



WALMER TOWN COUNCIL

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Minutes of the Annual Meeting of Walmer Town Council held on Wednesday 1st May 2024 at No 8 The Strand, Walmer.

Present Councillors: Cllr T Bond (Chairman), Cllr Mrs L Ludwig, Cllr M Eddy, Cllr T Grist, Cllr P Ludwig, Cllr R Blackwell, Cllr A Friend, Cllr J Murray, Cllr D Richardson, Cllr Waite-Gleave, Cllr Findley and Cllr P Jull.

Officers Present: Roland Aldred, Town Clerk

1. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL FOR 2024/25 AND SIGNING OF THE DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Cllr Bond was the only nominee.

RESOLVED: That Cllr T Bond is duly elected the Chairman of Walmer Town Council.

Proposed by Cllr Friend

Seconded by Cllr P Ludwig

For 12

Against 0

Abstain 0

2. ELECTION OF VICE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL FOR 2024/25 AND SIGNING OF THE DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

Two nominees were received.

RESOLVED: That Cllr L Ludwig is duly elected the Vice Chairman of Walmer Town Council.

Proposed by Cllr Richardson

Seconded by Cllr P Ludwig

For 6

Against 6

Abstain 0

The matter was resolved on the deciding vote of the Chairman.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs Lee, Crockford and Simpson offered apologies that were accepted.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Eddy declared a VAOI in respect of matter 18 as discussions mentioned the Chartered Institute of Linguists of which he is a member.

5. OPENNESS AND TRANSPARENCY

The Chairman reminded all those present of the openness and transparency statement.

6. APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE, WORKING GROUPS & REPRESENTATIVES

7. A) Committees

- i) Appointment of Councillors to the Planning Committee
Cllrs J Murray, M Simpson, K Lee, S Waite-Gleave, T Grist, R Blackwell and T Bond were appointed.
- ii) Appointment of Councillors to the Finance & General Purposes Committee
Cllrs P Jull, J Murray, M Simpson, P Ludwig, A Friend, K Lee, D Richardson, M Eddy, S Waite-Gleave and P Findley were appointed.
- iii) Appointment of Councillors to the Amenity & Environment Committee
Cllrs M Eddy, P Findley, P Jull, P Ludwig, R Blackwell, S Waite-Gleave, K Lee, D Richardson and M Simpson were appointed.
- iv) Appointment of Councillors to the Walmer in Bloom Committee
Cllrs L Ludwig, S Waite-Gleave, P Ludwig, P Findley, E Crockford and D Richardson were appointed.
- v) Appointment of Councillors to the Human Resources Committee
Cllrs T Bond, E Crockford, J Murray, D Richardson, S Waite-Gleave, M Eddy and P Ludwig were appointed.
- vi) Appointment of Councillors to the Events Committee
Cllrs T Grist, A Friend, M Simpson, L Ludwig, D Richardson and E Crockford were appointed.

RESOLVED – to appoint members as listed above.

Proposed – Cllr Friend

Seconded – Cllr Richardson

For 12

Against 0

Abstain 0

B) Council Working Groups

- i) Appointment of Councillors to the Climate Emergency Working Group
Cllrs S Waite-Gleave, R Blackwell, M Eddy and L Ludwig were appointed.
- ii) Appointment of Councillors to the Public Engagement Working Group
Cllrs E Crockford, D Richardson, L Ludwig, P Ludwig, S Waite-Gleave, A Friend, T Grist and T Bond were appointed.

RESOLVED – to appoint members as listed above.

Proposed – Cllr Friend

Seconded – Cllr L Ludwig

For 12

Against 0

Abstain 0

C) Parish Council Representatives on outside Bodies

- i) Appointment of one representative to act as Police Liaison Officer.
Cllr E Crockford was appointed.
- ii) Appointment of representatives to attend meetings of the Kent Association of Local Councils.
Cllrs J Murray and S Waite-Gleave were appointed.

RESOLVED – to appoint members as listed above.

Proposed – Cllr Friend

Seconded – Cllr Eddy

For 12

Against 0

Abstain 0

8. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman reported:

- i. We are currently sitting in the period of sensitivity due to Police and Crime commissioner elections.
- ii. He was pleased with the Annual Town Meeting.

9. MINUTES

Members received the minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday, 3rd April 2024.

RESOLVED: That the minutes be approved and signed.

Proposed by Cllr Friend

Seconded by Cllr Eddy

For 12 Against 0 Abstain 0

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

No matters were raised.

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

- i. No members of the public were present
- ii. No reports from the District or County representatives were received.

