



**WALMER TOWN COUNCIL**

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**DRAFT Minutes of the Meeting of Walmer Town Council held on Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> July 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 P Jull, Cllr D Thompson, Cllr J Murray, Cllr B Gardner, Cllr P St Ange and Cllr P Heath.

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

**85. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllrs Mrs Fisher, Lonsdale, Mrs Le-Chevalier, Simpson and Bearman offered apologies.

**86. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Heath declared a DPI in item 102 ii. legal challenge.

**87. OPENNESS AND TRANSPARENCY**

The Chairman read out the statement published in the agenda.

**88. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT**

- i. Chairman reported that the Trainee Deputy Clerk had successfully hit all required targets and now had the Trainee removed from this Job title.
- ii. The Chairman attended a meeting of the Road Safety Group.
- iii. Chairman attended the Annual KALC conference, where Walmer Town Council's Clerk delivered a presentation on local transport.
- iv. The Children's Festival took place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> July and was well attended. The Chairman wished to thank the Events Committee for organising the event.
- v. We have put forward several of our ongoing projects to Dover District Council in relation to obtaining funding from the UK Prosperity Fund.

**RESOLVED** -The report was noted

**89. MINUTES**

Members received the minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday, 8<sup>th</sup> June 2022.

**RESOLVED:** That minutes be approved.

Proposed by Cllr Mrs Beard-Gould

Seconded by Cllr Byfield

## **90. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES NOT COVERED ELSEWHERE ON THE AGENDA**

There were no matters arising.

## **91. QUESTIONS AND/OR OBSERVATIONS FROM THE ELECTORATE OF WALMER**

- i. Residents of the area around the Drill Field were in attendance and asked if the Council were intending on selling the Drill Field to a developer. The Chairman responded that NO DISCUSSIONS HAD TAKEN PLACE ABOUT SELLING the Drill Field and Council have NO appetite for selling the property. Residents also enquired as to whether Drill Field could be left uncut over the summer to promote wildlife, This will be discussed with Deal and Betteshanger Rugby Club as the tenant of the Drill Field. Members of Deal and Betteshanger Rugby Club board attended the meeting and were keen to meet with Walmer Town Council to discuss the way forward to renew the lease on the Drill Field.
- ii. Members received the written report from Cllrs Bond and Murphy from Kent County Council. Cllr Bond requested that the Walmer Town Council contact him regarding the Highways Improvement Plan after the Amenities and Environment's next meeting to discuss possible funding for the projects raised in the HIP.

## **92. 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.

## **93. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND MINUTES**

Members received the agreed minutes as follows:

- i. Amenities + Environment – Minutes from March 15<sup>th</sup> 2022
- ii. Finance + General Purposes – No minutes to report
- iii. Walmer in Bloom – minutes from May 24<sup>th</sup> 2022
- iv. Events Committee – No minutes to report
- v. Planning Committee – minutes from May 10<sup>th</sup> 2022

The Chairman reported that he and the Clerk had met with the New Dover District Council Chief of Planning and the Portfolio Holder for Planning. The meeting was very productive, with many topics covered including conservation, public perception and section 106/CIL.

- vi. Climate Emergency Working Group – No minutes to report

**RESOLVED:** Members agreed to receive the minutes.

Proposed Cllr Eddy

Seconded Cllr Mrs Beard-Gould

## 94. REPORT OF THE CLERK

The Clerk reported that there he had attempted to make contact with all the Auditors on KALC's list in response to David Bucket advising us that he would be retiring. Of the Auditors on the list only one responded from the list to advise they could accommodate Walmer Town Council

**RESOLVED:** That Walmer Town Council approves Lionel Robbins as the new Council internal auditor to complete a full audit. The changeover process will see David Bucket and Lionel Robbins attend for the November half year audit and meetings between the Auditors and the Council Auditors, Staff and Chairman/Vice Chairman will take place.

Proposed – Cllr Mrs Beard-Gould

Seconded – Cllr Eddy

## 95. FINANCIAL REPORT

### i. Bank Balances – June 2022

#### Account Type : Ordinary

Account Name	Account Type	Account Number	Sort Code	Last Reconciled Date	Last Reconciled Balance £	Current Balance £
Co-operative Bank	Ordinary			30/04/22	75,493.44	75,493.44
Lloyds	Ordinary					77,795.79
NatWest Current	Ordinary					37,176.13
NatWest SIBA	Ordinary			31/05/22	10,898.99	10,898.99
Unity Trust	Ordinary			31/05/22	197,728.03	179,558.76
<b>TOTAL</b>						<b>£380,923.11</b>

Clerk gave an update on the progress of closing NatWest, Co-op and Lloyds bank accounts and on obtaining a Council credit card.

### ii. Payments and orders – June 2022

#### Payments for authorisation

Item	Paid to	Amount
Banner for children's festival	RK Graphics	£ 270.00
Food for Volunteers -jubilee	Sea Café	£ 51.70
Singer for Jubilee	Maddie for Music	£ 50.00
Membership	KALC	£ 1,986.00
Donation for selling brochures	Royal British legion	£ 145.31
Donation for selling brochures	Royal Marines	£ 145.31
Children's festival adverts	KM Media Group	£ 193.20

WIB planting	Mrs Bailey	£ 32.50
Secure document shredding	Castles	£ 60.00
PA system Jubilee	Mark one music	£ 500.00
Green fee and deposit	DDC	£ 283.50
Face painting	AL Ford	£ 150.00
Clerks' expenses	Clerk	£ 97.01
Rent no 8	M Johnson	£ 1,500.00
Drawings of no 62	RL Surveys	£ 1,386.00
security jubilee	Marc One Security	£ 336.00
Muga unlocking (2 years)	DDC	£ 2,331.90
Toilets for events	Toilets plus	£ 314.00
Payroll Processing	Batchelor Coop	£ 216.72
Tax	HMRC	£ 2,472.30
Pension	KCC LGPS	£ 1,834.49
Wages	Staff	£ 5,729.91
Stamps and paper	Viking	£ 146.23
Arts and Crafts entertainer	Holdfast	£ 160.00
<b>Total</b>		£ 20,392.08

iii. Management of Payments in August

Due to there being no Council meeting to approve payments in August, Clerk requested authorisation to process payments through the normal system without full council authorisation in the month of August.

**RESOLVED** - Members noted balances, approved payments and gave powers to authorise for payments in the normal process of the clerk and two councillors to approve these in August.

Proposed - Cllr Mrs Beard-Gould

Seconded – Cllr Eddy

## 96. INVITATIONS AND EVENTS

Cllr Mrs Beard Gould will be attending the Royal Marines Concert, the Lord Wardens reception and the reception at Deal Castle.

## 97. PUBLIC TRANSPORT IN WALMER

The Clerk presented a report on public transport.

**RESOLVED:** Members received the report and will use this as a basis for future policy.

Proposed by Cllr Beard-Gould

Seconded by Cllr Eddy

## 98. WALMER TOWN COUNCIL LAND

- i. Drill Field – receive report from the A&E Committee

The Chairman allowed statements from both the Rugby Club and the residents present for this Items. A spirited and exhaustive debate was had, to determine the way forward with the Rugby Club and residents, to bring relations back to a normalised level. The Rugby Club felt the wording of the report of Walmer Town Councils attachment 10 was not representative of what the situation was. Further meeting between the Club and the Council were considered to be helpful.

**RESOLVED:** Deal and Betteshanger Rugby Club to put forward a selection of dates for a deputation of 3 members of the Rugby Club and 3 Members of the A&E committee to meet. The outcome of this meeting will be reported back the full bodies of the organisations on how to move forward.

Proposed: Cllr Mrs Beard-Gould

Seconded: Cllr Eddy

- ii. Urban Nature Reserves reports.

**RESOLVED:** Members received the report and will use this as a basis for future policy.

Proposed by Cllr Beard-Gould

Seconded by Cllr Eddy

- iii. Management of Hawkshill woodland and Walmer Castle 'Keyhole' proposal.

**RESOLVED:** Members received the report and were happy to proceed with the work proposed by the Walmer in Bloom and Amenities and Environment committees.

Proposed by Cllr Beard-Gould

Seconded by Cllr Eddy

## 99. 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

**100. LEGAL MATTERS**

The clerk stated the two topics to be considered

i. No 8 the Strand

Mrs Johnson has advised us that she will not sign the heads of agreement until the invoice for the rent from Jun 22- Aug 22 has been paid this is on this month's payments and will therefore be cleared and assignment should be able to proceed.

ii. Legal Challenge

Walmer Town Council has heard nothing more from our legal advisors about the legal challenge.

**RESOLVED** – Walmer Town Council to wait and get confirmation that the action has been terminated and then look the options for re-claiming money spent on legal costs.

Proposed – Cllr Mrs Beard-Gould

Seconded – Cllr Murray

Cllr Heath having declared a DPI in relation to the legal challenge left the meeting for the Legal matter's items.

**101. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup> September 2022, 7 pm, Deal Parochial School, Walmer.

The meeting closed at 20.45 pm.

Signed: ..... Date: .....