



WALMER TOWN COUNCIL

62 The Strand, Walmer, Deal, Kent CT14 7DP

Web site: www.walmercouncil.co.uk E-mail: clerk@walmercouncil.co.uk

Tel: 01304 362363

Minutes of the meeting of the Walmer in Bloom Committee held on Tuesday 16th January 2024 at 8 The Strand, Walmer, at 7.00 pm.

Present: Cllr S Waite-Gleave (Chairing), Cllr L Ludwig and Cllr P Ludwig

Co-Opted Members: Mr D Thompson, Mrs A Late

Officers present: J Miles (Administration Officer)

400. ELECTION OF TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN

Cllr S Waite Gleave was put forward for temporary chairman of the committee for this meeting.

RESOLVED – Cllr Waite Gleave elected as temporary chairman

Proposed by: Cllr L Ludwig

Seconded by: Cllr P Ludwig

401. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr P Findley, Mrs S Le Chevalier, Mrs D Bogue

402. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared

403. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

RESOLVED – That the minutes be taken as an accurate record.

Proposed by: Cllr P Ludwig

Seconded by: Cllr L Ludwig

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

None

405. HAWKSHILL

- I. To receive a verbal report from Mr D Thompson
 - a. Volunteers had a total of 100+ hours over 13 sessions since the last meeting.
 - b. Minimal trash found and removed, little to no theft of plants.
 - c. Several bouts of strong winds meant that the car park needed to be cleared of broken branches and other debris.
 - d. The plateau bank has been strimmed
 - e. The mature roots of several nuisance plants have been dug out to prevent regrowth.
 - f. The plateau has had further cuts by Gazen Salts with assistance from Hawkshill volunteers who helped with clearing up and preparing the way. members from the group have also said they would like to continue working on Hawkshill as volunteers.

- g. The cut grass has been raked up, packed and is now being stored at the top of the steps.
 - h. Benches that needed maintenance have been completed
 - i. Holes found in numerous areas were filled to prevent accidents
- II. The first pages of the Hawkshill Management plan have been distributed to the committee by Steve Coates, the majority of the work being done is an update from the versions done between ten and fifteen years ago. There have been numerous improvements of the site in that time with Mr Coates cataloguing and ensuring that a list what has been completed is known. Mr Coates will also continue the survey on a yearly basis.
- The Committee gave its thanks Mr Coates for all of his work and his continued targeted management plan that will be used over the next decade.
- The committee agreed that the Environment at Walmer booklet update is not required at this time due to the original's publication less than ten years ago.
- III. Mr Hunter of the Kent moth group has informed admin that they have a meeting coming up at the end of February and will ask if anybody can help. He will also post the request on their facebook page.
- IV. The Hawkshill leaflet is ready for distribution, admin to produce leaflets for committee members to distribute to the public. Several A4 poster versions with QR codes to be produced for Hawkshill.
- V. Walmer In Bloom committee have agreed that there will be no picnic benches installed at Hawkshill Freedown. It was decided that it would cause issue with the balance between nature and leisure sides of the green space, the current benches have been deemed as sufficient.
- VI. New volunteers are needed for Hawkshill Freedown, it is believed that resilience needs to be built into the group, as well as the possibility of having both weekday and weekend groups. Mr Thompson to consider a deputy to help lead the team.
- VII. WIB to recommend to Full Council that the hedgerows throughout the Freedown to be repaired using the KCC Historic Treescapes Grant. Mr Coats, Mr Thompson and Cllr Findley to look into the locations required including the freedown and hills abutting the pathways and roads.
- VIII. Two logs used as part of the barrier at the top of hill have begun to rot. Admin to look at costs for replacements.
- IX. All requested purchases have been given to the Hawkshill volunteers.
- RESOLUTION – Noted.**
- X. Walmer in Bloom committee have decided that the committee will not enter into a partnership with 'Building Relations' a public relations company working chiefly with property developers. Admin to contact the company with decision.

406. FEEDBACK FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

None

407. YORK AND ALBANY

- I. A report was given by Mrs Late
 - i. Management plan has been started and referred to the pointers given by Cllr Peter Findley, admin to forward copies of available management plans to Mrs Late.
 - ii. An open day was suggested for late May/early June
 - iii. The Blackboard will be completed and installed in spring
 - iv. Hedging and paths are currently being cut completely with a future cut of 1/3 per year as done at Hawkshill. Possible use of the Hawkshill lawnmower in the future.
 - v. Five fruit trees have been applied for from the Tree Council's Golden Orchard scheme (ended 7 Jan 2024). The application by Cllr Waite-Gleave and has been successful, they should be delivered by the first week of March.
- II. Committee informed that the UK Prosperity Fund applications for York and Albany have been submitted.

RESOLUTION – Noted.

- III. Committee given costs for arboricultural survey at York and Albany. Cllr Waite Gleave to contact Joanne Daniels, the Tree Conservation officer at DDC regarding the TPO status of trees.

RESOLUTION – Noted.

408. BUDGET

- i. Members received a copy of the 2024/25 budgets.

RESOLUTION – Noted.

- ii. All budgets for WIB to be added to further agendas.

409. LOCAL CAMPAIGN 2023

A) FLORAL DISPLAYS

- a) Admin to look into costs for the replacement of two fixed planters

410. TIME LIMIT

At this time, vote was taken to continue meeting past the 21:00 limit

RESOLVED-Council meeting to continue.

Proposed by: Cllr Waite Gleave

Seconded by: Cllr P Ludwig

409 (CONT)

B) KEY ACTIVITY DATES

- a) Members received an updated copy of the campaign’s key activity dates for 2023

RESOLUTION – Noted.

- b) York and Albany Open day to be added to the list of key activity dates

C) SCHOOL/YOUTH ACTIVITIES

- a) WIB Competition specifications submitted to committee members for distribution to local schools.

RESOLVED – Specification to be sent out to local schools as soon as possible.

Proposed by: Cllr Waite Gleave

Seconded by: Cllr P Ludwig

411. ISSUES FOR INCLUSION ON NEXT AGENDA

Any future inclusion to be sent to Admin to add to next agenda

412. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 20th February 2024 at 7:00pm at 8 The Strand.

The meeting closed at 21:10

Signed_____

Dated_____