



**WALMER TOWN COUNCIL**

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

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

Tel: 01304 362363

**Dated this day 13<sup>th</sup> February 2025**

**To: Councillors: Cllr P Ludwig, Cllr L Ludwig, Cllr S Waite-Gleave, Cllr P Findley, Cllr E Crockford, Cllr D Richardson**

**Non-voting members: Mrs D Bogue, Miss A Late**

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You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the **Walmer in Bloom Committee** to be held on **Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> February 2025** at No 62 The Strand, Walmer, CT14 7DP at 5.30pm to transact the business set out below.

**Mr Roland Aldred**  
**Town Clerk**

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**AGENDA**

**1. 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.

Where a Member has a new or registered Disclosable Pecuniary Interest (DPI) in a matter under consideration, they must disclose that they have an interest and, unless the Monitoring Officer has agreed in advance that the DPI is a 'Sensitive Interest', explain the nature of that interest at the meeting. The Member must withdraw from the meeting at the commencement of the consideration of any matter in which they have declared a DPI and must not participate in any discussion of, or vote taken on, the matter unless they have been granted a dispensation permitting them to do so. If during the consideration of any item a Member becomes aware that they have a DPI in the matter, they should declare the interest immediately and, subject to any dispensations, withdraw from the meeting

Where a Member is declaring an Other Significant Interest (OSI), they must also disclose the interest and explain the nature of the interest at the meeting. The Member must withdraw from the meeting at the commencement of the consideration of any matter in which they have declared an OSI and must not participate in any discussion of, or vote taken on, the matter unless they have been granted a dispensation to do so or the meeting is one at which members of the public are permitted to speak for the purpose of making representations, answering questions or giving evidence relating to the matter. In the latter case, the Member may only participate on the same basis as a member of the public and cannot participate in any discussion of, or vote taken on, the matter and must withdraw from the meeting in accordance with the Council's procedure rules.



**3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2025.

Attach 1

**4. QUESTIONS AND/OR OBSERVATIONS FROM THE ELECTORATE OF WALMER**

**5. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

- I. To Note: Verbal update from Chairman

**6. ADMIN REPORT**

- I. To Note: Update from admin regarding actions

Attach 2

**7. WALMER PEACE GARDENS**

- I. To Note: Update from the WPG committee members
- II. To approve request from WPG committee for the purchase of bluebell bulbs

Attach 3

Attach 4

**8. LOCAL CAMPAIGN 2025**

A) FLORAL DISPLAYS

- i. To confirm colours of the flowers for the WIB campaign
- ii. To Note: Criteria/categories for garden competition for consideration
- iii. South East In Bloom Campaign Entry
- iv. Publicity
- v. Potential prize in memory of Allan Scott

Attach 5

Attach 6

Attach 7

C) SCHOOL AND YOUTH ACTIVITIES

- i. To consider combining Children's Festival with the presentation
- ii. Update from Cllr Richardson regarding poster competition

D) WIB PRESENTATION

- i. To consider the prizes for WIB competition this year
- ii. Update for costs for presentation
- iii. To Note: Item discussed at Events meeting

**9. ISSUES FOR INCLUSION ON NEXT AGENDA**

**10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday, 18<sup>th</sup> March 2024 at 5.30pm





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**Draft Minutes of the meeting of the Walmer in Bloom Committee held on 14<sup>th</sup> January 2025 at 62 The Strand, Walmer, at 7.00 pm.**

**Present:**

Cllr L Ludwig (Chairing)  
Cllr D Richardson  
Cllr P Findley  
Cllr S Waite-Gleave  
Mrs D Bogue  
Miss A Late

**Officers present:**

John Miles (Administration Officer)

**439. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies received Cllr E Crockford, Cllr P Findley

**440. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None Submitted

**441. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

**RESOLVED** – That the minutes be taken as an accurate record with one minor change to Entry 345.

Proposed by: Cllr Richardson

Seconded by: Cllr P Ludwig

For 4

Against 0

Abstain 0

**442. QUESTIONS AND/OR OBSERVATIONS FROM THE ELECTORATE OF WALMER**

None

**443. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

- I. The Brushcutting course was completed by six volunteers at Hawkshill Freedown.
- II. Information was given to volunteers on course regarding Health and Safety Reports, PPE and Servicing of the tools. Cllr P Ludwig and Admin to review and put processes in place.
- III. Chair submitted article to local press praising the volunteers at Hawkshill Freedown.

**444. ADMIN REPORT**



- I. **NOTED:** Report has been forwarded to the committee members.
- II. Admin to confirm the date of the removal of the green waste from the Walmer Peace Gardens.
- III. Chain replacements for WIB baskets forwarded to committee members.  
**RESOLVED:** Chain replacement to go ahead immediately.  
Proposed by: Cllr L Ludwig  
Seconded by: Cllr Waite Gleave  
For 4                      Against 0                      Abstain 0

#### 445. CHANGE OF NAME FOR COMMITTEE

- I. **RESOLVED:** The current name for the Walmer In Bloom committee will not be changed  
Proposed by: Cllr Richardson  
Seconded by: Cllr P Ludwig  
For 4                      Against 0                      Abstain 0

#### 446. HAWKSHILL

- I. **RESOLVED:** That a woodland path will not be installed at Hawkshill Freedown due to the following reasons
  - Hawkshill is a conservation area
  - The preservation of the wildlife corridor with the increase of development is even more important.
Proposed by: Cllr P Ludwig  
Seconded by: Cllr Waite Gleave  
For 4                      Against 0                      Abstain 0

#### 447. TRAINING COURSES

- I. A training course regarding dry and living hedge planting has been suggested, Cllrs L and P Ludwig to confirm.
- II. Any further ideas to be brought to following meetings.

#### 448. WALMER PEACE GARDENS

- I. An update regarding the peace gardens was received from Mrs D Bogue.
  - a. The new header was received by the WPG committee for the notice board.
- II. Compost bins are no longer required by the peace gardens.

#### 449. LOCAL CAMPAIGN 2024

##### FLORAL DISPLAYS

- I. To confirm quotes from Youngs and Chapmans.  
**RESOLVED:** The quote from Young's Nursery to be accepted for the WIB campaign 2025  
Proposed by: Cllr P Ludwig  
Seconded by: Cllr Richardson  
For 4                      Against 0                      Abstain 0
- II. **RESOLVED:** The quote from Chapman Landscape to be accepted for the WIB campaign 2025  
Proposed by: Cllr Richardson  
Seconded by: P Ludwig  
For 4                      Against 0                      Abstain 0



- III. Councillors to consider if they have any ideas, otherwise Youngs to be asked for flower types.

**KEY ACTIVITY DATES**

- I. **Noted:** Changes to be made to key activity days through March to May

**SCHOOL AND YOUTH ACTIVITIES**

- I. **RESOLVED:** A letter written by Cllr Richardson with a template for an entry form will be forwarded to the local schools. Four winners- two from each school will be decided on.

Proposed by: Cllr P Ludwig

Seconded by: Cllr Richardson

For 4                  Against 0                  Abstain 0

**WIB PRESENTATION**

- I. Cllr Richardson and Admin to research costs for presentation possibilities at Walmer Castle and Sea Scout Hut.

**450. SOUTH AND SOUTH EAST IN BLOOM**

- I. **RESOLVED:** Chair and Admin to look into each of the possible categories for SSEIB.

Proposed by: Cllr L Ludwig

Seconded by: Cllr P Ludwig

For 3                  Against 0                  Abstain 1

- II. Admin to contact RHS Judge regarding Walmer In Bloom.

**451. MEETING DATES**

- I. **RESOLVED:** Dates confirmed and meetings to be moved to 17:30

Proposed by: Cllr L Richardson

Seconded by: Cllr P Ludwig

For 4                  Against 0                  Abstain 0

**452. ISSUES FOR INCLUSION ON NEXT AGENDA**

- I. Colours for the WIB Campaign

**453. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at 17:30

The meeting closed at 20:30

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Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Dated \_\_\_\_\_





**Item: Walmer In Bloom Update Report**

**Date: 13<sup>th</sup> February 2025**

**Meeting: Walmer In Bloom**

**From: Admin Clerk**

1. Simon Chapman has been informed about the baskets and has finished the repairs and returned them to Youngs.
2. Red Dog informed about some issues with the green waste collection and would work with WPG to solve them.
3. Both Chapman and Youngs have been informed that their quotes have been accepted by the committee.
4. Mrs Janine Doulton will not be available to help judge this year. A replacement may be required.
5. Several dog poo signs have been purchased by DDC for WTC use at Hawkshill.
6. Hawkshill Noticeboard has been delivered and is at the office, Deal Handyman was responsible for the installation of the board at WPG and may be required to do so again.
7. Admin and Cllr L Ludwig researched the entry requirements for South East In Bloom and of those looked into, Walmer was not suited to coastal resort or large town due to competition from larger towns. Cllr Ludwig has been in communication with several other towns of our size for input.
8. Poster Competition information has been sent to the local primary schools.
9. A meeting was held with WPG committee members to confirm any immediate and near future needs for the green space.



WALMER PEACE GARDENS COMMITTEE MEETING

6 February 2025

Present: Dawn, Angie, Scott, Sarah and Clare. Apologies: Lauren

Agenda:

- Projects/garden furniture/structures for 2025
- The entrance
- Noticeboard
- Dates for community working days
- AOB

Projects

Due to the success of our dens which are very popular with the children, we will construct a wigwam/tipi.

Consider introducing hops. The poles from the hedge cutting will be ideal to use.

No further garden furniture or trees required. Appropriate planting to fill any gaps in the hedging, and some fruit, may be considered.

Entrance

To create welcoming raised beds and colourful planting.

Introduce native bluebells to the shady side under the tree and along the border.

Dogs – we need to replace the signs.

Dates for our WPG Community Working Group Days 2025

Sunday 16 March

Wednesday 16 April

Sunday 18 May

Wednesday 11 June

Date of next meeting to be scheduled 3 March.

D Bogue





## BOSTON BULBS

## ENGLISH BLUEBELLS BULBS IN THE GREEN (HYACINTHOIDES NON SCRIPTA)

£35.00 VAT included

### Select Your Pack Quantity

<input type="radio"/>	25 BULBS <b>£12.00</b>	£0.48 EACH
<input type="radio"/>	50 BULBS <b>£20.00</b>	£0.40 EACH SAVE 17%
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	100 BULBS <b>£35.00</b>	£0.35 EACH SAVE 27%
<input type="radio"/>	250 BULBS <b>£65.00</b>	£0.26 EACH SAVE 46%
<input type="radio"/>	500 BULBS <b>£125.00</b>	£0.25 EACH SAVE 48%
<input type="radio"/>	1000 BULBS <b>£225.00</b>	£0.23 EACH SAVE 53%

1

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WRITE YOUR REVIEW

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## DESCRIPTION

## PRODUCT DETAILS

## AROUND THE YEAR

Being the nations most loved wildflower, our **English Bluebells Bulbs (Hyacinthoides Non Scripta)** present long tubular violet-blue flowers with reflexed tips that carries a delightful honey fragrance that bees find irresistible.

Flowering between April and June, these beautiful varieties of **bluebells in the green** enjoy cool, partially shaded areas with a rich woodland type of soil. For best results, plant 10cm below soil and 10cm apart.





**Item: Walmer In Bloom Criteria/Category Information**

**Date: 11<sup>th</sup> February 2025**

**Meeting: Walmer In Bloom Committee**

**From: Admin Clerk**

The Walmer In Bloom garden campaign has only a short number of criteria for a garden or green space to be considered or nominated. Any space considered needs to be within the boundaries of the parish and will be designated as within one of the three areas for judging.

- Lower Walmer
- Middle Walmer
- Upper Walmer

When judged the green spaces in Walmer are further broken down for consideration for final judging, these are as follows.

**Non Winners-** These are the green spaces that are liked by the judges but are not deemed as suitable for consideration as winners.

- Highly Commended Certificate
- Certificate of Excellence

**Winners-** The winner categories were broken down into one of five categories combined with the area they are designated.

- |                                 |                           |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------|
| • Best Wildlife Friendly Garden | Lower/Middle/Upper Walmer |
| • Best Use of Small Space       | Lower/Middle/Upper Walmer |
| • Best Container                | Lower/Middle/Upper Walmer |
| • Best Garden                   | Lower/Middle/Upper Walmer |
| • Best Business                 | Lower/Middle/Upper Walmer |

In 2024 a further category was used by the WIB committee Judges

- Best Hanging Basket                      Lower/Middle/Upper Walmer

This year also included the first use of nominations by members of the public that believe that a green space they have seen was worthy of consideration. While only a handful made nominations, they were seen by the members and judged accordingly.





## South & South East in Bloom - Parishes 2023

### Walmer in Bloom

#### Section A - Community Involvement (40% or 40 points)

The Parish is working towards things such as:

Being inclusive of local people, including Local ownership

Making a difference to local people & Involving local people in decision-making, communication & implementation

Representative of the wider local community

Planning for the future

Working in partnership with local groups and local organisations (i.e. police, environmental groups etc).

Working towards access for all.

Total Points Assessed (Out of 40)

33

#### Section B - Environmental Responsibility (30% or 30 points)

The Parish is engaged in environmental activities such as:

Conserving local habitats & heritage (wildlife, natural landscapes & built environment)

Home or community composting, Green Recycling

Creating, maintaining or improving green spaces (Village Greens, parks & pocket parks, verges, woodlands, churchyards etc.).

The Parish is engaged in addressing environmental issues such as the control of Fly-tipping, Fly-posting, Litter, Graffiti & Dog fouling.

Total Points Assessed (Out of 30)

26

#### Section C - Gardening/Horticulture/Conservation Achievement (30% or 30 points)

The Parish Council is employing good gardening, horticultural and tree management practices.

The Parish Council encourages residents to care for their gardens, allotments etc.

That residential gardens are generally well maintained and mostly enhance the parishes appearance.

Total Points Assessed (Out of 30)

27

GRAND TOTAL POINTS ASSESSED

86

LEVEL ACHIEVED

Gold



## Areas of Achievement

The Walmer in Bloom Garden competition is still going strong. There are 6 members of the group who walk sections of the Parish and view all the gardens, quite an effort carried out over 4 days. If the garden they are viewing looks very good and a worthy contender then a commended certificate is left with the resident thanking them for the pleasure that the garden is bringing to the area. There are four categories for the competition— Garden, Containers, Best use of a small space and a Wildlife Garden Award. Sue and Louise who were showing me around said that they have both had residents tearful and so appreciative of the simple gesture of an A5 certificate and the short explanatory note that accompanies it. The Certificate incorporates a child's art drawing to illustrate the current years 'In Bloom' efforts. The image is a competition for all school children in the Parishes two primary schools and as such involved parents and their children, a great way to get the message out to young families who would otherwise possibly not be aware of it. The public reaction to the certificates shows how treasured they are. It's quite an effort but obviously works well. It's a very professional approach as well using an external RHS judge to decide the final winners. The Parish Council provide 54 baskets and have 24 planters. There is agreement that in the long term these need to be more sustainable but Walmer is a seaside town and flower attractiveness needs to be evident to keep residents engaged. There are significant changes taking place however and I was shown the Peace Garden. A hidden undeveloped space in the residential urban area but with some good mature trees that had been threatened with development at one stage recently. The Town Council and residents have responded by ensuring that it is a haven for wildlife with a mix of meadow and pocket planting. The grass areas are showing good promise as future flower meadows and there is good management of the paths to give people in the area access around the site. It is not signed and is a hidden gem for those nearby. The other site I remember from a previous visit is Hawkshill Freedown which has a superb grassland meadow. The paths are wide and well planned out with a regular number of people using the site. Views and its historic past make this an interesting site and it links directly into the back woodland area of Walmer Castle who have been liaising with the Walmer Council to recreate a historic view that existed in the past heydays of the Castle. I saw this later that day from the Castle side and I applaud your work to recreate this view even though sadly some tree work is required. But once recreated it will only require maintenance. David who kindly informed me for some length on the various aspects of the site says there is a regular working group of 6 volunteers every Sunday and they liaise with 6 other groups delivering activities and facilities it appears on the site. The Scouts did a Spring Watch on the site and there is a link with Dover Grammar School. There are 7 seats placed around the site for local people to take a moment to enjoy the beauty of the site. The Moth night sounded a brilliant idea and seems was well supported and recorded some very good numbers and types of moth. I was fascinated by the idea of Bee bombs— seeds given free to residents that offer those interested the knowledge that the seeds are bee friendly plants without having to worry or choose seeds that they may not be familiar with. The recycling bins that allow recycling to take place in public areas is great to see and full marks to the Walmer Town and Dover District Council for undertaking this. It was often an element that was missing in town waste bin collection systems. Also full marks for working with Pick Deal Clean— what a great community effort. Add in the Cycling, tree planting and allotment support there is a lot happening and it was greatly appreciated, well done to all concerned and keep up the good work.

## Areas for Development

The Hawkshill Freedown meadows need to be managed to reduce the nutrient levels. At present there is a good diversity of grass species and a number of flowering meadow species. I do not recall if Rattle is present but this is a good species to try and introduce I am told. Also the autumn cut and collect is I believe essential to the long term improvement of the area. The Head Gardener of Walmer Castle has recently been on a course on Meadow Management and I believe would be very helpful if you could initiate a contact. The tree planting was good to see and to hear that watering is planned. With the strange high temperatures and long dry spells we seem to be having on occasions I would suggest very very heavy mulching of new trees. A depth of 30-45cm woodchip to a distance of 50-75cm away from the stem. Avoid piling directly up against the tree stem but this will if applied in the winter provide a cooling to the ground and retain soil moisture much longer and also allow extra watering to percolate easier into the tree base. I also believe there is as yet to be proved mycorrhizal fungi activity that this initiates and helps new roots take up nutrients. I do wonder if there is an area that could be investigated for the future and that is the edge of the shingle beach. The footpaths that are extremely popular and also offer a cycleway on the promenade do have a number of native flowering plants such as valerian, horn poppy and mallow. I have often wondered if there is potential here for the odd pocket of native plants to be encouraged and helped to establish.

## Results



Level	Description	Points
	Bronze	0 - 35
	Bronze	36 - 52
	Silver	53 - 68
	Silver-Gilt	69 - 85
	Gold	86 - 100





# HELP WALMER TO BLOOM

Walmer is entering South East In Bloom

and we are going for **Gold**

You can find out how to get involved at

[WWW.WALMERCOUNCIL.CO.UK](http://WWW.WALMERCOUNCIL.CO.UK)

TEL: 01304 362363







# HELP WALMER IN BLOOM

Enter Our Competition.

Find out how you can help us go for Gold again



Further information at

[www.walmercouncil.co.uk](http://www.walmercouncil.co.uk)

TEL: 01304 362363

