



WALMER TOWN COUNCIL

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DRAFT Minutes of the Meeting of Walmer Town Council held on Wednesday 8th June 2022 at Deal Parochial C of E School, Walmer.

Present Councillors:

Cllr M Eddy (Chair), Mrs M Beard-Gould (Vice-Chair), Cllr T Byfield, Cllr Mrs S Fisher, Cllr J Lonsdale, Cllr P Jull, Cllr D Thompson, Cllr J Murray, Cllr Mrs Le Chevalier, Cllr B Gardner, Cllr M Simpson and Cllr P Heath

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

20. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs Weale, St Ange and Bearman due to other business.

21. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were made.

22. OPENNESS AND TRANSPARENCY

The Chairman read out the statement published in the agenda.

23. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- i. The Chairman welcomed Cllr Mark Simpson to the council. As a newly elected councillor Cllr Simpson has already participated in a number of committees and the Jubilee event.
- ii. The Jubilee celebrations and Food and Drink festival were very successful despite the weather. The Chairman offered his thanks to all involved. Both artists and stall holders have expressed a wish to work with Walmer Town Council again.
- iii. The Chairman also attended the beacon lighting at the cricket club. The event was well attended with approximately 400 people either in the ground or on the road outside.
- iv. The Chairman attended the unveiling of the Goodwin Sands information board.
- v. The Chairman reported attending a meeting of Town and Parish councils hosted by Dover District Council. The meeting was a series of presentations covering planning, Ukrainian refugees, electoral changes, fly tipping and noise pollution. The newly appointed Head of Planning Sarah Platts indicated that she would be happy to meet with the Walmer Town Council Planning Committee and the Clerk has organised a meeting. An update on the Local Plan timetable was given and this should go before the Dover District Council Cabinet in October for approval. The Elections Act 2022 has just received Royal Assent

and some of the provisions, like voter ID at polling stations, will be in place by the 2023 elections.

RESOLVED -The report was noted and it was agreed the chairman would write a letter of thanks to the participants of the jubilee concert.

Proposed – Cllr Eddy

Seconded – Cllr Mrs Beard-Gould

24. MINUTES

Members received the minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday, 4th May 2022.

RESOLVED: That minutes be approved.

Proposed by Cllr Mrs Beard-Gould

Seconded by Cllr Mrs Le Chevalier

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

There were no matters arising.

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

- i. No Members of the public were in attendance.
- ii. There was no report from either Dover District or Kent County Council.

27. CRIME AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR REPORTS

PCSO Skirrow sent in a report on crime and anti-social behaviour in Walmer.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note the report.

Proposed by Cllr Mrs Beard-Gould

Seconded by Cllr Murray

28. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND MINUTES

Members received the agreed minutes as follows:

- i. Amenities + Environment – No minutes to report
- ii. Finance + General Purposes – No minutes to report
- iii. Walmer in Bloom – minutes from April 26, 2022
Cllr Mrs Le Chevalier reported that continued progress with Walmer in Bloom was being made and that she would be visiting the Downs School to present the certificates this week.
- iv. Events Committee –minutes from April 19, 2022
Cllr Mrs Beard-Gould wished to thank all those who helped with the Jubilee event. It was very successful. We have had lots of great feedback. Many stalls sold out at the Best of Kent festival. Cllr Mrs Beard-Gould also wished to offer special thanks to Cllr Murray who worked tirelessly writing the script for the concert and attending rehearsals.
- v. Planning Committee – minutes from April 12, 2022
- vi. Climate Emergency Working Group – Minutes from May 12, 2022
Main item of focus has been the Peace Garden at York and Albany, where Cllr Fisher has been engaging with the local community.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to receive the minutes.

Proposed Cllr Mrs Beard-Gould

Seconded Cllr

- vii. Appoint Cllrs to vacancies arising.
RESOLVED -Cllr Simpson appointed to Planning, Event and Walmer in Bloom Committees. Cllr Jull will leave the Events committee. Cllr Fisher to leave the Planning Committee and take up a position on the Finance and General Purposes Committee. Cllr Weale appointed to the Finance and General Purposes Committee.
Proposed by Cllr Eddy
Seconded by Cllr Byfield

29. REPORT OF THE CLERK

The Clerk reported that there had been a number of incidents at the Jubilee event, a barbeque had been lit at the far end of the green by members of the public not attending the event. They were asked to extinguish the barbeque before damage was done to the grass. One member of the public required first aid after a fall. One member of the public had been walking around the event with a live snake. Security and the PCSO had asked the member of the public to leave the area. Four members of the Travelling Community drove on to the green and were driving around members of the public having picnics. Cllr Le Chevalier very quickly intercepted them and asked them to stop and security then safely escorted the car off the green. The same people then came back to the event and were causing some issues at the doughnut vendor. They were asked to leave the event and complied.

RESOLVED: Noted

Clerk reported as previously stated D Buckett would be retiring as an auditor. He would be willing to do this year but it would be the last year. Clerk advised that he had contacted Kent Association of Local Clerks and got a list of approved auditors from them. Of the auditors on the list only one was able or willing to take Walmer Town Council on.

RESOLVED: Clerk to contact D Buckett and L Robbins and organise to have Mr Buckett continue for a year meanwhile to check KALCs criteria for inclusion on the list and report back to Council with the idea to have him involved this year and take over next year.

Proposed by Cllr Gardner
Seconded by Cllr Byfield

30. FINANCIAL REPORT

i. Bank Balances

Bank Balances at 30/5/22

Unity Bank	£197,728.03
Lloyds Bank	£ 77,795.79
Co-op Bank	£ 75,493.44
Natwest Current	£ 37,176.13
Natwest SIBA	£ 10,897.18
Total	£399,090.57

Clerk gave an update on the progress of closing NatWest, Co-op and Lloyds bank accounts.

ii. Payments and orders

Set up e-mail for cllr	Edge	£ 36.00
Photocopier	KCS	£ 384.00
Staff Wages	Staff	£ 5,393.66
Band for Jubilee	Jubilee Band	£ 550.00
interactive soundgarden for Children's Festival	Junk Orchestra	£ 874.00
Stage for Jubilee	Stuart Cook	£ 300.00
Jubilee brochure	Cactus	£ 1,098.00
Expenses inc banners use of picture, prizes for WIB, and office sundries	Deputy Clerk	£ 231.31
Clerk expenses inc name badges, gazebo weights, Kites for children's festival, parking banners, flags and office sundries	Clerk	£ 281.59
Fix steps to Stony path	R Platts	£ 2,136.50
Stationary	Viking	£ 99.68
Toilets for events	Toilets Plus	£ 220.00
Beebombs	Beebombs	£ 178.20
Gas and safety check for beacon	RG Williams	£ 138.00
Grant	RMA	£ 250.00
Grant	Air Cadets	£ 400.00
Grant	Deal music and arts	£ 400.00
Donation for help car parking	Carnival Association	£ 100.00
Circus Skills for Children's festival	Circus Sensible	£ 432.00

Costume Hire	R Robinson	£ 57.84
Stamps and Folders	Viking	£ 89.63
Window Clean	D Halpin	£ 10.00
Tax	HRMC	£ 2,443.17
Pension	KCC LGPS	£ 1,716.92
Total		£ 19,219.50

RESOLVED - Members approve payments
Proposed - Cllr Mrs Beard-Gould
Seconded – Cllr Byfield

31. INVITATIONS AND EVENTS

Invitation received to Deal Town Council's Mayor Making – Decline as no one available
Invitation to a reception at Deal Castle – Cllr Mrs Beard-Gould to accept the invite

32. MEMORIAL BENCHES ON COUNCIL LAND

The Clerk presented a report on memorial benches.

RESOLVED: A moratorium on memorial benches being placed on Walmer Town Councils land for two years.

Proposed by Cllr Beard-Gould
Seconded by Cllr Byfield

33. DOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL

i. Toilet payments and policy

We have received an invoice for the toilets, Clerk reported that we would now be able to pay in instalments going forward. The invoices are being held awaiting further contact with Mr M Leggatt in regard to the plans for Granville Road and Marine Road.

ii. Trim Trail

No further progress has been made, Clerk reported that he was awaiting Dover District Council approving sites in writing before we could move forward with funding requests

iii. Urban Nature Area

Kent Wildlife Trust have visited the 3 locations and we are awaiting the report. Churchill Avenue land transfer we are awaiting Dover District Council moving forward with the Churchill Avenue land transfer.

RESOLVED: Noted. Clerk to speak to Dover District Council to move these forwards.

34. Confidential to be held under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960

RESOLVED: To move into a private session under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act of 1960.

Proposed by Cllr Eddy
Seconded by Cllr Mrs Beard-Gould

35. LEGAL MATTERS

The clerk stated the two topics to be considered

i. No 8 the Strand

Heads of Agreement have now been signed by Walmer Town Council and passed back to Tersons to get Mrs Johnson to sign.

ii. Legal Challenge

The Clerk stated this related to Cllr Heath's legal challenge against the council. There has been no further contact in respect of the barrister's letter from Cllr Heath's legal claim in regard to a judicial review. Walmer Town Council via it's legal representatives responded in time to the letter of claim. Current costs associated with the representation are £1100. Once Walmer Town Council is made aware of the next steps the insurance cover can be looked at.

RESOLVED – The information was noted.

Proposed – Cllr Eddy

Seconded – Cllr Beard-Gould

35. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday, 6th July 2022, 7 pm, Deal Parochial School, Walmer.

The meeting closed at 20.45 pm.

Signed: Date: