



WALMER TOWN COUNCIL

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

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Minutes of the Meeting of Walmer Town Council held on Wednesday 3rd July 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 E Crockford, Cllr S Waite-Gleave, Cllr P Findley and Cllr P Jull.

Officers Present: Roland Aldred, Town Clerk

146. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

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

147. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were made.

148. OPENNESS AND TRANSPARENCY

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

149. PERIOD OF SPECIAL CONSIDERATION

The Chairman reminded all those present that due to the election we were still in a period of special consideration.

150. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman reported:

- i. That he had busy attending community events on behalf of Walmer Town Council over the last month.
- ii. The Chairman offered thanks to all those involved in the Children's Festival. All reports he had received were hugely positive and it was another fantastic success.
- iii. The meeting with Roger Walton was very productive we are awaiting an offer in regards to the support Walmer Town Council provides to Dover District Council.

151. MINUTES

Members received the minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday, 5th June 2024.

RESOLVED: That the minutes be approved and signed.

Proposed by Cllr Friend

Seconded by Cllr P Ludwig

For 12

Against 0

Abstain 0

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

No matters were raised.

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

- i. No members of the public were present
- ii. Cllr Beer of Dover District Council sent in a report stating:
She was no longer a member of the DDC Cabinet and had stepped down to focus on family commitments.
She was still taking the lead on the Climate and Nature Forum.
She was looking at green spaces in Deal Town Centre and how they could be improved, other issues such as waste and improved play areas were also being looked at.
She had no communications from members of the public in regard to the area of Walmer within her ward.

154. CRIME AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR REPORTS

Cllr Crockford reported that the June crime figures were not yet available online. A witness appeal to a serious assault on Wellington Parade is still ongoing. There are warnings around courier fraud particularly linked to banks and that a bank will never ask you to provide card information or send you your card to another address. The latest newsletter has an article on electric scooters, the only legal electric scooters at present are those that you can hire in specific trial locations across country.

155. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND MINUTES

- i. To receive any reports and any agreed minutes as follows:
 - a. Amenities + Environment – Minutes from Apr 24, 2024.
 - b. Finance + General Purposes – No minutes to present.
 - c. Walmer in Bloom – no minutes to present.
 - d. Events Committee – minutes from May 28, 2024.
 - e. Planning Committee – minutes from May 7, 2024.
 - f. Climate Emergency Working Group — No minutes to present
 - g. Public Engagement Working Group – no minutes to present.

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

Proposed Cllr Eddy

Seconded Cllr Friend

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. Events Committee – Minutes from June 25, 2024
 - b. Planning Committee – minutes from June 11, 2024.
 - c. Amenities and Environment – minutes from 26 June 2024.

RESOLVED – To note
 Proposed Cllr Eddy
 Seconded Cllr Friend
 For 12 Against 0 Abstain 0

156. REPORT OF THE CLERK

The Clerk reported:

- i. A complaint was received about noise after 9pm from residents in relation to the MUGA. DDC were contacted and have asked the contractor to ensure that this is locked up by 9pm.
- ii. The AGAR has been submitted to the external auditor.
- iii. The EPC certificate for No 8 has been submitted and the solicitors are now working on the required legal forms for completion.
- iv. KCC issued a 28 day notice in regard to the hedging on Hawkshill impinging on the roadway on Liverpool Road this was cut at a cost of £485.
- v. Southern Water have issued a statement that there will be increased activity on the road in the area due to a burst pipe on Golf Road. Tankers will be in place at both Golf Road and Liverpool Road.

RESOLVED – To note the report of the Clerk.
 Proposed – Cllr Friend
 Seconded – Cllr Eddy
 For 12 Against 0 Abstain 0

157. FINANCIAL REPORT

- i. Bank Balances
 Members received the bank balances

Bank Balances as at 27/06/24

Lloyds bank	£ -
Unity Trust current	£ 25,367.94
Unity Trust Deposit	£ 427,967.98
Total	£ 453,335.92

ii. Monthly Finance report

Members received the June 2024 monthly financial report.

Financial update for month of June 2024					
Balance at start of month		£466,808.82			
Payments			Receipts		
Who	For	Amount	Who	For	Amount
Apex Clean Ltd	Office Cleaning	£120.00	Events Income	Events Pitches	£100.00
Dave Halpin	Window Cleaning	£12.00	Unity Bank	Credit Interest	£2,759.15
Easily Webhosting	Webhosting	£13.19			
HFE Signs	Events Banners	£148.39			
HMRC (PAYE/NI)	NI and TAX	£1,260.93			
KCC LGPS	Pensions	£1,972.14			
Lloyds Bank	Bank Charges	£3.00			
Mitec	Telecoms	£142.13			
Mrs M Johnson	Rent- No 8	£1,750.00			
RG Williams	Office repairs	£65.00			
Sainsbury's	Cleaning Supplies	£4.59			
Toilets Plus	Events Toilets	£254.00			
Viking	Stationary	£48.58			
Staff	Salaries	£4,940.54			
Business Stream	Water Bills	£200.80			
Unity Bank	Bank Charges	£36.65			
DDC	MUGA/Events	£1,628.72			
Grants	Small Grant Donations	£1,150.00			
Walmer In Bloom	Repairs and Plants	£172.32			
Hawkshill	Tools	£40.87			
Total		£13,963.85	Total		£2,859.15
Balance at end of month		£455,704.12			
This month spend		-£11,104.70	Last year		-£19,925.84
% of yrs precept for month		4.46%	% of precept for month		8.10%
Total net spend YTD		-£41,172.25	Total spent LYTD		-£46,846.52
% of precept YTD		16.52%	% of precept LYTD		19.03%

RESOLVED – Members agreed to note the bank balances and monthly finance update.

Proposed Cllr Eddy

Seconded Cllr Friend

For 12

Against 0

Abstain 0

iii. Bank Accounts

The Clerk reported that the Charity Bank account was now opened. Nationwide have put a hold on all new accounts and if this was still the case by the time of the next F&GP meeting this would be raised for a recommendation.

iv. The Clerk gave a verbal update on the Business rates.

RESOLVED – Members agreed to delegate authority to the Clerk to pay the back tax bill up to the amount of £12166.94 and to negotiate on behalf of the council any instalment plan or discounts that should be applicable.

Proposed Cllr Friend

Seconded Cllr Eddy

For 12

Against 0

Abstain 0

158. INVITATIONS AND EVENTS

Cllr Bond attended the Celebration of Armed Forces Day. Invites to Deal pride and the Dover Patrol Memorial Service have been received and Cllr Bond will attend on behalf of Walmer Town Council. A invitation to the Carnival has been received Cllrs Crockford and Jull will attend on behalf of Walmer Town Council.

An invite to put up a stall at the Deal Pride event was received.

RESOLVED – For Cllr Blackwell to attend the event with a table and Chairs on behalf of both Walmer Town Council and Porchlight as part of his role in their organisation.

Proposed – Cllr L Ludwig

Seconded – Cllr Waite-Gleave

For – 11 Against – 0 Abstain -1

159. GRANTS

Members received recommendations from the Amenities and Environment Committee on a request for Biodiversity Grant.

- i. Dover Beekeeping Association- Towards bait and traps for the trapping of Asian Hornets.

RESOLVED – To award a grant of £200

Proposed – Cllr Friend

Seconded – Cllr Eddy

For 12 Against 0 Abstain 0

160. STANDING ORDERS

Members received a copy of the recommended updated standing orders.

RESOLVED – To adopt the new Standing Orders and the Clerk in conjunction with Cllr Jull to review Cllr Murrays comments presented at the meeting for further amends to bring back at the September meeting.

Proposed – Cllr Eddy

Seconded – Cllr Friend

For 12 Against 0 Abstain 0

161. TWINNING POLICY

Members received a written report from the Clerk on twinning and a letter from the Deputy Mayor of Coulogne in France.

RESOLVED – To ask the Clerk to write a survey to gauge interest from the public in twinning. This survey is to be presented at Full Council in September for agreement of the wording by the Full Council.

Proposed – Cllr Eddy

Seconded – Cllr Friend

For 10 Against 2 Abstain 0

RESOLVED - Cllr L Ludwig to write back to the Deputy Mayor of Coulogne expressing our thanks for their letter and that we would be investigating the interest of the general public in twinning.

Proposed – Cllr Jull

Seconded – Cllr P Waite-Gleave

For 10

Against 1

Abstain 1

162. OFFICE I.T

Members received a written report regarding a request for additional monitors for staff.

RESOLVED – Members agreed to the purchase of three Dell Ultrasharp 23 inch monitors at a cost of £164.97.

Proposed – Cllr Blackwell

Seconded – Cllr Jull

For 7

Against 5

Abstain 0

163. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Wednesday 4th September 2024.

The meeting closed at 20.20 pm.

Signed: Date: