

WALMER TOWN COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Meeting of Walmer Town Council held on Wednesday 6th April 2022 at Deal Parochial C of E School, Walmer.

Present Councillors:

Cllr J Murray (Chair), Cllr M Eddy (Vice-Chair), Cllr B Gardner, Cllr T Byfield, Cllr Mrs S Fisher, Cllr J Lonsdale, Cllr P Jull, Cllr D Thompson, C Weale, P St Ange, Cllr G Bearman and Cllr P Heath

Officers Present: Richard Styles, Town Clerk Roland Aldred, Deputy Clerk

6335. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Mrs M Beard-Gould and Cllr Mrs Le Chevalier Due to illness

6336. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None received

6337. OPENNESS AND TRANSPARENCY

The Chairman read out the statement published in the agenda.

6338. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

i. Electric charging points

The Chairman reported that there were a number of complaints about people parking in the EV charge bays at the drill field. Cllr Lonsdale chair of the Climate Emergency Working Group had already requested the office create a warning leaflet and add a notice to the website.

ii. Election

An election has been called to fill the vacancy in the council as there are no other elections in the ward the cost is expected to be around £3800.

iii. Grants

Chairman would like council to think about creating a fund used for Nature and Climate Emergency grants and to replace Councillor's payments with a Councillor Ward Project Fund.

6339. MINUTES

Members received the minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday, 2 March 2022.

RESOLVED: That minutes be approved.

Proposed by Cllr Eddy

Seconded by Cllr Bearman

6340. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA

No matter arising

6341. UPDATE ON THE UKRAINIAN SITUATION

Members of the congregation from St Georges Church Deal were invited to give a report on the work they and other local groups have been doing to help the refugees of the Ukrainian situation.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note the report.

6341. QUESTIONS AND/OR OBSERVATIONS FROM THE ELECTORATE OF WALMER

No members of the public were present

6342. CRIME AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR REPORTS

Members received a report from PCSO Kerry Skirrow on anti-social and criminal activities in Walmer.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note the report.

6343. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND MINUTES

Members received the reports and agreed minutes as follows:

- i. Amenities + Environment – minutes from Jan 26, 2022
Cllr Eddy reported that he had to advise members of the public that there was no truth in the rumour that Walmer Town Council would be selling the Drill Field to a developer. Clerk to chase up a meeting with the Rugby club in relation to the Drill Field. On the Highways improvement plan the issue in station road /Court Road had been taken to Kent County Council and that parking on pavements on Dover Road will be their next issue to tackle.
- ii. Finance + General Purposes – No minutes to report
- iii. Walmer in Bloom – minutes from Feb 22, 2022
Cllr Thompson advised that a poetry event/competition had been floated at the meeting to attract people to the Hawksdown Freedown.
- iv. Events Committee –minutes from Feb 15, 2022
Cllr Bearman advised events were progressing. On the jubilee event the major gaps were cheesemakers and wine producers.
- v. Planning Committee – minutes from Feb 8, 2022
Cllr Murray reported that following a meeting with Dover District Councils new Tree officer we had seen a more considered approach to decisions to allow work on trees protected by Tree Protection Orders
- vi. Climate Emergency Working Group – Minutes from Mar 3, 2022
Cllr Lonsdale reported that the items had been moving forward, Thermal Camera will now be put on hold until September.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to receive the minutes.

Proposed Cllr Murray

Seconded Cllr Eddy

6344. REPORT OF THE CLERK

Clerk expressed concerns about the actions of Cllr Peter Jull, one of the Councils internal auditors and that Cllr Weale concurred with those concerns and as a result of Cllr Jull's behaviour had decided to resign from the post. A replacement Cllr auditor, Cllr Byfield, was

nominated to replace Cllr Weale. His qualifications skills and experience will refocus the Cllr audit scheme to oversee and improve the operational systems of the Council. The Clerk strongly supports this useful and supportive method of audit methodology.

RESOLVED: Cllr Byfield to be appointed as an external auditor for 13 months

Proposed: Cllr Murray

Seconded: Cllr Eddy

6345. FINANCIAL REPORT

i. Walmer Town Council Bank Balances at March 2022

Unity bank	£	10,897.18
Natwest Current Account	£	37,176.13
Co-Operative Bank	£	75,468.63
Natwest SIBA	£	10,897.18
Lloyds banks	£	77,795.79

Total in banks	£	212,234.91
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The clerk advised we are continuing to deal with the banks to get the updated authorised signatories. Cllr Heath has been very helpful going to Banks to Co-Op Bank is now completed and clerk would like authorisation to close this account and open a unity deposit account.

RESOLVED – Clerk to close Co-Op bank and open Unity Deposit account with Authorisation to move money between the deposit and current accounts with Unity Bank but not to move any money outside these accounts.

Proposed: Cllr Byfield

Seconded: Cllr Eddy

ii. Payments made

Item	Paid to	Amount
Office stationery	Viking	£139.35
Salaries	Staff	£6000.12
Tax + NI	HMRC	1945.57
Pension payments	KCC LGPS	£1,652.18
Young trees for Hawkshill	V.Recas	£144.71
Ukraine appeal	DEC	£1000.00
Clearance Stony path	Cleancut gardening	£3950.00
Clearance No 10 Allotment and rotovate Stony path	Cleancut gardening	£400.00
Redirect -3 months	Royal Mail	£216.00
Expenses March	R. Aldred	£11.98
Expenses - March	R Styles	£34.99
Repairs to Campbell Rd fence	Quality fencing	£1425.60
Batchelor-Coop	Salary admin	£196.80
Deposit -First aid Brocante	PWave Medical Ltd	£48.67
Clearance Hawkshill trees	Leaf Tree Services	£1464.00
Historic signs	DDC	£2816.00

Fence works at stony path	Quality Fencing	£1,326
Total		22771.97

RESOLVED: to pay above invoices

Proposed by Cllr Eddy

Seconded by Cllr Bearman

iii. Year-end position

Good progress has been made main Unity account is reconciled

iv. Insurance

Clerk contacted 4 insurers for quotes for insurance, 2 brokers and 2 direct sell insurance companies, one of the brokers decided against quoting.

RESOLVED – To take up the quote from Zurich for a 3 year period

Proposed: Cllr Eddy

Seconded Cllr Weale

6346. INVITATIONS AND EVENTS

No invitations received

6347. LOGO COMPETITION

Cllr received a report on the public comments on the shortlist for the New Logo. Clerk reminded all member that all letterheads etc. are printed in house and signs will be updated only when required due to damage or wear and tear, therefore the change will not have a financial impact.

RESOLVED: Design 1 to be adopted

Proposed by Cllr Eddy

Seconded by Cllr Byfield

6348. MINI GOLF

Cllr Gardener gave a verbal report on complaints he had received in relation to the pavements whilst the new Mini Golf facility is being constructed. After contacting proprietor of the Mini Golf there have been no further complaints.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note the report.

6349. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS

Council received a draft calendar of next year meetings

RESOLVED: Members agreed the calendar. The Chari said that any changes required in the future could be made as and when they arise.

Proposed by Cllr Eddy

Seconded by: Cllr Murray

**6350. Confidential to be held under to public bodies (admission to meetings) Act 1960
YORK & ALBANY**

Members received a report from the Clerk containing a number of options for the future of the land on York and Albany Close.

RESOLVED: To defer the item until all options have been fully costed and investigated

6351. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, 4th May 2022, 7 pm, Deal Parochial School, Walmer.

The meeting closed at 21.15 pm.

Signed: Date: