



WALMER TOWN COUNCIL

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DRAFT Minutes of the Meeting of Walmer Town Council held on Wednesday 2nd April 2025 – 7.30 pm at Walmer Parish Hall, Dover Road, Walmer.

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

Officer Present: Roland Aldred, Town Clerk

594. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

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

595. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were made.

596. OPENNESS AND TRANSPARENCY

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

597. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr Bond reported:

- i. He has raised the issue of roadworks with KCC as both main routes out of the Town have major works going on. KCC are aware of the issue but as the work is by utility companies the current legislation allows them to schedule these at the same time.
- ii. That he had discussed the results of the Seawater testing with local groups currently there are difficulties in getting the environment agency to return to do more testing before the summer.

598. MINUTES

Members received the minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday, 5th March 2025.

RESOLVED: That the minutes be approved and signed.

Proposed by Cllr Friend

Seconded by Cllr Eddy

For 11

Against 0

Abstain 0

599. REPORT ON ACTIONS FROM THE LAST MEETING

No reports were provided.

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

- i. No questions were posed from members of the public present.
- ii. No reports were provided by KCC or DDC members.

601. CRIME AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR REPORTS

Cllr L Ludwig reported that additional foot patrols had been taking place in the area and in one instance had been able to catch suspects in the act of vandalism. Kent Police are putting together a CCTV register.

602. COMMITTEE REPORTS AND MINUTES

- i. To receive any reports and any agreed minutes as follows:

- a. Amenities & Environment – no minutes to report.
- b. Finance & General Purposes – No minutes to report.
- c. Walmer in Bloom - Minutes from February 18th, 2025.
- d. Events Committee – minutes from January 28th, 2025.
- e. Planning Committee – minutes from February 11th, 2025.
- f. Climate Emergency Working Group — minutes from November 14, 2024.

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

Proposed Cllr Friend

Seconded Cllr Eddy

For 11

Against 0

Abstain 0

- ii. To receive any comments about the draft minutes of meetings taken place since the last council meeting.

- a. Events from the meeting held March 25th, 2025
- b. Planning Committee from the meeting held March 11th, 2025.
- c. Climate Emergency Working Group from the meeting held February 6th, 2025.

RESOLVED – To note

Proposed Cllr Eddy

Seconded Cllr Friend

For 11

Against 0

Abstain 0

603. REPORT OF THE CLERK

The Clerk reported:

- i. As agreed at the Amenities and Environment Committee the MUGA is now locked and closed.
- ii. Harvey Rudd has left his position as the Dover District Council Monitoring Officer and been replaced by Beverley Dempster. Harvey will continue as the Council Solicitor until 01/07/25.
- iii. The “What’s on Walmer Green” poster and leaflet are going through final checks and will be available to residents soon
- iv. That he met with Deal Radio who run drop in sessions that will be of use in advertising what the council is doing.
- v. Along with Cllr Eddy, he attended a parking strategy meeting with Dover District Council. The slides from the meeting will be shared once received and next stage

will be to produce a draft strategy to go in front of the Cabinet. There were no specifics and no mention of charges being brought to Borrow Pit car park.

RESOLVED – To note

Proposed – Cllr Friend

Seconded – Cllr Eddy

For 11

Against 0

Abstain 0

604. FINANCIAL REPORT

i. Bank Balances

Bank Balances as at 23/03/25

Charity Bank	£100,000.00
Redwood bank	£100,000.00
Unity Trust current	£29,267.38
Unity Trust Deposit	£55,600.14
Total	£284,867.52

ii. Monthly Finance report

Members received the March 2025 monthly financial report.

Financial update for month of March 2025					
Balance at start of month	£	294,598.08			
Payments			Receipts		
Who	For	Amount	Who	For	Amount
British Gas	Utilities Bill	£108.57	Allotment Holders	Allotment Deposits, Rent and Insurance	£2,746.93
Vision ICT	Website Hosting	£210.00	KCC Payment Account	Share of EV Charge Point	£182.22
South East In Bloom	Entry into South East In Bloom Competition	£60.00	Deal and Betteshanger Rugby Club	Rent for playing field	£908.77
Mr D Halpin	Window Cleaning	£12.00	Charity Donations	Donations from Events	£130.46
Apex Clean	Office Cleaning	£160.00	Unity Bank	Credit Interest	£521.53
Staff	Staff	£5,317.99			
KCC LGPS	Pensions	2,148.30			
Business Stream	Utilities Bills	£246.33			
Walmer Churches	Hire of Meeting Room	£48.75			
Mitec	Telecoms	£135.00			
Kent Copier Services	Photocopier charge	£224.59			
JW Plant & Co	VE Day Flags	£28.99			
Boston Bulbs	Bluebell Bulbs for Walmer Peace Gardens	£40.99			
Gazen Salts Nature Reserve	Hire of mower and trailer	£260.00			
Viking	Stationary	£64.68			
Lloyds Bank	Bank Charges	£3.00			
Dover District Council	Refund for hire of Walmer Green	-£280.00			
HMRC	Tax and NI Payments	£1,489.40			
Dover District Council	Contribution for Marke Wood Trees	£2,000.00			
Expense Claims	Staff Travel and tool repairs	£100.80			
Marke Wood Gardeners	Payment of Green Grant	£304.85			
Walmer and Deal Action for Swifts	Payment of Green Grant	£473.79			
Ramsgate Glass	Repair of notice board window	£131.00			
Councillors	Allowances	£5,130.00			
Edge IT	AdvantEDGE 5 year contract	£1,345.92			
Unity Bank	Bank Charges	£10.20			
Total		£19,775.15	Total		£4,489.91
Balance at end of month		£279,312.84			
This month spend		-£15,285.24	Last year		-£11,480.33
% of yrs precept for month		6.13%	% of precept for month		4.66%
Total net spend YTD		-£217,563.53	Total spent LYTD		-£193,691.18
% of precept YTD		87.31%	% of precept LYTD		78.70%

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

Proposed Cllr Friend

Seconded Cllr Eddy

For 11

Against 0

Abstain 0

605. PHONE BOX ON THE ISLAND OF THE STRAND/THE BEACH/CANADA ROAD

Members received a written report from the Clerk regarding the red telephone box on the triangle of land near The Beach. Members discussed the viability and potential uses of the phone box were they to decide the Council should adopt the telephone box.

RESOLVED – To not push forward and adopt the telephone box.

Proposed – Cllr Findley

Seconded – Cllr Friend

For 8

Against 2

Abstain 1

606. OUTDOOR GYM

Members received a verbal update on the progress of the outdoor gym. Meetings have been taking place with DDC's Community Development Officer and further community input will be received via a survey going out. The licence is currently with DDC and we are awaiting the draft to put in front of members.

607. QUADRENNIAL REVIEW MEMBERS ALLOWANCES

Members received a letter from the East Kent Joint Independent Remuneration Panel, requesting any comments in to the current recommendations.

RESOLVED – To offer no comments.

Proposed – Cllr Friend

Seconded – Cllr Eddy

For 9

Against 2

Abstain 0

608. PARKING ON ACCESS ROAD

Members received a written report from Cllr L Ludwig about the access road to the Drill Field and the issues currently being experienced.

RESOLVED – To investigate the options and costings to stop parking on the opposite side of the road to the charging points.

Proposed – Cllr L Ludwig

Seconded – Cllr Richardson

For 11

Against 0

Abstain 0

RESOLVED – To work with the rugby club and the electricity suppliers to establish a fair and sensible solution to maintaining and paying for the street lighting. Options to be presented to full council for a decision.

Proposed – Cllr L Ludwig

Seconded – Cllr Richardson

For 7

Against 4

Abstain 0

609. EPC CERTIFICATE

Members received a written report from the Clerk stating that the current EPC certificate had expired and were offered quotations for acquiring a new certificate.

RESOLVED – To move forward with obtaining a new EPC certificate at a cost of £210.

Proposed – Cllr Eddy

Seconded – Cllr Waite-Gleave

For 6

Against 4

Abstain 1

610. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

7th May 2025

The meeting closed at 20.45 pm.

Signed: Date:

DRAFT