



WALMER TOWN COUNCIL
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**DRAFT Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting of Walmer Parish Council held on
Wednesday, 17th April 2024
at No 8 The Strand, Walmer at 7.00 pm**

581. APOLOGIES.

Cllrs Jull, Richardson, Waite-Gleave, Grist, Lee and Simpson offered apologies which were accepted.

582. WELCOME.

Cllr Trevor Bond, Chairman of Walmer Town Council welcomed everyone to the meeting.

583. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 19 MAY 2022.

The minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 19 April 2023 were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

RESOLVED – That the minutes be accepted as a true and accurate record.

Proposed – Cllr Murray

Seconded – Cllr Eddy

For 9

Against 0

Abstain 0

584. CHAIRMANS REPORT.

The Chairman reported:

That under the challenging situation of having 12 new Councillors of diverse political backgrounds it has been a positive first year of the Council.

The Deputy Clerk was promoted to Clerk. The Chairman thanked the Clerk and the staff for the work put in through the year.

The Lloyds Bank account was finally closed.

Some of the achievements from the year included

Winning a Gold Award from South East in Bloom for the towns Walmer in Bloom.

York and Albany Peace Garden the management of the land has finally been agreed and Volunteers are now hard at work transforming the area.

Hawkshill Common's management plan is being updated and Volunteers continue to work on the common to preserve the rare chalk grassland. Recently through a grant we were able to obtain over 400 hedge whips for Hawkshill.

The Secure Cycle Storage at Walmer Train Station is now open, this was made possible by a small investment from the Council allowing a large grant from the Department of Transport. The Events that Walmer Town Council runs are a way of giving back to the community and in the last year we ran 5 successful events.

The Thermal Camera Scheme continues to be popular with over 250 appointments so far.

585. PRESENTATION TO GRANT RECIPIENTS.

The Chairman presented certificates to:

The Deal Society – Towards the printing costs of the leaflet advertising the Heritage Open Days.

Deal, Walmer and Kingsdown Carnival and Regatta Association – Toward the entertainment for the free teddy bears picnic organised annually.

Goodwin Sands Conservation Trust – To get the top expert to accredit the work that has been carried out by the Goodwin Sands Conservation Trust.

And our first ever biodiversity grant was awarded to

Walmer and Deal action for Swifts – to help with the printing of a leaflet encouraging the residents to put up swift boxes

Grants were also awarded to

Deal Tang Soo Do – for equipment used in training.

Deal, Betteshanger and Walmer Rugby and Social Club – for pitch repair work.

The Downs School PTA – A grant to help toward an sensory SEN area for the children at breaktimes.

586. FINANCE REPORT.

The Clerk presented a written report in to the Council finances for the year.

587. QUESTIONS FROM THE ELECTORATE AND DISCUSSION WITH THE TOWN COUNCIL MEMBERS REGARDING ISSUES OF CONCERN WHICH THE TOWN COUNCIL MAY ACT.

Members of the public asked questions regarding:

Marke Wood the Wisteria arches have now been removed from park and currently there it is fenced off and extremely untidy what is if any the plan for this going forward?

The Chairman invited Cllr Vinson of Dover District Council who administer the Charity that maintains Marke Wood to answer.

Cllr Vinson reported that DDC are looking at the possible plans for the area. Unfortunately this was the second archway scheme but the wisteria are aggressive in their growth and had made the structure unviable and therefore it had to come down. Cllr Vinson is pressing officers as hard as he can to get a new plan put together and enacted for the area.

The dates for the Walmer Town Council Christmas event?

We will contact the Carnival Association about the Christmas event.

There is a rumour going around that Walmer Town Council plans to put double yellow lines all the way along the road "The Beach" is this true?

The Chairman responded – No Walmer Town Council has no plans to put double yellow lines on the road "The Beach" as it is not in our remit. Walmer Town Council is only able to recommend a review by the appropriate authority in this case Kent County Council for

potential schemes to help the community through our HIP. Any road changes would have to be agreed through KCC who would have to raise a Traffic Regulation Order. The Chairman went on to speculate that the rumours may be coming from Walmer Town Councils contact with KCC in regard to the parking around Walmer Castle which has been an issue for residents. In this instance we are in contact with KCC recommending limit parking on the dangerous blind bends. This has been picked up by both County members representing Walmer.

Is Borrow Pitt car park still free to use?

The Clerk responded to say Dover District Council cabinet met to discuss the issue of adding parking charges. The outcome of the meeting was to continue the free parking and review this at an upcoming review in to all Car parking charges due in the autumn.

588. MEETING CLOSES

Meeting closed at 19.50.

DRAFT