



**WALMER TOWN COUNCIL**

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

**Tel: 01304 362363**

**Web site: [www.walmercouncil.co.uk](http://www.walmercouncil.co.uk) E-mail: [clerk@walmercouncil.co.uk](mailto:clerk@walmercouncil.co.uk)**

Dated this day 18<sup>th</sup> January 2024

**To: Councillors: S Waite-Gleave (Chairing), R Blackwell, M Eddy, L Ludwig, Cllr P Findley**

**Non-Council Members: Mrs S Fisher, Mr D Thompson**

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the **Climate Emergency Working Group** to be held on **25<sup>th</sup> January 2024 at 7.00pm- 8 The Strand, Walmer** to transact the business shown on the agenda below.

Copy to Roland Aldred, Clerk

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**AGENDA**

**1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

**3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Attach 1

**4. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

- Discussion of DDC initiatives and Walmer Carbon Footprint with DDC Climate Officer James Traynor and Kent Community Energy representative Duane Poppe.
- To note, Cllr Waite-Gleave completed KALC Carbon Literacy training and now holds the certificate.

**5. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

**6. PRIORITIES AND ACTIONS**

**Transport**

- **EV charging points.**
  - To note, latest charge point usage figures.
  - To note, response to KCC Cycling & Walking consultation from Cllr Waite-Gleave
  - Admin update on possible new EV locations

**Ongoing projects**

- **Thermal Camera Scheme**
  - Update from Admin on scheme
  - To decide area to leaflet for winter 2024
- **Pesticide-Free Towns national movement**
- Verbal Update from Cllr S Waite-Gleave

- To note Cllr Eddy's recommendation to WTC regarding adoption of Pesticide Free care for public spaces.

### Local Nature Recovery Strategy

- **Tree Planting**
  - Update from Admin on Tree costing.
  - To note that Cllr Waite-Gleave has consulted with the York & Albany Peace Garden group about applying for 5 'golden orchard' fruit trees.
- **Churchill Avenue**
  - To note that the full council accepted the project as of 10<sup>th</sup> January meeting
  - Update from admin on arrangements with DDC & Rob Reid-Easton. Attach 2
  - Update from chair on volunteer engagement for spring 2024.
  - To decide on a Management Plan for Churchill Avenue
- **Walmer Swift Project**
  - Update from Cllr Findley regarding the project

### Waste reduction

- **Drinking fountain / water refill station / reduction plastic bottle waste**
  - Cllr Waite-Gleave to inform working group regarding ideas for plastic reduction Attach 3
  - Cllr Waite-Gleave to recommend invitations to members of community groups Plastic Free Deal & Pick Deal Clean to next CEWG meeting in March.
  - To consider the 'Motion for the Ocean' agree any amendments needed before recommendation to WTC to adopt it at next full council meeting. Attach 4

### Local Environment

- **Green Areas**
  - DDC land and requests to leave unmown for nature recovery. Update from admin following WTC meeting with DDC officers.
  - To note Cllr Findley's Green Map of Walmer and presentation
  - To note Climate Change Day in Nov 2024. Suggestions on collaboration with DTC and engage with Walmer public on any event later in 2024 featuring climate emergency.
  - To note that KCC Make Space for Nature launched Jan 24
  - To note that discussions started with DDC officers about new management plan to do nature recovery on the foreshore.
  - To note that Cllr Waite-Gleave put the WTC motion to KALC AGM & it passed suggestions for all K&M level 1 councils to support LNRS and urge higher level councils to do take action.

## **7. ANY OTHER QUESTIONS OR OBSERVATIONS.**

## **8. NEW INITIATIVES**

New Initiatives to be researched & brought to future CEWG meeting.

## **9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

28<sup>th</sup> March 2024



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**Draft Minutes of the Climate Emergency Working Group Meeting  
Held 16<sup>th</sup> November 2023 at 8 The Strand, Walmer at 7:00pm**

**PRESENT:** Cllr M Eddy, Cllr L Ludwig, Cllr P Findley, Cllr S Waite-Gleave (Chairing)

**LOCAL RESIDENTS:** Mrs S Fisher

• **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Mr D Thompson- Unavailable  
Cllr R Blackwell- Work commitments.

• **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None

• **MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

- Agreed and signed off.  
**RESOLVED** – That the minutes be taken as an accurate record.  
Proposed by: Cllr Eddy  
Seconded by: Cllr Findley

• **MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

- Chair contacted DDC regarding the damage to entranceway to Marke Wood and the fountain at the Lifeboat Station. Further contact will be made with the officers at DDC during a meeting in January.

• **PRIORITIES AND ACTIONS**

**Transport**

- **EV charging points.**
  - CEWG informed of recent profit totals for EV charge use.
  - Chair informed group about possible locations for new EV points, information has been sent to council officers. Ownership of areas to be confirmed.

**Ongoing projects**

- **Trim Trail**
  - Trim Trail has been transferred to the A&E Committee as budget holder.
  - Mrs Fisher will write up notes for the next A&E meeting about what has already been done regarding the trim trail.
  - Cllr Waite Gleave to forward information from former Cllr Lonsdale regarding the Trim Train to A&E Committee
  - Trim Trail section to be removed from the CEWG Agenda.

- **Thermal Camera Scheme**
  - Several roads have been confirmed for leafleting, others to be confirmed.
  - Members of CEWG to pick up leaflets from Admin and deliver to nearby roads. Admin to leaflet areas around the council offices.
  - Leaflets to also be handed out at the Churchill Road meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> Nov.

### Local Nature Recovery Strategy

- **Urban Nature Reserves (UNR):**
  - **Tree Planting**
    - Cllr Findley identified suitable trees for planting at Churchill Avenue and possible other green areas. Planted trees, if necessary, should be divided by Native and Non-Native species. Both fruit and nut trees would be beneficial to the area as would wildflower seeds similar to the York and Albany Garden.
    - Admin to look into Woodland Trust and DDC offers for trees.
    - Further development to be put to the DDC meeting in January.
  - **Churchill Avenue**
    - Leaflets for the meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> November are to be distributed by Cllrs Waite Gleave and Blackwell.
    - Display for meeting to be designed by Cllr Waite Gleave and Admin.
    - Cllrs Findley, Waite Gleave and Eddy to attend meeting on 25<sup>th</sup> November.

### Waste reduction

- **Drinking fountain / water refill station / reduction plastic bottle waste**
  - Cllr Waite Gleave has had communications with members of DDC regarding the refill stations. Ongoing negotiations regarding installation costs to be considered.
  - Information about microplastics have been distributed to CEWG via Cllr Waite Gleave.
- **Improving Veolia sorting and public awareness.**
  - No Update at this time, Cllr Waite Gleave and Ludwig to brainstorm contacts within Dover District Council.
  - Cllr Waite Gleave to investigate a University of the Third Age (u3a) meeting that was held recently, a representative of Veolia was present, and it is believed some information could be gathered from the meeting.,

### Local Environment

- **Green Areas**
  - Cllr Findley identified numerous areas for green space including a map that shows the Foreshore of Walmer and Kingsdown and numerous areas around the Borrow Pit area.
  - Cllr Findley will put together a map of Walmer regarding the green areas that Walmer Town Council would like to put forward to DDC for a no-mow summer.
  - Completed map to be forwarded to the parks department of DDC by admin.

- The completed map will also be handed over to the officers at the meeting in January.
- **Beach management plan**
  - No update at the present time.
  - Beach Management Plan section to be removed from the CEWG Agenda until publication of BMP.
- **New DDC Climate Change officer**
  - Admin to contact Mr Traynor regarding an invitation to the January meeting or if required a later meeting.
  - Biodiversity Officer Stefanie Bramley to also be invited to a meeting at a later date.
- **Deal Town Council Climate Change Day**
  - Queries were made to see if the Climate Day could be a joint project between Deal and Walmer Councils, with possible additions from local community groups.
  - Further queries were made regarding if it should be held at an independent venue as opposed to the town hall.
  - DTC to be contacted regarding this at a later date.
- **BUDGET**
  - Admin informed working group that the budget has been passed through to A&E for consideration.
  - Budget increase request for £1000 for Churchill Avenue by Cllr Waite Gleave.
    - **Resolved:** Recommendation agreed, Chair to approach A&E Committee for increase in budget.
    - Proposed by: Cllr Waite Gleave
    - Seconded by: Cllr Eddy
- **NEW INITIATIVES**
  - Cllr Waite Gleave has distributed a video via email regarding the Pesticide free towns movement.
  - Heading to be moved to the 'Ongoing projects' heading.
  - Pesticide use to be brought up at the January meeting with DDC.
- **ANY OTHER QUESTIONS OR OBSERVATIONS.**
  - Cllr Findley requested an addition to the next agenda for 'Walmer Swift Project' under Urban Nature Recovery Scheme.
  - Request from Chair to add a new section 'Comments from the Public' to the agenda as number 5, between the 'Matters Arising' section and 'Priorities and Actions.
- **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**  
Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> January at 19:00 at 8 The Strand.

Meeting Ended 20:50

Letter Walmer TC re Churchill Ave

Dear

Licence for Land at the rear of Dorset Gardens and Churchill Avenue

I can confirm that Dover District Council (DDC) are prepared to grant a Licence to Walmer Town Council (WTC) for 3 years for the purposes of planting plants shrubs and saplings on the land edged red on the attached plan. This is in advance of the proposed Community Asset Transfer of this land which as you will be aware is held under Part II of the Housing Act 1985 and will require Secretary of State consent.

The Licence will be on the following terms:

- The Licence will be for a maximum term of 3 years.
- The Licence Fee will be £1 payable if demanded.
- The land is to be used for the purpose of planting plants, shrubs and saplings only. In the event that the Secretary of State refuses permission for the transfer, everything that is planted there must be capable of being transplanted elsewhere if required. No semi - mature or mature trees can be planted.
- DDC accepts no responsibility for the state or condition of the land and the licensees shall indemnify the Council against all costs, claims, demands or proceedings or any loss or damage to the Council arising out of the exercise by the licensees of the right herein granted.
- No building or structure other than boundary fencing and/or any temporary structure such as a shed or greenhouse shall be erected or stationed upon any part of the land.
- WTC will be responsible for all grounds maintenance of this area during the period of this Licence
- The licensees will be required to keep the land in a clean and tidy condition and are specifically required to cut and clear at the proper time of year all nettles, thistles and other noxious weeds that may be growing on the said land.
- The Licence shall be personal to the licensees and it shall not be lawful for the licensees to assign their rights hereunder or otherwise dispose of the same or grant any Sub-Licence in respect thereto.
- The Licensees hereby admit that they shall have no right to use the said land except by the Licence of the Council herein contained.
- The Licence may be determined at any time by either party giving to the other not less than 3 months notice in writing. In the event of the Council giving notice, the licensees shall be entitled to receive a proportionate refund calculated on a daily basis of the fee, which shall have been paid in respect of the Licence.
- The Licence will also be determinable at the Council's option without notice in the event of any of the foregoing conditions not being satisfied; in this instance the Council will not reimburse a proportionate part of the licence fee for an unexpired period of the Licence but without prejudice to the right of action of the Council in respect of any breach of the conditions of the licensees' part herein contained.

- Upon the expiration or determination of the Licence you will be required to remove all fencing and temporary structures that may have been erected on the land.

Should the above terms be acceptable to you please sign the accompanying copy of this letter and return it to me.

For WTC CEWG agenda – Jan 25<sup>th</sup> 2024 submitted swg

Recent Greenpeace information and research publications by medical researchers and doctors point to the toxic nature of the modern addiction to fossil fuel based plastics is. Plastics are increasingly being linked with local, national and global health problems. To go completely plastic free is currently unrealistic but we can do our bit to eliminate unnecessary plastic use.

The following actions could be considered for Walmer TC to work with community to reduce the use of plastics. For example –

1. Organise a Zero Waste Event. This would probably work best as a stall at 1 or more of our Walmer Summer 2024 events, Cllr S.Waite-Gleave says she's fairly confident her EKCA friends would be happy to do such a stall, perhaps with poly the antiplastics baby whale. A stand-alone event is unlikely to attract enough ppl.
2. Support Restaurants and chip shop & takeaways that choose to reuse and reduce. A suggestion to talk to contacts behind Plastic Free Deal (started 2018) about relaunching as Plastic Free Walmer & Deal, and reach out to hospitality sector anew, who could put a sticker in window saying 'Happy to help Walmer go Plastic Free' .
3. Support Supermarkets that reuse and reduce. In Walmer there is Town & Country shop (ex-Londis), and petrol station; we have corner / paper shops in Upper Walmer & Strand & Wales. Cllr Waite-Gleave points out has worn previously the orange EKCA tshirt and campaigned outside Sainsbury's in Deal & Aldi - but I think we need to focus on Walmer.
4. Lobby for removal of Single Use Plastic in Walmer. Lobby our MP and DDC is presumed to be the idea. Should WTC lobby Dover MP ? get clerks advice. Get shops to stock Kingsdown Water in glass bottles and to stock long term personal bottles (maybe with Plastic Free Walmer printed on them).
5. Coordinate and encourage Litter-Picks. Cllr Waite-Gleave suggests having done DWI beach cleans for well over a decade, (most recently Walmer on 10 Dec 2023) and being due to take up a new Pick Deal Clean route in Jan; she suggests tact and diplomacy on this, being aware that community groups can get miffed if they have been doing work for years and then a council comes in and claims work as theirs.
6. Establishing facilities such as refill water supplies for reusing water bottles in Walmer. As we've discussed for 6 months; vandal proof refill stations as other coastal towns provide, will depend on whether DDC will work with us on this; and what WTC full council decides to support in our 2024/25 budget. The café refill site / cheapskate option by Refill East Kent could be relaunched, it mean zero refill service when cafes are shut or queues when cafes are busy. (see 2 above).
7. Involve children and schools. Yes. Cllr Waite-Gleave suggests she's enjoyed popping in to chat to year 5 and 6 a couple of times in recent years, in different parishes in district.
8. Enquire from every business/organisation/club to find out what steps they are taking to reduce the use of plastic and advertise this in some way. Encourage consumers to buy from businesses that reduce, reuse or recycle plastic. See the Plastic Free Deal FB page - busy from Feb 2018 to 2022. Cllr Waite-Gleave suggests invite contacts from Plastic Free Deal to speak to our CEWG group to avoid reinventing a wheel.



9. Promote the use of a national plastic bottle refund scheme. Cllr Waite-Gleave points out a national scheme is due to come in 2025. CPRE campaigned on this hard. <https://www.gov.uk/government/news/deposit-return-scheme-for-drinks-containers-moves-a-step-closer>.

10. Examine the possibility of moving Walmer to a “Plastic Free Town”. See the Plastic Free Deal FB page - busy from Feb 2018 to 2022, and inclusive of Walmer. Invite their rep to speak to our CEWG group to avoid reinventing a wheel. (see 2 and 8 above).

Recommendation :

The following motion, or something like it could be presented to the next committee or full council.

**“Walmer recognises the risk to public health of plastics, and therefore strongly supports the work done in recent years by DealWithIt, Pick Deal Clean, Refill East Kent and Plastic Free Deal and will work with such community groups and local businesses towards reducing the use of plastic within the Town”.**

November 2023

## Motion for the Ocean (Coastal Council, England)

### The Local Government Ocean Recovery Declaration

Dr Pamela Buchan<sup>1</sup>, Emily Cunningham<sup>2</sup> and Nicola Bridge<sup>3</sup>

*A model motion to help local authorities play their part in realising a clean, healthy and productive ocean and all of the direct economic, health and wellbeing benefits it will bring*



### What is the Motion for the Ocean?

Local authorities are working hard to bring about a brighter future for the communities we serve. We work to boost local economies, improve community health and wellbeing, and to protect and enhance local biodiversity. We know that the health, wellbeing and prosperity of coastal, estuarine and maritime communities is dependent on a clean, healthy and productive marine environment – yet too often we consider these issues separately, rather than thinking about it in a joined-up way.

Developed by leading ocean experts, Dr Pamela Buchan, Emily Cunningham and Nicola Bridge, the #Motion4TheOcean has been created to enable local authorities to tackle these potentially competing ambitions of economic development, community health and wellbeing, and a healthy marine environment in a more holistic way. The motion aims to help councils and the communities we serve to “think ocean” and ensure the development of the blue economy delivers the recovery of our ocean and reducing socio-economic inequality in our coastal, estuarine and maritime communities.

The motion aims to help councils embed this new way of thinking at the highest levels of local decision-making, so it is not the responsibility of one team, but of the whole council. Councils of all tiers in England and Wales, along with the Local Government Association, have declared an urgent need for ocean recovery using a locally adapted Motion for the Ocean as can be seen on the dedicated webpage: [Motion for the Ocean](#) (see Appendix I). We look forward to seeing which council will be next.

### Why is it important for councils to pass a Motion for the Ocean?

We recognise that our ocean and climate are in a state of emergency and that the communities we serve are on the frontline. An ocean in crisis is not only bad news for our climate, but also for our fishing, tourism, and marine industries, and for the health, wellbeing, and prosperity of our coastal, estuarine and maritime communities. There are many opportunities for economic development in the marine environment, but these must be harnessed in a regenerative, rather than damaging, way.

**Delivering the pledges set out in the Motion for the Ocean would yield new jobs and opportunities, more resilient coastal economies, and happier, healthier people; as well as a cleaner, healthier and more productive natural environment. A healthy ocean is an essential ally in our fight against climate change and blue carbon could play an integral role in helping us meet our net zero targets.**

We have developed a Model Motion for the Ocean for inland councils which should be considered as a template to be adapted to local circumstances. We encourage local councils to adapt the pledges and wording, with the caveat that the ambition must not be reduced. **We are happy to support in this process.**

For any support, please contact: [Pamela](#) | [Emily](#) | [Nicola](#)

**(Model ‘Motion for the Ocean’ for Coastal Local Authorities)  
adapted draft for WTC below.**

<sup>1</sup> Dr Pamela Buchan, marine social scientist and former Plymouth City Councillor

<sup>2</sup> Emily Cunningham, marine and coastal expert and formerly led the LGA Coastal Special Interest Group

<sup>3</sup> Nicola Bridge, ocean literacy specialist and Head of Advocacy and Engagement at the Ocean Conservation Trust

## **Walmer Town Council declares an urgent need for Ocean Recovery.**

We recognise that Walmer is on the coast with many homes, and businesses, located close to sea-level and, like similar parishes in East Kent, we need ocean recovery for the well-being of current and future generations, we need to meet our net zero carbon targets, and we need net zero carbon to recover our ocean.

This Council pledges to ask Dover District Council (our Local Authority) and KCC (responsible for Kent-wide resilience) to :

1. Report to Full Council within 12 months on the actions and projects that will begin an ocean recovery in Dover district, and in East Kent.
2. Embed ocean recovery in all strategic decisions, plans, budgets, procurement and approaches to decisions by the Council (particularly in planning, regeneration, skills and economic policy), aligning with climate change mitigation and adaptation requirements, and considering ocean-based solutions in our journey towards a carbon neutral and climate resilient future.
3. Ensure that local planning supports ocean recovery, working closely with the Marine Management Organisation to embed strong links between the Local Plan and the Dover district Marine Plan to support ocean recovery.
4. Ensure that our nature, biodiversity and climate strategies, such as the Local Nature Recovery Strategy, recognise how land and rivers connect to and impact the ocean and strive to support ocean recovery through a source-to-sea approach.
5. Work with partners locally and nationally to deliver improved water quality and increased sustainability in marine industries, and to develop a sustainable and equitable blue economy that delivers ocean recovery and local prosperity; including the local fishing industry and the vital work of Kent & Essex Inshore Fishing and Conservation Authority, (IFCA).
6. Grow ocean literacy and marine citizenship in Dover district, including:
  - a. Ensuring all pupils are given the opportunity to experience the ocean first-hand before leaving primary school - striving to include home-schooled children
  - b. Promoting sustainable and equitable access to the ocean through physical and digital experiences for all residents.
  - c. Through these actions, embed understanding of the "source-to-sea" approach and how all people, wherever they live, impact and are impacted by ocean health.
7. Use the Council website and other communication channels to update on ocean recovery progress, and signpost to ocean literacy development opportunities and marine citizenship pledges.
8. Walmer Town Council will write to the Government asking them to put the ocean into net recovery by 2030 by:
  - a) Ensuring Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities have the resources they need to effectively research and monitor our growing number of marine protected areas, and to set and enforce appropriate fishing levels that support local economies and deliver environmental sustainability.

- b) Working with coastal, estuarine and maritime communities to co-develop marine policy to ensure it delivers equitable and sustainable outcomes in local placemaking.
- c) Appointing a dedicated Minister for the Coast.
- d) Embedding ocean and civic literacy into the national curriculum.
- e) Stopping plastic pollution at source by strengthening the regulations around single-use plastics and set standards for microfibre-catching filters to ensure that all new domestic and commercial washing machines are fitted with a filter that captures a high percentage of microfibres produced in the wash cycle and support the solutions needed to address the threat posed by historic coastal landfill sites.
- f) Improving the water quality of our rivers, estuarine and coastal waters leading to the ocean to benefit nature and the health and wellbeing of all UK residents, including by stopping the regular pollution of our rivers and seas.
- g) And by listening to marine and social scientific advice to update the Marine Policy Statement and produce a national Ocean Recovery Strategy which will:
  - i. Enable the recovery of marine ecosystems rather than managing degraded or altered habitats in their reduced state.
  - ii. Consider levelling up, marine conservation, energy, industrial growth, flood and coastal erosion risk management, climate adaptation and fisheries policy holistically rather than as competing interests.
  - iii. Develop a smarter approach to managing the health of the entire ocean that moves beyond Marine Protected Areas and enables links to be made across sectors towards sustainability.
  - iv. Establish improved processes for understanding the benefits of ocean recovery, leaving no doubt the links between this and human lives, livelihoods, and wellbeing. **ENDs**

## Glossary

A **Blue Economy** is one which uses ocean resources sustainably or even regeneratively whilst improving community wellbeing and social equity. It is not simply marine or maritime economic activity or “blue growth”.

**Ocean literacy** is where a person understands the ocean's influence on them and their influence on the ocean. For example, an understanding that the ocean stores carbon and an understanding that what they put down the drain can impact on ocean health. It can also include learning how to be an active marine citizen.

**Marine citizenship** is exercising the right to participate in the transformation of the human-ocean relationship for sustainability. This means taking individual and collective responsibility to consider one's own and society's impacts on the ocean; and exercising rights as a marine citizen, e.g. writing to a local Councillor to ask them to take action for ocean recovery; or promoting or making local, national or international policy changes.

### Example context

The health of our ocean is inextricably linked with our climate and with human health, wellbeing and prosperity. A healthy ocean is fundamental in regulating the global climate system and is an essential ally in our fight against climate change. The ocean absorbs more than 90% of the excess heat in the climate system as well as absorbing around 20% of annual carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) emissions generated by human activity.

However, decades of irresponsible marine exploitation and pollution have led to significant levels of degradation, and this together with the detrimental impacts of our changing climate on marine ecosystems has led to national and global recognition that the world ocean is in crisis. An unhealthy ocean does not absorb or store carbon as effectively as a healthy one, further worsening the impacts of the climate crisis.

The UK government's recent Marine Strategy assessment confirms that our marine environment is not healthy. An ocean in crisis is not only bad news for our climate, but also for our local fishing and tourism industries and for the health, wellbeing and prosperity of our coastal communities.

In Dover district and East Kent, like in the rest of planet, we are witnessing the ocean crisis first-hand. Fish stocks continue to collapse from permitted and illegal overfishing and poor water quality is impacting seafood and safe bathing. Our beaches are covered in litter with each tide, much of it plastic, though this is just the tip of the iceberg of the amount of litter in our oceans. Marine microplastics have been found in all marine environments and in the bodies of many species, including humans and the species of fish we regularly eat.

Our residents are on the frontline of climate change and are being disproportionately impacted relative to inland communities. The impact of the climate crisis on the ocean is profound, from rising water temperatures and changes in ocean chemistry, to sea level rise and increased storminess, including in our local waters. This is changing what seafood is caught locally, accelerating the erosion of our coastline - increasing the risk to infrastructure and properties, and increasing the risk of flooding and storm damage.

Urgent action is needed to halt these devastating changes and recover the health of our ocean to enable it to deliver the full range of benefits, including climate regulation, carbon

storage in estuarine, coastal and marine habitats, coastal protection, a thriving local economy, clean safe recreation and happy, healthy coastal, estuarine and maritime communities. We must play our part in recovering the health of the ocean.

In Dover district and East Kent, the ocean is at the heart of our heritage and economy. From the maritime and marine expertise around the [Name of] Port, to the millions of visitors who come to Dover district to experience the sight, sound and feel of the ocean. The ocean can play a vital role in our economic recovery and we must strive to develop a sustainable and equitable blue economy that delivers both ocean recovery and local prosperity. We must ensure that ocean recovery is embedded in our relevant strategic decision-making, policymaking and budget-setting; as well as being considered in future strategies and plans, including those seeking to improve the health and wellbeing of our residents.

At present, not everyone has the opportunity or means to access and enjoy the ocean. Even within Dover district, there are people of all ages who have never experienced the joy of our ocean. First-hand experience of the ocean is essential if people are to be motivated to play their part in protecting it, whether that is through disposing of their litter responsibly, recycling what they can or volunteering in ocean conservation with local organisations. Helping individuals develop their ocean literacy (understanding of the relationship between people and the ocean) is an essential part of this motion, as is individual and collective marine citizenship (promoting and demanding an ocean recovery through local, national and international policy changes).

Local authorities cannot solve the ocean crisis alone, but we can – and must – play our part.

## Appendix I

Councils that have passed a Motion for the Ocean as at November 2023 with links to their Motion wording.

- [Plymouth City Council](#), 22 November 2021
- [Falmouth Town Council](#), 10 January 2022
- [South Tyneside Council](#), 13 January 2022
- [North Norfolk District Council](#), 9 February 2022
- [North Devon Council](#), 23 February 2022
- [Monmouthshire County Council](#), 3 March 2022
- Seaton with Slingley Parish Council, 16 March 2022
- [Seaham Town Council](#), 22 March 2022
- [Torridge District Council](#), 11 April 2022
- [Portsmouth City Council](#), 17 May 2022
- [Devon County Council](#), 27 May 2022
- [Blandford Forum Town Council](#), 25 July 2022
- [Teignbridge District Council](#), 26 July 2022
- [Blackpool Council](#), 20 November 2022
- [Isle of Wight Council](#), 19 July 2023
- [Canterbury City Council](#), 20 July 2023
- [North Somerset Council](#), 19 September 2023
- [Havant Borough Council](#), 20 September 2023
- [Newark & Sherwood District Council](#), 17 October 2023
- [Lewes District Council](#), 20 November 2023
- [Cornwall Council](#), 28 November 2023

In addition to the local Councils who have individually declared, the Local Government Association also got behind the Motion for the Ocean on 29<sup>th</sup> September 2022. [LGA Ocean Recovery Declaration](#)

The Motion for the Ocean is supported in kind by the University of Exeter, LGA Coastal SIG, and the Ocean Conservation Trust.

