



WALMER TOWN COUNCIL

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

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

Tel: 01304 362363

Dated this day 11th September 2025

To: Councillors: S Waite-Gleave (Chairing), R Blackwell, M Eddy, P Findley.

Non-Council Members: Mrs S Fisher.

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You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Climate Emergency Working Group to be held on Thursday 18th September 2025 at 62 The Strand, Walmer, CT14 7DP at 7.00pm to transact the business set out below.

Copy to Roland Aldred, 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 5th August 2025.

Attach 1

4. **MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING/ADMIN REPORT**
To Note: Update from admin regarding actions. Attach 2
5. **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**
6. **ONGOING PROJECTS**
Climate and Ecology Action Plans
 - To Note: Updates to Action Plan 2025-2027.**DDC Climate & Nature Forum**
 - Update from Cllr Waite Gleave.**Coastal recovery**
 - Update regarding water testing and related matters. Attach 3**Transport**
 - **EV Points**
 - Current and potential new sites.
 - Faster chargers.
 - Letter to KCC local councillors regarding Engine Idling. Attach 4**Thermal Camera**
 - Thermal Imaging Camera/energy saving advice service 1st Dec 2025 to 28 Feb 2026, publicity and engagement.**Walmer Against Plastics Pollution**
 - To Note: First Draft of WalAPP certificate. Attach 5**Car Sharing**
 - To Note: First Draft of Car Sharing Poster. Attach 6
7. **NEW PROJECTS**
 - Designated protection for Hawkshill Freedown. Attach 7
 - WTC sign up to the Kent Sustainable Communities Network. Attach 8
8. **BUDGET**
To Note: Preliminary budget for 26/27. Attach 9
9. **POSSIBLE FUTURE AIMS AND INITIATIVES.**
10. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**
Thursday 13th November at 7pm.



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Draft Minutes of the meeting of the Climate Emergency Working Group held on Tuesday 5th August 2025 at 62 The Strand, Walmer, at 7.00 pm

Present:

CLlr S Waite-Gleave (Chairing)
CLlr P Findley
CLlr R Blackwell
CLlr M Eddy

Officers present:

John Miles (Administration Officer)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- Apologies received from Mrs S Fisher.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- None Submitted.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- **Resolved:** That the minutes of 16 June be taken as an accurate record.
 - Proposed by: CLlr Blackwell
 - Seconded by: CLlr Eddy
- For 4 Against 0 Abstain 0

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

- **Noted:** Update Report has been forwarded to the work group members from Admin
- CLlr Waite Gleave informed the group that No-Engine Idling stickers or signs could be purchased by the dozen for use at temporary traffic works or other necessary locations.
- **Resolved:** To approach A&E committee to purchase 10 stickers, cost approx. £40 excl VAT.
 - Proposed – CLlr Eddy
 - Seconded – CLlr Findley
 - For 4 Against 0 Abstain 0
 - **Actions:** Admin to put together report to request purchase of stickers for the A&E Committee meeting on 25 September.
- **Noted:** Possible EV spaces were identified and will be forwarded to Kent County Council.

- **Resolved:** Concerns were raised that the current EV points at the Drill Field are slow at 7kw and may need to be replaced-with newer, faster chargers.
 - Proposed by: Cllr Findley
 - Seconded by: Cllr Eddy
 - For 4 Against 0 Abstain 0
 - **Actions:** Admin to contact KCC regarding possible upgrades to the Drill Field EV charge points.

5. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

- None Submitted.

6. ONGOING PROJECTS

Climate and Ecology Action Plans

- **Noted:** Requests were made to change working and colour coding on action plans to differentiate the completed, near completion and on-going/long-term tasks. A simplified version is to be completed for posting on the council website.
- **Actions:** Admin and Cllr Waite Gleave to modify action plans.
- **Noted:** Copy of new draft texts for website were distributed to all members and reviewed, no changes were required.
- **Actions:** Admin to update webpage.

Updating of Local Resilience Plan

- **Noted:** Cllr Waite Gleave informed the working group that the local resilience plan Workshop with DDC, requested by DAC-KALC to assist clerks to update rudimentary LRP of 2014 for all 35 Dover district local councils was cancelled a second time in July. One of the reasons given for the postponement to September/October is due to the extensive debriefing on extreme weather and flooding after 13th June.
- **Actions:** SWG to forward copy of local resilience plan template provided by Kent Resilience Forum to all members. <https://www.kentprepared.org.uk/community-resilience>.

DDC Climate and Nature Forum

- **Noted:** Update from Cllr Waite Gleave about the July 8th DDC Climate and Nature Forum. This included information regarding the combined Dover and Dartford council application for the Warmer Homes Scheme. SWG told Forum of our new Climate and Ecology Action Plan.
- WTC is still awaiting more input from DDC officer James Traynor regarding donation free gadgets to help residents reduce heat loss from homes (to complement WTC Thermal Imaging service in Nov 2025 – Feb 2026).

Coastal Recovery

- **Noted:** Members were forwarded a copy of the water testing certificate taken by WTC on 16 July 2025, the certificate is in our window, on our website, and on our social media, and can be shared by public. An EA test shortly after 7th July at the Deal Castle beach site test of 9900 indicated a massive spike of pollution in the area. Deal Town council put out a brief about this at the time.

- It is believed that not enough samples are being taken from enough points along the shoreline. **Noted:** WTC testing and publicising of raw data only, from 1 mile south of Deal Castle Beach, at Walmer Castle, for local public to interpret for themselves, has been appreciated by local residents.
- **Noted:** Community concerns exist on social media about storm overflow releases by Southern Water, and potentially polluted seawater quality in the period 24 – 72 hours following heavy rain.
- The next water test sample will be taken on Tuesday 26th August.

Transport

EV Charging points

- **Noted:** Update on WTC EV charging points & income from 1st Jan 2025.
- **Actions:** Admin to contact KCC regarding upgrading to faster chargers and the possibility of increased revenue due to more uptake of charging sessions.
- Admin to continue to cut foliage around the EV points when necessary.

Waste & Pollution Reduction

- **Noted:** Cllr Waite Gleave informed the working group that due to injury, she will be rescheduling visits to local businesses regarding the Walmer Against Plastic Pollution campaign.
- **Actions:** Cllr Waite Gleave and Admin to design WalAPP certificate for distribution.
- **Resolved:** To buy and install one water filling station at Marine Road Toilet by Dec 2025. Admin or Clerk to contact DDC about installation and maintenance contract.
 - Proposed by: Cllr Eddy
 - Seconded by: Cllr Blackwell
 - For 4 Against 0 Abstain 0
 - **Actions:** Admin and Cllr Waite Gleave to order water filling station; Clerk to contact DDC regarding installation and maintenance.

Buildings & energy saving

- **Noted:** Admin informed the working group regarding quotes for bike racks and replacement old front door at WTC Office.
- **Resolved:** Purchase of replacement front door to be put forward to the appropriate body of the council with a view to potential savings of revenue expenditure from energy bills.
 - Proposed by: Cllr Eddy
 - Seconded by: Cllr Waite Gleave
 - For 4 Against 0 Abstain 0
 - **Actions:** Admin to contact possible providers, e.g. Channel windows regarding the possible improvements to energy bills.
 - Admin to notify DDC about changes if they need to send an inspector.
 - Admin to work out the basis of duration that it would take for approximate cost of £1500 to be recovered from saved energy bills after installation of new door.

Shelf & Projector to be installed in WTC committee room.

- **Resolved:** Short focus projector to be purchased for council office for the cost of £119.99. (See minutes A&E 26/6/2025.)

- Proposed by: Cllr Findley
- Seconded by: Cllr Blackwell
- For 4 Against 0 Abstain 0
- **Actions:** Admin to approach Clerk to purchase projector and materials to install.

Restoration of nature

- **Noted:** Preliminary dates for a joint meeting with DTC and PAN representative have been chosen after 1/10/2025.
- **Actions:** Admin to contact DTC and Mr Moles regarding the best dates for them.
- **Noted:** Report on opportunities to liaise with Deal Town Council.

7. NEW PROJECTS

- **Resolved:** To put forward for next year's budget, the purchase of up to 50 small native self-fertilising fruit trees for distribution for front gardens of residents of the parish for a total of £550.
 - Proposed by: Cllr Waite Gleave
 - Seconded by: Cllr Blackwell
 - For 4 Against 0 Abstain 0
 - **Actions:** Admin to add to preliminary budget for 2026/2027.
- **Resolved:** Purchase of beebombs and distribution once they have been delivered, according to amount allocated for same in CEWG 2025/2026 budget. OR put forward to A&E for next meeting.
 - Proposed by: Cllr Waite Gleave
 - Seconded by: Cllr Findley
 - For 4 Against 0 Abstain 0
 - **Actions:** Admin to approach Clerk to purchase new beebombs.

8. POSSIBLE FUTURE AIMS AND INITIATIVES.

Pesticide free Walmer allotments action

- Cllr Findley queried how Walmer Town Council currently deals with the use of chemical herbicides/pesticides at their allotments. **Noted:** neighbouring council currently enforce allotments are chemical free.
- **Actions:** Admin to forward copy of new 2026 amended WTC allotment contract to Cllr Findley.
- Stoney Path: Possibility of Seeking free professional advice on suitability of stoney path slope for Solar Panels so that allotment holders can use energy for tools.

9. ANY OTHER QUESTIONS OR OBSERVATIONS.

- None

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 18th September at 19:00 at No 62 The Strand.

The meeting closed at 20:45



Item: Update Report

Date: 10/09/25

Meeting: Climate Emergency Working Group

From: Admin Clerk

1. Admin contacted KCC regarding the EV points in Walmer, currently their projects focus on slower 7kW chargers, although faster ones can be installed if needed. These are looked at on a case-by-case basis. Upgrades of chargers already installed are not possible at the moment, KCC will keep the information sent in their parish files for later use.
2. The foliage around the EV points will be cut back by Tree Solutions.
3. The full council meeting agreed to the purchase and installation of a projector in the meeting room at No 62. Purchase and installation will be going ahead within the next month.
4. The request to Deal Town Council to use the town hall for a combined meeting with the Pesticide Action network will be put in front of their F&GP meeting on 23rd September by their RFO/Deputy Clerk. The basis will be a free use request with DTC providing the venue, Walmer Town Council to manage and promote the event and will use DTC logo in the publicity to acknowledge the partnership.
5. Climate Action Day is planned for Saturday 15 November, which is one week before KALC AGM, the November meeting will be two days before.
6. Purchases for Beebombs and the Water Filling Station will be going through the A&E meeting at the end of September.
7. The thermal camera has been sent out for calibration; it should be returned within the next few weeks
8. Cllr Waite Gleave will be interviewed on Deal Radio in October, the dates are to be fully confirmed.
9. Channel windows did not have much information regarding the differences in energy savings with a new door, it was mentioned that any new door was more efficient. They also do not have any dealings with casement windows in a Conservation area, this would need to go through DDC planning. Admin is in contact with DDC to find out what would be needed to replace the current window set up.

Admin also looked into reasons to replace an older front door, the following are those reasons.

- Double Glazing ceases to function fully due to loss of vacuum between the panes.
- Rubber/plastic seals corrode and petrify causing gaps to appear in said seals
- The door may be an older model and is not built to current government guidelines, including heat retention.
- Older model doors may no longer fit correctly with the frame in some areas
- Constant exposure to the elements can cause warping, corrosion and degradation to the plastic façade.
- Locks and letter boxes may no longer fit correctly leading to more areas for heat loss, although these can be repaired without replacing the door.
- Warping of the door from exposure and use can lead to small gaps, this can lead to increased heat loss.

Water Quality Results Certificate



Client Name: Walmer Town Council

Water Body Name: Walmer Coast near Walmer Castle

Certificate Reference: TSBN2473008

Analysis Start Date: 28/08/2025

Report Date: 30/08/2025

Analysis Results – Microbiology

Sample 1

Test/Unit	Result	EC Bathing Water Directive (2006/7/EC) (For coastal waters)
E. coli (no/100 ml)	3	Pass Excellent
Enterococci (no/100 ml)	17	Pass Excellent

Sample 2

Test/Unit	Result	EC Bathing Water Directive (2006/7/EC) (For coastal waters)
E. coli (no/100 ml)	4	Pass Excellent
Enterococci (no/100 ml)	51	Pass Excellent

The testing results in this certificate relate only to the samples described above. Unless otherwise stated, all results are expressed on an as received basis. All analysis was carried out in UKAS accredited laboratory.

Please visit www.swim-safety.co.uk/results-guidance/ for more info on results thresholds.



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11th September 2025

Dear Cllr

I am writing on behalf of Walmer Town Council's Climate Emergency Working Group in regard to the Kent Association of Local Councils campaign against engine idling. It is our belief that this campaign would be one that would benefit from Kent County Council's support.

The basis of this campaign is to add no engine idling signs to all temporary traffic works on KCC administered roadways, this mainly encompasses those vehicles with internal combustion engines, but others such as hybrids and electrical vehicles could also be considered. Currently numerous town, borough, city and district councils have taken up the campaign throughout Kent. This has included warning signs and where necessary, the imposition of a £20 fine per first offence.

The addition of no engine idling signs on temporary traffic works would help with the reduction of carbon emissions within built up areas, especially those with heavy vehicle traffic. Area of concern including the Dover Road entrance to Walmer and the Sandwich Road entrance to Sholden, both of these thoroughways are heavily trafficked have been under substantial repair for the last few years. In both instances, backlogs of traffic have caused increasing amounts of pollution along the main highways into the town.

It is the belief of the working group that these signs should be added to all temporary roadworks to ensure that drivers reduce or eliminate engine idling. Permanent versions of these signs have already had an effect on areas that would usually have idling vehicles, such as sports fields, schools and major traffic junctions.

The result of the installation of these signs would improve air quality around traffic works, especially those that are long term or heavily congested. It will also improve the environment around works that are going on within heavily foot trafficked areas, such as housing, schools, hospitals and nature reserves.

We thank you for your time and hope to receive a reply soon.

Kind Regards



This premises is part of the Walmer Against Plastic Pollution initiative

Location to Go Here

Electronic Signature

Cllr Sarah Waite Gleave

Chairman of Climate Emergency Working Group



CAR SHARING

Have you thought about it?



Kent
connected

<https://kentconnected.org>

Kent Coast Volunteering

Connecting Communities In
Dover, Thanet, Folkestone & Hythe

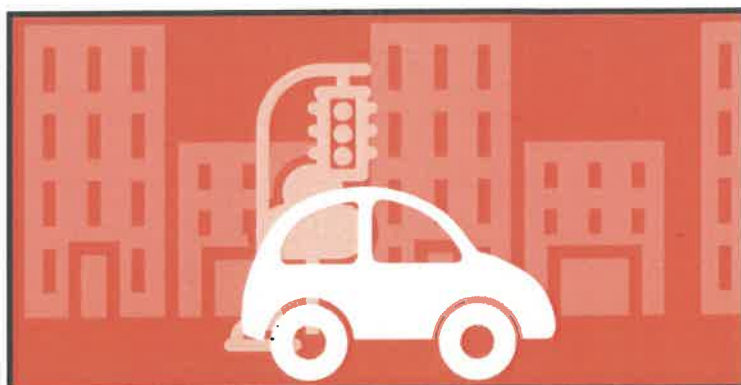
<https://www.kcv.org.uk/>

**Kent
County
Council**
kent.gov.uk



Medway
Serving You

<https://liftshare.com>



Car sharing programs are available within Walmer for those who find it difficult to use a car on the road, in order to commute to work/study or may be vulnerable people with problems getting to hospital appointments due to travel issues.

**Recommendation 1 to WTC CEWG from Cllr Sarah Waite-Gleave
For discussion / decision 18 Sept 2025**

That WTC approach DDC and KWT to seek stronger designated protection for WTC-owned Hawkshill Freedown.

Currently Hawkshill Freedown has the designation of SNCI – Site of Nature Conservation Interest. This explanation online suggests that Local Nature Reservations have a higher order of protect than SNCI in terms of planning, legally. https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Site_of_Nature_Conservation_Interest It also suggests that the way for an SNCI to be upgraded to LNR is for Local Planning Authorities to work with, for example, Kent Wildlife Trust, to 'identify' and 'survey' a site.

Recommendation : to approach DDC and KWT (Dover District Council and Kent Wildlife Trust) to lobby for an upgrade in protection status for Hawkshill Freedown, and make approach in 2025 before DDC starts losing its powers to new Unitary Authority.

It is anticipated that this action should be cost free, except for the paid time incurred by WTC, DDC and KWT officers.

**Recommendation 2 to WTC CEWG from Cllr Sarah Waite-Gleave
For discussion / decision 18 Sept 2025**

That WTC sign up to the Kent Sustainable Communities Network (KSCN).

On their website it says the Network aims to enable more coordinated and impactful climate action through a hub of grass root groups across Kent. Currently it includes town councils such as Deal, parishes such as Bearsted, community groups and the 2 Kent dioceses. More information <https://letstalk.kent.gov.uk/kent-scn>

Autumn 2025 would appear to be an appropriate time for WTC to sign-up to this Kent-wide initiative given that:-

- a) We plan soon to have our updated Climate and Ecological Emergency statement and our C&E Action Plan on our WTC website to which there could be a link on the KSCN.
- b) As Kent shifts to Unitary Authorities over the next 24 months, cross Kent links are more needed.
- c) 2025 has seen too much unscientific propaganda, from groups aligned with fossil fuel lobbies, undermining the vital work being done by local councils and communities to mitigate and adapt to the fast and accelerating pace of the climate and ecological emergency. Signing up to KSCN is one way of sharing knowledge / experience across Kent communities, and helping cut the costs of the disruption that has already started, helping too with the work to make our East Kent coastal community more resilient.

It is anticipated that this action should be cost free, except for the paid time incurred by WTC, DDC and KWT officers.

Heading	Sub heading	Current YTD	Expected for balance of year	Total	Budget	Budget
Climate emergency	Beebombs	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£425.00	£450.00
	Thermal Camera	£103.50	£103.50	£103.50	£110.00	£150.00
	Swift boxes	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£100.00	£100.00
	Water Refill Stations	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£2,500.00
	Churchill Avenue	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£1,600.00	£1,600.00
	Biodiversity grants	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£1,500.00	£1,500.00
	Display Stickers for WAPP (NEW)	£46.12	£46.12	£46.12	£0.00	£50.00
	Seawater Testing kits (NEW)	£840.00	£840.00	£840.00	£0.00	£900.00
		£989.62	£989.62	£989.62	£3,735.00	£7,250.00