12. CRIME AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR REPORTS

Cllr L Ludwig reported there had been some instances of anti-social behaviour in the Town Centre and a number of arrests had been made. Cllr L Ludwig also stressed the importance of locking cars there have been several instances of unlocked cars having items taken from them. The community engagement bus will be doing 4 dates in the area two in Deal and two in Walmer.

NOTED

Proposed by Cllr Friend

Seconded by Cllr Eddy

For 12 Against 0 Abstain 0

13. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND MINUTES

- i. To receive any reports and any agreed minutes as follows:
 - a) Amenities + Environment – minutes from Jan 17, 2024.
 - b) Finance + General Purposes – No minutes to report.
 - c) Walmer in Bloom – No minutes to report.
 - d) Events Committee –No minutes to report.
 - e) Planning Committee – minutes from Mar 12, 2024.
 - f) Climate Emergency Working Group – minutes from 25 Jan 2024.
 - g) Public Engagement Working Group – Notes from meeting 12th Apr 2024.

RESOLVED: Members agreed to note the minutes of all the above committees.

Proposed Cllr Friend

Seconded Cllr Eddy

For 12 Against 0 Abstain 0

- ii. To receive any comments about the draft minutes of meetings taken place since the last council meeting.
 - a. Amenities + Environment – minutes from Apr 24, 2024.
 - b. Planning Committee – minutes from Apr 9, 2024.
 - c. Climate Emergency Working Group – minutes from Mar 28, 2024.

NOTED

Proposed Cllr Eddy

Seconded Cllr Friend

For 12

Against 0

Abstain 0

14. REPORT OF THE CLERK

The Clerk reported:

- i. That after agreeing with the Chairman £690 had been spent to repair the upstairs toilet allowing us to have segregated male and female toilets.
- ii. The AGAR is now complete and ready for the internal auditor on the 15/05/24.
- iii. We have run our first in house payroll this month and have set up various recording methods for this.
- iv. The Clerk will be on holiday next week.

RESOLVED – To note the report of the Clerk.

Proposed – Cllr Eddy

Seconded – Cllr Friend

For 12

Against 0

Abstain 0

15. FINANCIAL REPORT

- i. Bank Balances
Members received the bank balances

Bank Balances as at 25/4/24

Lloyds bank	£ -
Unity Trust current	£ 34,326.21
Unity Trust Deposit	£ 452,679.98
Total	£ 487,006.19

17. MEDIA/COMMUNICATION POLICY

Members received a copy of the existing Media/Communication Policy and considered this.
RESOLVED – To ask the Clerk to make changes to the policy and bring this back to next Full Council meeting for approval.

Proposed – Cllr Eddy

Seconded – Cllr Richardson

For 12 Against 0 Abstain 0

18. COUNCIL RISK ASSESSMENT

Members received a copy of the existing Council Risk Assessment and considered this.
RESOLVED – To ask the Clerk to make changes to the risk assessment and bring this back to next Full Council meeting for approval.

Proposed – Cllr Jull

Seconded – Cllr Bond

For 12 Against 0 Abstain 0

19. TOWNS OF SANCTUARY

Members considered a proposal from Cllr Waite-Gleave for supporting organisations involved in welcoming new arrivals to the Country.

RESOLVED – Members were supportive of the aims of these groups, but felt the item needed to be deferred to a later meeting to allow the proposal to be made clearer.

Proposed – Cllr Eddy

Seconded – Cllr Waite-Gleave

For 12 Against 0 Abstain 0

20. SUPPORT FOR MARINE ROAD TOILETS

Members received a written report from the Clerk on the request for support from Dover District Council. Further to this members received a verbal report from the clerk that DDC had made contact in relation to this and other issues, and due to the connected nature of the different proposal would be providing a new proposal that tied the various elements together. A meeting with Roger Walton the Strategic Director had been requested.

RESOLVED – To defer the item until DDC had put together the new proposal.

Proposed – Cllr Friend

Seconded – Cllr Eddy

For 10 Against 2 Abstain 0

21. CONFIDENTIAL TO BE HELD UNDER THE PUBLIC BODIES (admission to meetings) ACT 1960

To move to a private session to discuss matters of a confidential nature (commercial decision).

RESOLVED To move to a private session.

Proposed – Cllr Eddy

Seconded – Cllr Friend

For 12 Against 0 Abstain 0

22. OFFICE CLEANERS

Members received quotations for office cleaners.

RESOLVED To offer the contract for office cleaning to Apex Cleaning.

Proposed – Cllr Murray

Seconded – Cllr Eddy

For 12 Against 0 Abstain 0

23. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 5th June, 2024.

The meeting closed at 20.45 pm.

Signed: Date: