



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 17th September 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 22nd September 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 28th July 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. Campaign evaluation

Attach 3

8. HAWKSHILL

- i. Gate for new woodland path
- ii. Haymaking Update
- iii. Use of Brushcutter for Kingsdown and Ringwould council

Attach 4

9. WALMER PEACE GARDENS

- i. To Note: Verbal update from WPG Committee
- ii. To confirm purchase of seeds for WPG

Attach 5

10. ISSUES FOR INCLUSION ON NEXT AGENDA

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

24th November 2026



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Draft Minutes of the meeting of the Walmer in Bloom Committee held on 28th July 2026 at 62 The Strand, Walmer, at 5.30 pm.

Present:

Cllr L Ludwig (Chairing)
Cllr R Blackwell
Cllr P Findley
Cllr D Richardson
Cllr S Waite-Gleave
Mrs D Bogue

Officers present: John Miles (Administration Officer)

Cllrs Richardson and Blackwell were late in attendance

162. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from Cllr P Ludwig and Miss A Late

163. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None Submitted.

164. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

Resolved: To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 23rd June 2026 with minor change to entry 124.

Proposed- Cllr S Waite-Gleave

Seconded- Cllr P Findley

For- 3

Against-0

Abstain-0

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

None Received

166. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- i. **Noted:** Chair informed committee that the agenda covered all points she wanted to make and for expediency a separate report was not necessary.

Cllr D Richardson arrived at this point.

167. ADMIN REPORT

- i. **Noted:** Update from admin regarding previous actions.
 - A request was made to acquire gloves for all planter volunteers, admin to check budget.**Resolved:** Billing for the planter and basket watering will return to monthly payment.
 Proposed- Cllr P Findley

Seconded- Cllr S Waite-Gleave

For- 4

Against-0

Abstain-0

Actions: Admin to inform Mr Chapman that we will return to billing monthly.

- **Actions:** Admin to check budget for purchase of gloves for planter volunteers.

Cllr R Blackwell arrived at this point.

168. WALMER IN BLOOM CAMPAIGN

- i. **Noted:** Committee received update on the garden competition

Actions: Admin to put reminder on Facebook for the remainder of voting.

- ii. Committee were informed of the costs and date for the presentation from English Heritage, members agreed on the date, time and number of guests.

Resolved: The presentation will be on Friday 21st August, if guests are given permission to look around the gardens, the presentation will be between 2:30pm and 5:00pm. If permission is not given then it will be between 2:30pm to 4:30pm if not.

Proposed- Cllr L Ludwig

Seconded- Cllr S Waite-Gleave

For- 5

Against-0

Abstain-0

Actions: Admin to contact English Heritage and confirm requirements for the presentation.

Resolved: Thirty guests to be invited to the garden presentation at Walmer Castle, invitations will be subject to change where required.

Proposed- Cllr D Richardson

Seconded- Cllr L Ludwig

For- 5

Against-0

Abstain-0

Actions: Admin to create invitations and send them out once winners have been confirmed.

Resolved: Winner vouchers to be increased to £35 per category.

Proposed- Cllr S Waite-Gleave

Seconded- Cllr D Richardson

For- 5

Against-0

Abstain-0

Actions: Clerk to purchase winner vouchers from Deal Garden Centre for a total of £175.

- iii. A draft version of the winner certificate was given to the members; the certificate has been approved with minor changes to the pictures used.

Resolved: Certificate to be edited as requested and used for the presentation.

Proposed- Cllr S Waite-Gleave

Seconded- Cllr R Blackwell

For- 5

Against-0

Abstain-0

Actions: Admin to edit certificate as requested before presentation.

- iv. Members were informed that the Hawkshill Volunteers have asked for several new tools for use at the Freedown. Prices from three suppliers were sourced.

Resolved: Purchase one each of Root Slayer shovels, Admin to check with local companies if they can provide requested tools.

Proposed- Cllr P Findley

Seconded- Cllr D Richardson

For- 5

Against-0

Abstain-0

Actions: Admin to check with local suppliers for shovels, if unable to obtain them, then Admin to purchase two shovels from another company for a total of £94.14

- v. Members were given a list of requested purchases to be authorised for WIB and the council planters for a total of £943.
Resolved: Purchases for Walmer In Bloom competition and planters were authorised.
Proposed- Cllr L Ludwig
Seconded- Cllr S Waite-Gleave
For- 5 Against-0 Abstain-0

169. HAWKSHILL

- i. Members were given a list of requested purchases to be authorised for Hawkshill for a total of £133.69.
Resolved: Purchases for Hawkshill were authorised.
Proposed- Cllr L Ludwig
Seconded- Cllr S Waite-Gleave
For- 5 Against-0 Abstain-0
- ii. A request from the Chairman and Cllr P Ludwig to create an extra budget for refreshments for the Hawkshill Volunteers and the purchase of two vacuum flasks for use at Hawkshill.
Resolved: Authorisation for purchase of vacuum flasks and a budget for refreshments for volunteers to be set at £400.
Proposed- Cllr L Ludwig
Seconded- Cllr S Waite-Gleave
For- 5 Against-0 Abstain-0
Actions: Clerk to buy vacuum flasks and Admin to create the budget via existing funds.
- iii. The committee were given an update regarding the shingle washing down Hawkshill access road.
Resolved: Clerk to write a letter to residents of Hawkshill Camp Road indicating that neighbours have concerns regarding the state of the road.
Proposed- Cllr D Richardson
Seconded- Cllr S Waite-Gleave
For- 5 Against-0 Abstain-0
Actions: Clerk to write letter to the residents of Hawkshill Camp Road.
- iv. A member of the public has mentioned at a pedestrian gate of some kind would be helpful on the new path through Hawkshill, Admin to research gate types and suppliers.
Actions: Admin to research gate types and suppliers.
- v. Admin to begin advertising of the Haymaking event, informing the public of dates and times and that it is weather dependent. Poster and other advertising can be agreed on via email.
Resolved: Any agreements required before the September meeting will be completed through email. Any decisions can then delegate work to Admin.
Proposed- Cllr D Richardson
Seconded- Cllr S Waite-Gleave
For- 5 Against-0 Abstain-0
Actions: Admin to begin creating advertising material for the haymaking event.

170. WALMER PEACE GARDENS

- i. **Noted:** Members received a verbal report from WPG representative.
- The committee thanked the Clerk and Cllr Findley for removing a wasp nest in the peace gardens.

Cllr P Findley left at this point

- A Pilates event was held and went with no difficulties.
- The WPG committee would like to purchase wildflowers for WPG, Admin to look into original order forwarded to KCC.
- The committee would also like to purchase several plants, Mrs Bogue or other member may meet with Clerk at Deal Garden Centre or will approach the supplier to see if an invoice can be sent instead.
- Several new events will be run soon,
- Admin to remind the sound bath owner that there are no facilities such as toilets available. However, there is no objection to the event being run from the WPG committee.

Actions: Admin to look into original order forwarded to KCC for wildflowers.

Actions: Clerk to look into purchasing plants from Deal Garden Centre.

Actions: Admin to contact sound bath owner regarding the lack of facilities available at WPG.

- ii. **Resolved:** To charge £15 for the sound bath event. Possible review afterwards to see if later events are to be allowed. Request that a sign be put up to inform others what is going on to prevent disturbing the event.

Proposed- Cllr R Blackwell

Seconded- Cllr D Richardson

For- 4 Against-0 Abstain-0

Actions: Admin to contact sound bath owner regarding costs and permission to use the WPG green space.

171. ITEMS FOR INCLUSION ON NEXT AGENDA

172. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The August meeting has been cancelled; the next meeting will be held on 22nd September 2026 at 5:30pm.

The meeting closed at 19:20.

Signed _____

Dated _____



Item: Walmer In Bloom Update Report

Date: 16 Sep 26

Meeting: Walmer In Bloom

From: Admin Clerk

1. Due to school holidays there has not been a reply regarding a photo with the new planters.
2. The Walmer In Bloom winners press release went out
3. Planters have now all got a volunteer to tend to them, work is being done on most of them.
4. Baskets will be coming down in mid-September and returned to Young's, Clerk will receive quotes from Young's and Chapman for November.
5. The WIB budget has enough to purchase gloves for planter volunteers, number of and types of are still required.
6. The Walmer In Bloom presentation went really well, everyone invited enjoyed the afternoon, most of those invited were able to attend.
7. Vouchers for the planter volunteers have been sourced, and several have already been used.
8. The requested root slayer shovels have been purchased and given to the Hawkshill volunteers.
9. Vacuum flasks were purchased for Hawkshill, a separate budget has been created for the refreshments.
10. The sound bath was cancelled due to weather reasons.

PROFORMA: WIB REVIEW 2025

1. Poster Competition

Poster Competition

- The posters were gathered from three schools this year, with The Beacon joining in the competition. In addition, the prize for the winners was increased from £10 to £25.
- With the closure of WH Smith/TJ Jones, a new provider for vouchers will be required.
- All permissions were gained at the same time to ease requirements.

Poster Judging

- As before the judging was done via folders for each school Key Stage group, we did receive less overall than the year before.
- The Judging was done quickly and efficiently, the email votes allowed for a simple collation of voting by the members of the committee.

Poster Exhibition

- St Saviours Church allowed a short exhibition for the winners and runners up of the poster competition.

Poster Presentation

- All three presentations were booked, although problems with booking them led to two school presentations happening at the same time. However, both were attended by members of the committee.

Advertising etc.

- With DDC no longer allowing banners on railings without permission, the larger banners were put up at RNLI and the Victoria Cricket Club. We have permission to also use the outside fence of the Walmer Tennis club.

2. Garden Awards

Nominations.

- Nominations came through via email only this year, a link was put onto the website and leaflets to allow for the public to send directly to a specifically set up address.
- 89 Nominations were received in total, 81 of which were individual with 2 more non applicable.
- The nominations also involved our first use of the boosting function of Facebook; this led to a number of nominations coming in in the last week.
- A parish wide leaflet drop was made before the beginning of the nomination period.
- Changes were made to nomination requirements to ease the stress on those who may not have the information needed.

Voting.

- An online system was used this year to allow for the public to vote in the competition, the use of which was set to only allow one vote for each category per IP address to prevent anyone using mass voting to allow a win.
- In total 862 votes were cast by 401 voters
- The voting also involved the boosting function of Facebook, improving our vote total over last year.
- It was necessary to pay for three months for the website used due to the need to input the nominations and confirm the results once voting is closed.

Gardens Presentation

- Walmer Castle was once again used for the garden winner presentation, with thirty winners, guests, committee members and volunteers invited. Once change made was to invite the winners and second place to the presentation
- We have not yet had the invoice for the presentation, but it should be £250.
- A Press Release was put out shortly after and published the next month.
- Letters were sent out to all of those invited due to lack of contact details for some.

PROFORMA: WIB REVIEW 2025

Garden Awards

- The garden vouchers for the award were increased from £25 to £35.
- Two of the awards were won by the same address.

3. Admin

Quotes/Colours/Plants.

- Young's Nurseries and Chapmans both did excellent work for the baskets,
- Young's were able to create very attractive decorations.
- Admin as asked for quotes for next year.

Advertising

- This year's advertisements were more extensive than before. The standard posters and banners were distributed or displayed.
- Local press and social media used to advertise the campaign in two separate sections, this included a mass delivery of leaflets across the entire Walmer area.
- The QR code reusable signs were also used, an exact date to ensure they and the posters are up have been added to the year planner to ensure they are out as soon as the campaign begins.
- The use of Facebook's booting ability for posts was extremely useful, expanding the reach of the standard posts. This will be looked into further for the next campaign.

Application for street furniture

- While the application itself was unaffected this year, we were informed that the columns will need to be tested every three years to ensure that they are able to take the strain.

Floral baskets

- Floral baskets were installed along both sides of The Strand, it is possible the flowers could be taken down at an earlier point due to wear on the plants, possibly the end of August or first week in September due to the plants beginning to wilt

Budget

- With the exception of the unexpected column inspections, the WIB budget did not go overbudget on any single section.
- An addition will be added annually to the budget over three years to allow for inspections of the KCC owned columns.

Feedback

4. Social/Public Comments

- Limited feedback has been received so far
- Some feedback about being unable to nominate, I am unsure why this is it was a rare occurrence when it did happen.
- People were happy to enter and looked forward to how others saw their work.
- Some people had problems with using QR codes and requested that internet links be provided alongside them.
- Some people used the comments on Facebook to complain about the removal of the greenery next to the outdoor gym.

PROFORMA: WIB REVIEW 2025

5. Member Comments

Entrants Per Category	Votes per category	Winner (Total Votes)	Winner 2025	Winner 2026
Non Residential- 9	Non Residential- 148	58	Marke Wood	Marke Wood
Compact- 11	Compact- 195	69	5 Cheriton Place	33 Ardent Ave
Container-18	Container- 173	66	17 St Clare Road	43 Channel Lea
Wildlife- 15	Wildlife-136	55	15 Dorset Gardens	Lord Warden Avenue
Garden-28	Garden- 210	48	43 Channel Lea	43 Channel Lea
81 Entrants				
89 Nominations	401 Individuals voted total			
2 Withdrawn	862 votes total			





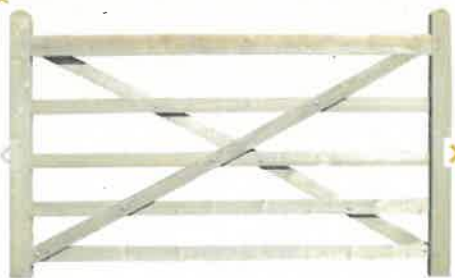
Item: **Woodland Path Gate**

Date: **16 Sep 26**

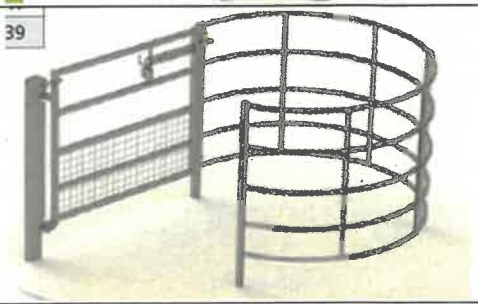
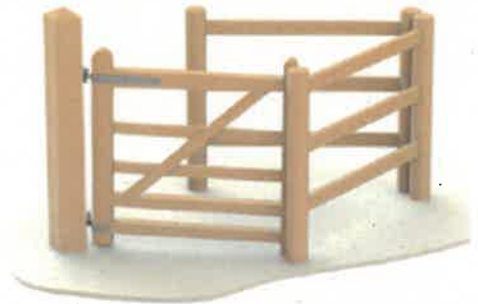
Meeting: **Walmer In Bloom**

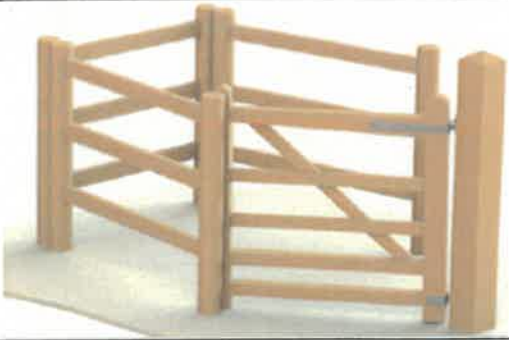
From: **Admin Clerk**

During the last meeting, admin was tasked with looking into the installation of a gate at one end of the new woodland path at Hawkshill. There are several types of gate that may be suitable, these consist of kissing gates and bridle gates in galvanised steel or treated wood.

Type	Cost	
Galvanised Metal Kissing Gate	509.70	
Wooden Kissing Gate	298.65	
Bridle Gate	272.65	

Galvanised & Accessibility Kissing Gates

	Type	Cost	
Woodstock - Plain Hoop	Pedestrian	£399.11	
Woodstock - Mesh Hoop	Pedestrian	£452.33	
Woodstock - Plain Hoop	Medium Mobility	£466.74	
Woodstock - Mesh Hoop	Medium Mobility	£542.13	
Woodstock - Plain Hoop	Large Mobility	£610.86	
Woodstock - Mesh Hoop	Large Mobility	£687.36	
Oxford	Pedestrian	£477.10	
	Medium Mobility	£559.24	

	Large Mobility	£559.90	
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Bridle Gates

Chiltern 2-Way		£414.63	
Chiltern 1-Way		£328.16	
Henley 2-Way		£561.12	
Henley 1-Way		£467.84	

Members to decide on type of gate for further investigation into cost of installation and options available on the market.



Item: **Seed Purchase**

Date: **16 Sep 26**

Meeting: **Walmer In Bloom**

From: **Admin Clerk**

The Walmer Peace Gardens Committee has requested the purchase of seeds, the below are based on the original seeds bought several years ago. Both are suitable for the land at the Peace Gardens.

Material	Size	Cost	VAT	Total	Qty		Delivery
<u>Wildflowers For Heavy Clay Soils - Kent Wildflower Seeds</u>	25G	£10.42	£2.08	£12.50	1		£3.95
<u>Wildflowers For Chalky Soils - Kent Wildflower Seeds</u>	100G	£26.67	£5.33	£32.00	1		

Members to confirm purchase