S Waite-Gleave, Cllr, M Eddy. Cllr K Lee, Cllr D Richardson, Cllr M Simpson.

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of THE AMENITIES AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE to be held at 7pm, Wednesday 17th January 2024 at: 8, The Strand, Walmer, CT14 7DP.

Roland Aldred

Town Clerk Walmer Town Council

AGENDA

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

2. 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 1998. 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.

- 3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
To receive any declarations of interest from Members in respect of business to be transacted on the agenda.
- 4. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**
To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 22nd November 2023.
Attach 1
- 5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE**
- 6. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC**
Receive any questions from the public.
- 7. NATURE AND BIODIVERSITY GRANT APPLICATION.**
To hear an application for a nature and biodiversity grant application from Walmer and Deal Action for Swifts.
ENC 1
- 8. HIGHWAYS IMPROVEMENT PLAN**
i. To receive a copy of the current Highways Improvement Plan. Attach 2
ii. Parking on Marine Road update from Clerk.
iii. Any items for HIP to be discussed:
Any other additions members wish to bring for discussion (these will need to be investigated between meetings and cannot be agreed to be added until they have been advertised on an agenda).
vi. Cycle Forum – to receive a verbal update from Cllr L Ludwig on meeting with Cllr Craggs of Deal Town Council.
- 9. HISTORIC WALKING ROUTE FROM WALMER STATION TO DEAL CASTLE**
To receive a report from Cllr Eddy on a proposal to create a map of a historic walking route from Walmer Station to Deal Castle.
Attach 3
- 10. STONEY PATH**
Update on the Stoney Path project.
- 11. TRIM TRAIL**
To review the Trim Trail project and decide on next actions.
- 12. ALLOTMENTS PRICING**
To receive a written report from the Clerk on allotment pricing and set rates for 2024/25.
Attach 4
- 13. TREE PLANTING**
To decide on a proposal to plant trees along Salisbury Road
Attach 5
- 14. IDEAL COUNCIL OFFICE**
To consider initial actions from the Council resolution to review the requirements for an ideal office/meeting space for the future of the Council.
- 15. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**
24th April 2024



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MINUTES

DRAFT Minutes of the meeting of the Amenity and Environment Committee held on Wednesday 22nd November 2023 at 7pm at 8 The Strand, Walmer.

Present Councillors:

Cllr M Eddy (Chair), Cllr P Jull, Cllr D Richardson, Cllr P Ludwig, Cllr S Waite-Gleave, Cllr R Blackwell, Cllr P Findley and Cllr L Ludwig (ex officio).

Roland Aldred –Town Clerk

362. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Chairman welcomed all present. Apologies from Cllr Lee were received and accepted.

363. OPENNESS AND TRANSPARENCY

The Chairman reminded the meeting of the terms of various rights to record and transmit the transactions of the meeting under the Local Govt Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

364. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs P and L Ludwig declared a VAOI in respect of item 370 as they are allotment tenants.

365. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Members received the minutes of the committee meeting held on Wednesday 27th September 2023.

AGREED: That the minutes are a true record and are approved.

Proposed by Cllr L Ludwig

Seconded by Cllr P Ludwig.

366. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE

No items.

367. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public were present.

368. HIGHWAYS IMPROVEMENT PLAN

Cllr Blackwell arrived at the start of this item

- i. To receive a copy of current Highways Improvement Plan.

NOTED

- ii. To allocate KCC items on HIP to priority order:

The following items were designated as the highest priority items to discuss with KCC.

AGREED – To make the below routes the priority on the HIP in order.

- a. Disability access dropped kerbs and tactile surfaces to start with Dover Road sites.

Proposed Cllr P Ludwig

Seconded Cllr Blackwell

- b. Liverpool Road outside Meadowside residential home street lighting and or signage.

Proposed Cllr Findley

Seconded Cllr Waite-Gleave

- c. Cycle route to join the Skylark Trail to National Cycle Route 1.

Proposed Cllr Richardson

Seconded Cllr Eddy

- iii. Parking on Marine Road

Members received a verbal report from the Clerk, on the issue of parking on Marine Road. Members asked the Clerk to investigate the current restrictions on parking and if they prohibited Campervans to ask that the restrictions be enforced.

- iv. Ardent Avenue

At the last A&E meeting the Clerk was asked to speak to Kent Fire and Rescue about getting a report in to safety concerns in regard to parking on Ardent Avenue. Kent Fire and Rescue submitted a report that was sent on to members and to Kent County Council Highways. KCC Highways acted on this report by starting the process for parking restrictions. Therefore there is no further work required by Walmer Town Council.

- v. Any additions to the HIP.

- a. Parking on Kingsdown Road – a report was received of parking on the bend on Kingsdown Road which caused a danger to road users. Members agreed this was unacceptable and asked the Clerk to try to collect evidence for potential actions.

- b. Water run off from Kingsdown Road.

Similar location to above Clerk asked to investigate if there are drains already in the area.

- vi. Cycle Forum

Cllr L Ludwig reported that she had met with Cllr Craggs of Deal Town Council and they were looking at the Cycle Friendly Deal document for easy big wins. Further meetings will be held and reported back to committee.

369. KENT CYCLING AND WALKING INFRASTRUCTURE CONSULTATION

Members received a report from the Clerk on the KCC Cycling and Walking infrastructure consultation. Members discussed various opportunities for improvements to the infrastructure in the area.

AGREED –To request drop kerbs as per the report created by Walmer Town Council and the Speaking up Group and to request improved crossings on The Strand for the Walking and Wheeling section of the consultation. On the section dealing with Cycling Members requested that the Skylark Trail to be connected to National Route 1 via Salisbury Road and Granville Road with an improved crossing option for cycles at the junction with Dover Road; for the “Share with Care” pathway by Wellington parade to be reviewed for improvements to increase space for Cyclists; and the Deal to the Discovery Park section of National Route 1 to be considered as priority 1 instead of priority 2.

Proposed – Cllr Jull

Seconded – Cllr Waite-Gleave

370. STONEY PATH

Members received a written report from the Clerk updating them on the Stoney Path project. Quotes are to be sought for clearing the land as the next step for producing a report at the Full council meeting in January.

371. TRIM TRAIL

Members received a written report on the current status of the Trim Trail.

AGREED

- i. Clerk to write a report for full council meeting from Amenities and Environment recommending that the WTC look to amend the proposal to a cluster of machines and give reasons why.
- ii. Clerk to make contact with other coastal councils who have machines on seafront to see if they have any information on usage of the machines.
- iii. Clerk to engage with local GP surgeries for advice on the types of machine which would be most beneficial.
- iv. Clerk to make enquiries with DDC as to whether they would support a cluster.

Proposed Cllr L Ludwig

Seconded Cllr P Ludwig

372. CEWG BUDGET

At 9pm members agreed to extend the meeting by 15 mins to complete the business.

AGREED – To extend the meeting.

Proposed – Cllr Eddy

Seconded – Cllr Findley

Members received a copy of a proposed budget from the Climate Emergency Working Group to review.

Heading	Subheading	Budget 2023/24	Suggested Budget 2024/5
Climate Emergency	Beebombs	0.00	425.00
	Thermal Camera	100.00	110.00
	Swift Boxes	0.00	440.00
	2 x Water Stations	0.00	4000.00
Churchill Avenue	Trees	0.00	1000.00
	Clearance of area	0.00	1000.00
Total		100	6975.00

AGREED – To recommend above budget to F&GP committee.

Proposed – Cllr Waite-Gleave

Seconded – Cllr Findley

373. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting: 17th January 2024.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 21:15.

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Signature

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Date

HIGHWAYS IMPROVEMENT PLAN			ACTION PLAN							KCC Priority no
PROJECT NO	DATE	DESCRIPTION	REMEDY	ESTIMATED COST	FUNDING SOURCE	MANAGER	PROGRESS	ORIGIN	Comments	
1	Jan-22	Parking and access triangular roadway opposite Neville Gardens, Station Rd, Walmer	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	Clr Byfield		
2	Jan-22	Speed Survey, Dover Road	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	V Recas	Petition started online by residents group. Speedwatch group including Kingsdown and Ringwood close to being formed	
3		Traffic Island - junc Station Rd and Court Road Highway safety for vehicles turning out of Court rd and from Station Rd	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	Clr Byfield		
4	N/A	Double yellow markings: Lawn Rd/Dover Rd, Hershel Square/Dover Rd and Kelvedon Rd/Dover Rd	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	Capt Ferrier		
5	N/A	Double yellow markings Gothic close Parking by vehicles at Gothic close causes traffic heading to Deal to veer over into middle of road	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	N/A	Amendments to Road appear to have rectified this issue should this now be removed?	
6	N/A	20 mph zones in Walmer	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA		Needs more information as to where	
7	N/A	Disability access dropped kerbs and tactile surfaces	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	Clr Eddy/Murray	Met with representatives from Deal Speaking up Group and reviewed curbs report passed to KCC	
9	Nov-21	Cycle path to be extended along Wellington Parade	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	Question as to how this could be done given private road	
11	Jul-22	Parking on Marine Road - The number of cars parked there from people walking to beach and walking in to town on top of two car parks to the beach and now the golf residents have little opportunity to park outside their houses. There is one residential who is living from said misbehaviour on the road. Spacious people go along the road at (unopposed) simply making the road too like a race track. Would like to see an overnight ban on parking particularly on some vans.	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	Richard	CCC visit over from for resident to complete and get neighbours on board. Already parking restrictions in place	
15	Jun-23	Cycle Routes - Request to join cycle route 1 to the Skylark trail by adding cycle route along Granville Road	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	M Eddy		
16	Jun-23	Liverpool Road - Outside meadowside centre. Lighting required for safety of residents exiting premises on foot. No paving is present until Grams Road.	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	M Eddy		
17	Sep-23		TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	TBA	M Eddy		

To: Amenity and Environment Cttee

Date: 8 January 2024

From: Cllr Mike Eddy

Subject: An historic walking route through Walmer

Members will be aware that both Kent County Council and Dover District Council have both recently initiated walking and cycling/alternative travel strategies. Deal Town Council and Walmer Town Council have also carried out surveys of possible routeways for users of disability scooters, wheelchairs and children's push-chairs.

It would, therefore, seem appropriate to consider how this Council could take advantage of potential opportunities to improve accessibility to Walmer's heritage for visitors and residents alike by providing an historic trail from the railway station to the seafront.

One possibility would be to create a walking route from the railway station to Walmer Castle and seafront. The majority of visitors to Walmer arrive at Walmer station from London via Dover and leave the station through the pathway onto Sydney Road which is within the Deal Town Council area and to get to the shops in Upper Walmer or to the Castle and seafront they have to double back at the railway bridge and down Salisbury Road (which leads to lower Walmer) or they go under the railway viaduct and down Station Road. Between the station and the Upper Walmer shops on Dover Road is the Norman church of Old St Mary's, which contains an Anglo-Saxon stone cross, and sites adjacent to Walmer's other castle, a thin-walled keep within the grounds of Walmer Court. Footpaths through the churchyard or on the churchyard boundary link Church Street, with a range of historic buildings, and Station Road which leads to the Upper Walmer shops.

On the other side of Dover Road is the church tower of the former enclosed nunnery, designed by Pugin. The wall along part of Grams Road is part of that enclosed nunnery and Grams Road leads past Trinity Homes (originally almshouses for Trinity pilots) towards Hawksdown. However, walking under the Pugin tower leads to a footpath through Roselands and Poets Walk to the Trinity Homes. The remains of some of the stations of the cross survive on this side of the Grams Road wall. From the Trinity Homes, St Clare's Road leads past new St Mary's Church down to Liverpool Road and the paddock to the Castle. An alternative path from Dover Road via The Shubbery comes out at new St Mary's Church and joins St Clare's Road.

Walkers then have Walmer Castle and the seafront in front of them.

Recommendation: Delegate authority to the Clerk to investigate possible funding sources for an historic walking route from Walmer railway station to the seafront and Walmer Castle and to produce a proposal for such a route to be adopted by the Council through the HIP or other appropriate mechanism.



Item: Allotment pricing.
Date: 08/01/24.
Meeting: Amenities and Environment Jan 2024.
From: Roland Aldred.

Current wait list is: 25
Current occupancy: 100%

Cost of allotments 2022/23: £1300 (estimated expected cost)
Income: £2640 (projected)
Year 2021/22 made a loss of £2164.84 due to repair work.
Further work on the fencing on the side of the bank Campbell road side is likely to need to be completed in the next few years due to erosion.

Last year Walmer Town Council amended the pricing to be inline with Deal Town Council. Previously allotments were set as either large or small and a fixed price was allocated to the size, under the new pricing a price per meter was set and all allotments were re-measured and priced accordingly.

Last year prices were 48p per meter in line with the cost of Deal Town Councils allotments. Deal Town Council is holding it's pricing for 2024/25.

We also offer for £5 per year membership to the SWCAA for £5 per year (cost price) with this allotment holders are given membership to the SWCAA who are a national support group who offer advice, provide a quarterly newsletter and include insurance of the plot.

Recommendation

To hold the pricing for the allotments for the 2024/25 year.

Members to decide



Item: Trees along Salisbury Road.

Date: 08/01/24.

Meeting: Amenities and Environment Jan 2024 .

From: Roland Aldred.

Over the last 10 years a number of Cherry Trees along Salisbury Road have been cut down for various reasons and not replaced.

KCC have indicated that they would be willing to plant trees in this area if WTC were willing to pay to have them planted.

Currently in the 2023/24 Budget there is £4k unspent allocated for Tree Planting, as we are approaching the end of the year this is unlikely to get spent.

Ideally, we would ask for this to be completed in this financial year however if it went through to next year we would need to ask the council to authorise the money from this years budget being moved forward as a reserve to be paid in the 2024/25 financial year as tree planting budget for 2024/25 has been allocated to the projects at Churchill Ave and Stoney Path.

Members to decide.