



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 23rd July 2026

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

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 28th July 2026 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 23rd June 2026.

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 IN BLOOM CAMPAIGN

- i. Garden Competition Update
- ii. Garden Winners Presentation
- iii. Certificate Design
- iv. Root Slayer Shovels
- v. Purchases

Attach 3

Attach 4

Attach 5

Attach 6

8. HAWKSHILL

- i. Purchases
- ii. Refreshments
- iii. Shingle Update
- iv. Gate for new path
- v. Haymaking

Attach 6

Attach 7

Attach 8

9. WALMER PEACE GARDENS

- i. To Note: Verbal update from WPG Committee
- ii. Hiring of WPG

Attach 9

10. ISSUES FOR INCLUSION ON NEXT AGENDA

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

25th August 2026



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Draft Minutes of the meeting of the Walmer in Bloom Committee held on 23rd June 2026 at 62 The Strand, Walmer, at 5.30 pm.

Present:

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

Officers present: John Miles (Administration Officer)

116. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from Cllr R Blackwell and Mrs D Bogue

117. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None Submitted.

118. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Resolved: To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 26th May 2026.

Proposed- Cllr D Richardson

Seconded- Cllr P Findley

For- 6 Against-0 Abstain-0

119. QUESTIONS AND/OR OBSERVATIONS FROM THE ELECTORATE OF WALMER

None Received

120. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

i. Noted: Verbal Update from Chairman.

New tools (Root Slayers) are needed by the volunteers at Hawkshill for removal of weeds, Admin and Cllr P Ludwig to look into purchase. Cllr D Richardson has recently purchased one and will bring it along to the next meeting.

Due to age, the lawnmower used for trimming down around the pathways may need replacing, Mr S Coates is seeing if it can be repaired or if it needs replacing.

Admin and Town Clerk have been asked to look into solving the shingle issue on the access road, including contacting local tradesman.

The Town Clerk is meeting with Red Dog Garden services regarding the installation of steps at the new pathway. It was also mentioned that it may be possible to source a grant for the steps from KCC or elsewhere.

Cllr P Findley looked over the bird boxes made by Ripplevale school at the RIVAs which were deemed as not suitable for our use. In further discussion, a representative informed Cllr Findley that they could make some suitable.

Resolved: To agree to the purchase of 6 robin boxes and to the donation of 6 more from Ripplevale School.

Proposed- Cllr P Ludwig

Seconded- Cllr S Waite Gleave

For- 6 Against-0 Abstain-0

Admin to talk to Town Clerk regarding the addition of a small budget for refreshments for Hawkshill volunteers, to be brought to the next meeting.

A thank you gift of personal issue working gloves has been suggested for the volunteers at Hawkshill, costs may be offset by grant aiding bodies. Mrs Gooding is to be invited to the winners' presentation in August.

Ripplevale School would like a photo opportunity with a representative of the committee for their newsletter, Admin to confirm a date and Cllr L Ludwig or S Waite Gleave will be available.

Mr Ken Gabriel has rebuilt the fountain planter at the RNLI and will continue to tend to the plants. Mr Gabriel is to be invited to the winners' presentation in August.

Admin to contact all current planter volunteers to see if they want to continue to look after the planters they are currently tending to and to confirm watering of all planters by contractor.

Admin to source vouchers for the planters, costs to be brought to the next meeting.

121. ADMIN REPORT

- i. **Noted:** Update from admin regarding previous actions.

Resolved: Admin to work with Deputy Clerk to use Facebook enhancement for WIB competition.

Proposed- Cllr D Richardson

Seconded- Cllr P Ludwig

For- 6 Against-0 Abstain-0

Admin to contact last year's winners regarding entering this year's garden competition.

Admin to collate information for debrief including the breakdown of nominations into categories etc.

Admin to post letters to nominees informing them they have been nominated.

122. WALMER IN BLOOM CAMPAIGN

- i. There was no update on the location for the winners' presentation, Cllr D Richardson will continue to contact Walmer Castle to confirm the use of the room.
The date for the presentation has not been confirmed but will be between 17th and 28th August.
Admin to inform all members when the date has been finalised.

- i. **Resolved:** To donate £50 to each school that entered the poster competition.

Proposed- Cllr L Ludwig

Seconded- Cllr D Richardson

For- 6 Against-0 Abstain-0

Resolved: To purchase up to £5 x £50 vouchers for the winners of the garden competition.

Proposed- Cllr L Ludwig
Seconded- Cllr D Richardson
For- 6 Against-0 Abstain-0

Resolved: To purchase up to £90 of stamps for use in communications for the garden competition nominees.

Proposed- Cllr L Ludwig
Seconded- Cllr D Richardson
For- 6 Against-0 Abstain-0

Resolved: Vote for presentation payment has been postponed until the date and number of attendees has been confirmed.

123. HAWKSHILL

- i. **Resolved:** To accept the quote from Gazen Salts to cut the grass at the plateau for a total of £400.

Proposed- Cllr P Ludwig
Seconded- Cllr D Richardson
For- 6 Against-0 Abstain-0

Resolved: To accept the quote from Gazen Salts to cut the grass at Walmer Peace Gardens for a total of £45.

Proposed- Cllr L Ludwig
Seconded- Cllr D Richardson
For- 6 Against-0 Abstain-0

- ii. **Resolved:** Dates for the cutting at Hawkshill and Walmer Peace Gardens to take place during the Week Commencing Monday 5th October and Week beginning 29th September Respectively.

Proposed- Cllr L Ludwig
Seconded- Cllr P Findley
For- 6 Against-0 Abstain-0

124. WALMER PEACE GARDENS

- i. **Noted:** Members received a verbal report from WPG representative.
- The Sound Bath event went well with approximately 12 people attending, paperwork and invoices to be sent to Admin.
 - An advert has gone out for a Pilates event on 4th July.
 - A date is to be set for a storytelling event in August.
 - WPG Committee would like to thank Cllr S Waite Gleave for her donation of a gazebo tent.
 - WPG is still awaiting the donated Hedge Trimmer.
 - The hand painted sign coming along well, it is to be attached to existing sign.
 - The fruit trees donated several years ago are doing well, this is the first year that they are fruiting.
 - WPG Committee to forward images and dimensions for a planter to Admin.

125. ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON NEXT AGENDA

To contact the RNLI Lifeboat station to see if they have any volunteers to tend to the four planters on the north and south faces of the building.

126. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

28th July 2026 at 5:30pm.

The meeting closed at 18:50.

Signed _____

Dated _____





Item: Update Report

Date: 21 July 2026

Meeting: Walmer In Bloom

From: Admin Clerk

1. We are awaiting a quote from Ripplevale school regarding the robin boxes, as soon as we have a number we'll be able to buy them.
2. We are still awaiting Ripplevale's response about a photo op for the donated planters, emails and telephone calls have been attempted. The school is now on summer holidays so we may not have a reply until September.
3. Admin contacted all current planter volunteers and they have agreed to continue looking after the plants.
4. Admin contacted Mr Chapman regarding watering of the planters and he has confirmed that he has been watering all of them.
5. Letters were sent out to all nominees of the WIB competition, returns were encouraging with only one member of the public requesting that their residence be removed from the nominations.
6. Donations have been sent to the schools for the poster competition.
7. Clerk has agreed to the idea of buying gloves for the volunteers, types/sizes and number of each will be required for ordering.
8. The garden competition voting opened on time, currently we have 346 individual voters.
9. Admin and Deputy Clerk enhanced social media advertising for the WIB Garden Competition, this increased entries and voting considerably afterwards. Several of last year's winners were among those who entered.
10. KCC checked the lampposts along The Strand and all are in good condition.
11. Admin contacted the RNLI regarding the planters on the north and south sides of the boathouse, one crew member has agreed to take over tending to them.
12. A report from a member of the public has informed us that a number of new fox cubs have been seen living on the Freedown recently.
13. The request to have the watering of the planters and baskets paid weekly is causing an increase of work for both the contractor and the office. A return to monthly billing will be requested by the officers.



Item: Garden Winners Presentation 2026.

Date: 22 July 2026

Meeting: Walmer In Bloom

From: Admin Clerk

Last year the first presentation held at Walmer Castle was a success and well attended by twenty seven of the thirty guests invited. As part of the presentation, a cream tea and private tour was held for the winners, volunteers and other attendees.

The original invitation list was made up of winners and guests, volunteers, committee members and council members/staff. The list was made up of those seen below:

Winners	12 (Winner + Guest)
Volunteers	6 (Volunteers)
Committee	6 (WIB Committee members)
Council	1 (Chairman of the Council)
Staff	1 (Admin)
Guests	4
	30

Due to unforeseen circumstances, a small number of those invited were unable to attend dropping the number of overall guests to twenty-seven. For 2026, if a similar number is authorised then we may be able to follow the same numbers as above. After a conversation with the Chairman a second list was broken down as below.

Winners	10-15	Invitations to Winners and two runners up per category Or other similar numbers.
Committee	Up To 9	(WIB Committee members)
Staff	1	(Admin)
Special Guests	Up to 4	2+2 Accompanying Guests
Total	Up to 29	

This list includes the five garden category winners and the second and third place runners up, the special guests include Mrs Gooding + Guest and Mr Gabriel + Guest. In addition the nine committee members and one staff member are included. This list does not allow for additional guests for each of the winners although this can change depending on the decisions made by the committee.

A back-up list will also be available in case invitees are not able to attend.

Committee to decide on numbers for presentation

Walmer in Bloom



Container Display Winner

1 The Road

Louise Ludwig

Cllr Louise Ludwig

Chairman of Walmer in Bloom Committee





Item: Root Slayer Shovels

Date: 21st July 2026

Meeting: Walmer In Bloom

From: Admin Clerk

A request has been made to purchase several Root Slayer shovels for use at Hawkshill, with assistance from Cllr P Ludwig. two types have been identified as the most suitable for the location. Three quotes for each have been found and laid out below along with an image of the shovels requested. One of each is to be purchased for testing.

	Homebase	Garden Imports	Amazon	
Root Slayer Shovel	£50.83	£39.99	£42.08	
Root Slayer Nomad Shovel	£41.67	£31.66	33.33	
Delivery	Free	£6.80	£7.95	
VAT	£18.50	£15.69	£15.08	
Total	£111	£94.14	£98.44	
Delivery	5-7 Days	1-2 Days	2-3 Days	

Members to decide on purchase of new tools.



Item: Payment Authorisations
Date: 22nd July 2026
Meeting: Walmer In Bloom
From: Admin Clerk

The follow authorisations are required for Walmer In Bloom.

	Authorisation Request	Cost	Budget
Postal Stamps	Up to 50 1 st Class Stamps	£90	£60
Planter Vouchers	Purchase of Vouchers for Planter Volunteers	£800	£800
Paint Pen	Purchase of 3 Uni Posca PC-7M Markers	£15.69	£800
Aspen 2 Stroke Petrol	Purchase of petrol for hedgecutters	£38.00	£400
Small Trophy	Purchase of small trophy, engraving and trophy centre	£17.00	£400
Engraving	Engraving of WIB Shield	£10	£400
Social Media Boosts	Use Social Media Boosts on Facebook for Haymaking in September and October.	£50	£200
Repairs	Lawn Mower Repairs and sharpening	£30	£800
Voting	Extra Month Required from Pollunit	£26.06	£171.83



Item: Refreshments Budget

Date: 23 July 2026

Meeting: Walmer In Bloom

From: Admin Clerk

The budget will be dedicated to the purchase of necessary materials for refreshments, including tea, coffee, sugar and biscuits. The estimate including the purchase of two vacuum flasks is £400.

5L Tea Coffee Pot Vacuum Insulated Pump Action Travel Flask With Carry Handle

Sold & shipped by [Denny Shop UK](#)
Available online only and not stocked in B&Q stores

★★★★★ (5)

£19.99

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Committee to decide on budget and purchase of flasks.



Item: Shingle on Hawkshill Access Road

Date: 22 July 2026

Meeting: Walmer In Bloom

From: Admin Clerk

Admin contacted Nolans Paving in regard to the shingle on the Hawkshill access road, after a visit to the road Mr Nolan informed us that in his opinion that the road has been left in too bad a condition for too long.

Due to the lack of maintenance, it is basically falling apart and because of the lack of a solid surface, the shingle will continue to slide down the hill as there is no way to stop it short of a totally new road surface. The removal of the top few layers to reduce the overall amount of shingle would still require the removal of about 30 tons of material.

He also believes that for the moment the accumulation at the speed bump could be scooped out to take the edge off the amount coming down. The surfacing is too loose and the road as it is can't be saved, the road itself is eroding on both sides of the road leaving a raised area in the middle.

In its current state, the access road itself will continue to degrade causing loose material to make its way down to the speed bump and then out onto Liverpool Road. The clerk as a volunteer is attending Hawkshill to remove the debris built up around the speed bump, to hold any debris from moving out onto the road.

Going forward the maintenance of the road is, as per a previous legal enquiry, the responsibility of the residents who live on Hawkshill Camp Road.



Item: Hire of Walmer Peace Gardens

Date: 21 July 2026

Meeting: Walmer In Bloom

From: Admin Clerk

A recent request by Sober Flow UK has indicated their interest in using Walmer Peace Gardens to hold a Sound Bath event on Friday 28th August 2026. The information given indicates that it will be limited to twenty paying participants and those running the event itself.

We have been forwarded insurance and risk assessment paperwork, which has been reviewed, by the person applying for the use of the gardens, communication is ongoing to check a final few queries.

Based on hire costs of other community spaces, a recommendation of £15-20 per hour for the hire of the Peace Gardens by outside users, this would be the same for all future bookings using the site.

Any further conditions regarding the use of the Peace Gardens would also need to be confirmed by the Committee.

Members to decide on going forward with request.