



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

Tel/Fax: 01304 362363

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

Dated the 18th July 2025

F+GP Cttee: Cllr P Jull, Cllr J Murray, Cllr M Eddy, Cllr M Simpson, Cllr P Ludwig, Cllr L Ludwig, Cllr A Friend, Cllr K Lee, Cllr D Richardson and Cllr S Waite-Gleave.

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE to be held at 7pm Thursday 24th July 2025 at:

Elizabeth House, St Marys Road, Walmer.

Roland Aldred
Town Clerk

AGENDA

- 1. ELECTION OF A CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE FOR 2025/26**
- 2. ELECTION OF A VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE COMMITTEE FOR 2025/26**
- 3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**
- 4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
To receive any declarations of interest from Members in respect of business to be transacted on the agenda.
- 5. 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.

6. MINUTES

Attach 1

Approve the minutes of the meeting held on 30th April 2025.

7. COUNCIL FINANCE UPDATES

- i. To receive the full year 2025/26 update on the Council's spending vs the budget for 25/26 vs Q1 2024/2025. Attach 2
- ii. To note the Bank Reconciliation up to 30/06/25. ENC 1

8. GRANT APPLICATIONS

To receive applications for grants from the following organisations:

- i. Cinque Ports Football Club ENC 2

9. NEW BANK ACCOUNT

Attach 3

To review options for replacement for the matured charity bank account for recommendation to full council.

10. LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION

Attach 4

To respond with any comments to the consultation on pension pooling.

11. CONFIDENTIAL TO BE HELD UNDER THE PUBLIC BODIES (admission to meetings) ACT 1960

To move into a private session.

12. GRANT APPLICATIONS

To decide on applications from:

- i. Cinque Ports Football Club

13. NEXT MEETING

15th Oct 2025



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

MINUTES

DRAFT Minutes of the meeting of the Finance & General Purposes Committee held at 7pm on Wednesday, 30th April 2025, Elizabeth House, St Marys Road, Walmer

Present: Cllr P Jull, Cllr M Simpson, Cllr P Ludwig, Cllr A Friend, Cllr P Findley and Cllr L Ludwig (ex officio).

Officer(s) Roland Aldred (Town Clerk)

660. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE.

Cllrs Murray, Richardson, Waite-Gleave, Lee and Eddy offered apologies that were accepted.

661. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

Cllr M Simpson declared a OSI in regard to item 667 i.

662. OPENNESS AND TRANSPARENCY.

The Chairman reminded all present of their responsibilities under the Local Government Audit and Accountability act in respect of the public attending and recording meetings.

663. MINUTES.

The minutes of the meeting held on the 22nd January 2025 were received.

RESOLVED – To accept to minutes of the 22nd January 2025 as a true and accurate record.

Proposed – Cllr Friend

Seconded – Cllr P Ludwig

For - 5

Against - 0

Abstain - 1

664. COUNCIL FINANCE UPDATES.

- i. To receive an update on the 2024/25 financial position vs the budget vs 2023/24 financial position for the councils spend.

- ii. To note the bank reconciliation up to 30/04/24

RESOLVED – To note the financial update and bank reconciliation.

Proposed – Cllr Friend

Seconded - Cllr Simpson

For - 6

Against - 0

Abstain - 0

665. GRANT APPLICATIONS.

Members heard an application for a small grant from a representative of:

- i. Deal Branch RMA – To support the feeding of the bandsmen and volunteers for the memorial concert

- ii. Deal Community Carnival Association – To provide entertainment and treats at the Teddy Bears Picnic.
Members received a grant application from
- iii. 2235 Deal Squadron Air Cadets – To purchase 2 new laptops for professional training of young people.

666. Confidential to be held under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

Members voted to move into a private discussion to allow members to discuss the awarding of the grants.

RESOLVED – To move to a private session

Proposed – Cllr Friend

Seconded – Cllr Jull

For - 6

Against - 0

Abstain - 0

667. GRANTS.

Members considered the grant applications from item 665

Cllr Simpson left the room

- i. Deal branch RMA

RESOLVED – To recommend to Full Council to award a grant of the requested £500

Proposed – Cllr P Ludwig

Seconded – Cllr Friend

For - 5

Against - 0

Abstain – 0

Cllr M Simpson returned

- ii. Deal Community Carnival Association

RESOLVED – To recommend to Full Council to award the requested grant of £600.

Proposed – Cllr Findley

Seconded – Cllr Friend

For - 6

Against - 0

Abstain - 0

- iii. 2235 Deal Squadron Air Cadets

RESOLVED – To recommend to Full Council to award the requested grant of £329.

Proposed – Cllr Friend

Seconded – Cllr L Ludwig

For - 6

Against - 0

Abstain – 0

Members requested the clerk prepare a paper for Full Council in July to recommend giving the Clerk in agreement with the Chairman of the Finance and General Purposes committee delegated power to decide on applications from the RMA for food for the bandsmen and volunteers as the grant is applied for annually.

RESOLVED - To ask the Clerk to prepare a paper of recommendation to the Council.

Proposed – Cllr P Ludwig

Seconded – Cllr Findley

For - 6

Against - 0

Abstain – 0

668. DATE OF NEXT MEETING.

July 24, 2025

The meeting ended at 19.25.

Chairman:

Date:

D

F

Quarter 1 2025/26 income and Expenditure vs budget vs 2024/25

Year		24/25		23/24	
Code	Description	Budget	Actual	Balance remaining	% of budget remaining
100	Admin	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.00%
108	Livods income	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.00%
109	Barclay's Bank BCP	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.00%
110	Allocments	£2,640.00	£87.78	£2,552.22	-96.68%
111	Bank interest - Co-op	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.00%
112	Interest - unity deposit	£4,000.00	£1,480.38	£2,519.62	-62.99%
130	Bank interest	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.00%
170	Events	£10,400.00	£5,263.96	£5,136.04	-49.39%
175	EV Charge Points	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.00%
180	Grants and donations	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.00%
190	Hawskhill	£80.00	£0.00	£80.00	-100.00%
200	Land Management	£1,500.00	£0.00	£1,500.00	-100.00%
210	Office Premises	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.00%
215	Public Works Loan	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.00%
220	Precept	£261,312.20	£261,312.20	£0.00	0.00%
240	Projects and Activities	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.00%
Total		£279,932.20	£268,144.32	£11,787.88	-4.40%

Expenditure		24/25		23/24	
Code	Description	Budget	Actual	Balance remaining	% of budget remaining
1000	Admin	£21,700.00	£5,541.19	£16,158.81	74.46%
1100	Allocments	£2,500.00	£502.14	£1,997.86	79.91%
1300	Audit Fees	£1,350.00	£280.00	£1,070.00	79.26%
1400	Climate Emergency	£2,400.00	£840.00	£1,560.00	65.00%
1500	Capital Expenditure	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.00%
1600	Election Expenses	£3,000.00	£0.00	£3,000.00	100.00%
1700	Events	£15,000.00	£1,411.39	£13,588.61	90.59%
1800	Grants and Donations	£4,500.00	£1,429.00	£3,071.00	68.24%
1900	Hawskhill	£13,500.00	£822.11	£12,677.89	93.91%
2000	Land Management	£7,000.00	£449.07	£6,550.93	93.58%
2100	Office Premises	£7,500.00	£1,068.35	£6,431.65	85.76%
2150	Public Works Repayment	£15,130.00	£7,563.40	£7,566.60	50.01%
2300	Professional and Legal	£3,700.00	£12.09	£3,687.91	99.67%
2400	Projects and Activities	£78,800.00	£13,299.65	£65,500.35	83.12%
2500	Publicity and Promotion	£2,500.00	£336.00	£2,164.00	86.56%
2600	Quadrantal Tree Survey	£300.00	£0.00	£300.00	0.00%
2700	Salaries and staff costs	£112,500.00	£37,086.69	£75,413.31	67.03%
2710	Staff Payroll Processing	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.00%
2720	Staff Training	£0.00	£275.00	£275.00	-100.00%
2800	Stony Path	£9,000.00	£525.00	£8,475.00	94.17%
2900	Tree Planting	£2,000.00	£0.00	£2,000.00	0.00%
3000	Contingency	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	0.00%
Total		£302,380.00	£71,441.08	£230,938.92	76.37%

Expenditure		23/24	
Code	Description	Actual	% 23/24 vs 24/25
1000	Admin	4800.86	15.42%
1100	Allocments	496.89	1.06%
1300	Audit Fees	140	100.00%
1400	Climate Emergency	0	100.00%
1500	Capital Expenditure	0	100.00%
1600	Election Expenses	0	100.00%
1700	Events	1379.46	2.31%
1800	Grants and Donations	1150	24.26%
1900	Hawskhill	40.87	1911.52%
2000	Land Management	1283.72	-65.02%
2100	Office Premises	4735.31	-77.44%
2150	Public Works Repayment	7563.4	0.00%
2300	Professional and Legal	0	100.00%
2400	Projects and Activities	194.81	6726.99%
2500	Publicity and Promotion	0	100.00%
2600	Quadrantal Tree Survey	0	100.00%
2700	Salaries and staff costs	25262.3	46.81%
2710	Staff Payroll Processing	0	100.00%
2720	Staff Training	403.37	-31.82%
2800	Stony Path	0	100.00%
2900	Tree Planting	0	100.00%
3000	Contingency	0	100.00%
Total		£42,013.24	70.04%

COMPARISON OF BUSINESS SAVINGS/HIGH INTEREST ACCOUNTS CURRENTLY AVAILABLE

Bank/Building Society Name	Name of Account	Who is this for?	Charges	Funds Required	Interest Rate	Fixed/Variable Rate	Interest Paid	Risk	Withdrawals	Other comments
Unity Trust	12 month Fixed Term Deposit Account	Parish & Town Councils	Free	Minimum £85k	4.00%	F	Added at end of the fixed term	Max funds protected by FSCS £85k in total - across all accounts	No access to funds for fixed term period	Unity also offer 18 month and 24 month fixed term with incremental interest rates
Charity Bank	Ethical 100-day notice business account	UK Businesses/charities & clubs	Free	Minimum £10k	3.88%	F	Added at end of the fixed term	Low: Protected by FSCS up to £85k.	No access to funds for fixed term period	Existing Relationship with Unity Trust.
The Cambridge Building Society	Council Saver Account	Parish & Town Councils	Free	Min £1000-Max £2500000	1.90%	V	Annually 31st December	Low: Protected by FSCS up to £85k.	Up to 2 monthly - no notice or fees	Trust Pilot reviews reflect this.
CCLA (Churches, Charities & Local Authorities)	The Public Sector Deposit Fund	Public sector bodies looking for capital security & competitive yield for short-term investments	Mgmt Fee of 0.8% charged annually	Minimum £25k	4.2259% yield over past 12 months (to Jul 25)	V	Monthly	Low/Medium: Past performance is not an indicator of future performance (credit/market/operational/liq uidity/concentration/ interest rates all different risks to be taken into consideration)	On demand	Funds are invested in a diversified portfolio of high quality sterling denominated deposits and instruments. Fund is actively managed. Total fund size £869m.
Hinkley & Rugby	Local Council 90 Day Notice Deposit	Town and Parish councils	Free	£1,000	3.15%	V	Annually 1st December	Low: Protected by FSCS up to £85k.	90 day notice	A resolution signed by the clerk is required including names of signatories to open the account



Item: Local Government Pension.

Date: 14/07/25.

Meeting: Finance and General Purposes Jul 25.

From: Roland Aldred.

The council has been approached for comments by Kent County Council Local Government Pension Scheme on a proposal to pool Town and Parish Council pensions.

The proposal is to fully pool all Town and Parish Councils at the 2025 valuation and employer contributions would be at a pooled rate from 1st April 2026.

What is pension pooling?

Pooling in this instance would be grouping all pension contributions and investments in to a single fund effectively, there are various ways this can be achieved the proposal is to use full pooling.

Full pooling means that the primary (contributions toward current staff pensions) and the secondary (contribution to make up missing money on past staff) contributions would be the same for all Town and Parish Councils signed up to the scheme, this is based on the share of the pool (number of staff and cost of pension for individual staff members). In terms of how the pension is operated a full pooling scheme would seek to invest for all members and all profits and losses would be shared at the rate of share of the pools funding level.

There are also two other options mentioned in the paper for pooling:

Pooling past experience only – in this case the secondary contributions would be the same across all Town and Parish Councils but primary contributions would be based on current staff members. Investment would continue on a individual basis and profits and losses would not be shared (any losses would eventually be shared through the secondary contributions if required).

Pooling future service only – in this case the primary contribution and investment would remain at the same level for all Town and Parish Councils but the secondary contribution which deals with unfunded liability in past staff members would be passed on to the relevant Town or Parish Council to fund rather than shared amongst the pool.

Advantages of pension pooling

Greater resiliency – a larger pooled pension fund would have greater resiliency for the members. It lessens the effect of short term instability, in the long term the benefits would be expected to even out amongst all employers.

Stability – under a pooled approach funding positions are expected to be more stable.

Additional investment opportunities – Larger sums of money will open additional investment opportunities to the fund which may be more profitable. Additional profit to the fund would reduce the need for secondary contributions. This relies on the investment strategy of the fund.

Lower administrative cost long term – With less funds to manage a streamline organisation would be possible. Currently there are 61 separate funds within the KCC LGPS.

Disadvantages of pension pooling

Shared experiences – The contributions will be driven by the experience of all employers in the pool, some employers will benefit by paying less than they would if pensions were funded individually where other will experience higher rates. Whilst there could be winners and losers in the initial stages long term the benefits are expected to even out amongst employers.

Set up costs – There will be costs involved with the set up of the pool which will be taken from the fund.

Leavers secondary contributions – Should a member of the pool leave they would be required to continue to pay deficit employer contributions (similar to secondary contributions) for three years after this point the employer would pay any deficit in to the fund and be considered to have left the fund entirely and any deficit would be made up by remaining members.

Next steps

In advance of the expected consultation on the Funding Strategy Statement, the Fund is offering a formal period of consultation, allowing you to comment, ask questions regarding and to give feedback on the proposed pooling of the individual funds of town and parish councils for funding purposes.

If, after considering the outcome of the consultation process, the Pension Fund Committee, decide to proceed with entering a Pooling arrangement it is anticipated that those arrangements will be implemented on and from 1 April 2026 in line with the operative date of the 31 March 2025 triennial valuation results.

Options

To make no comment

To support the full pooling proposal

To comment to support one of the alternative pooling options.

Members to decide