

## WALMER TOWN COUNCIL

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### **Minutes of the meeting of Walmer Town Council's Climate Emergency Working Group held on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> of April 2022 Via Zoom**

**Present** Cllrs J Lonsdale (Chair, taking notes), M Eddy, Cllr Mrs S Fisher, Cllr P St Ange

**Apologies** Cllr D Thompson, Cllr Mrs S Le Chevalier

### **Minutes of the Meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> March**

Agreed as accurate

### **Matters Arising not covered elsewhere**

None

### **Priorities and Actions**

#### Transport

##### **-EV Charging Points**

Latest use of WTC charge points Canada Rd: -

	Sessions	Average Session Duration (minutes)	Energy (kWh)
Mar-22	50	194	557

JL has written to DDC Cllr Chris Vinson and Climate Officer Amanda Martin regarding the lack of on-street EV charge points in Walmer. Awaiting a response.

##### **-Electric Buses/106 Funds.**

JL still to reply to DDC's Ashley Taylor email received. Need for CIL not S106 to allow for wider climate measures to be taken. Noted.

##### **-Cycle storage at Walmer Railway Station**

WTC contribution to the successful application will be paid in the upcoming financial year.

Southeastern contact still says the scheme is intended to be complete by the end of 2022. Noted.

#### **Biodiversity**

##### **-Borrow Pit Car Park**

Update from Cllr Le Chevalier regarding the DDC land around Borrow Pit car park – deferred.

##### **-Urban Nature Reserves:**

Discussed possibilities regarding three potential sites within Walmer and next steps. Various reports noted. Cllr Fisher's new report supported. Unanimous support for Kent Wildlife Trust to carry out three base site surveys and collate planting and management reports.

##### **-Walmer Beachfront**

Discussed Clerk's approach to maintaining nature along the southern Walmer seafront, based on a recently re-discovered draft management plan.

Report excellent, DDC should have supported it. Instead local councils should take it up, an opportunity for WTC and Kingsdown and Ringwould Parish Council to work together. Walmer beachfront should be better taken care of the space should be recognized and respected.

White Cliffs Partnership, authors of the report, should be contacted. Cllr St Ange to liaise with the Clerk.

**-Free trees for residents:**

Cllr Lonsdale to talk to contact at East Kent Climate Action regarding possibility of sourcing free trees for Walmer resident's gardens.

**-Beebombs for residents:**

Beebombs continue to be distributed from the office of the 78 requests 38 are still to be collected (e-mails were sent 1/2/22). Deputy Clerk going to do a follow up e-mail to try and get rest collected. The remaining 22 were allocated for a rewilding project.

Another 12 requests from Walmer residents have come in. To be sent from those reserved for the rewilding project. Further requests numbers should be monitored, with a view to purchasing more Beebombs to satisfy demand as it comes up.

**-Bee bricks**

Cllr Le Chevalier verbal update – deferred

**62, The Strand - Sustainability retrofit.**

Awaiting update from Clerk following latest architect site visit.

**Outside Projects.**

**-Outdoor Gym – TRIM TRAIL**

Awaiting a response from the Royal Marines Association that WTC applied to for additional funds to supplement the £11k pledged by the council for this project. Update required from Clerk before further funds can be sought. Other funders may be available, e.g. Mind, but the project needs a major funder first, so will wait on the RMA decision before seeking alternative funding.

**-Thermal Heat-loss Camera.**

31 requests fulfilled with all Walmer residents (except one lady who has cancelled twice) now completed. We have done around a third of the Deal residents at no charge also but are finding the weather has been affecting the surveys so intend to put on hold until Autumn.

Will need a re-launch in September, using feedback and before/ after pics from first phase to create a fresh press release.

**New Projects/Any Other Business**

**-Bird boxes**

Initial discussion on a local resident's initiative to add wildlife measures to new builds and developments - <https://naturebox.co.uk/>

Cllr Lonsdale to approach local resident to see how WTC can support initiative

**Next meeting:** Thursday May 12<sup>th</sup> @ 1930 via Zoom