



WALMER TOWN COUNCIL

62 The Strand, Walmer, Kent, CT14 7DP

Tel 01304 362363

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

MINUTES

DRAFT Minutes of the meeting of the Amenity and Environment Committee held on Wednesday 26th February 2025 at 7pm at Elizabeth House, St Marys Road, Walmer.

Present Councillors:

Cllr M Eddy (Chair), Cllr D Richardson, Cllr P Findley, Cllr S Waite-Gleave, Cllr R Blackwell, Cllr P Jull and Cllr L Ludwig (ex officio).

Roland Aldred –Town Clerk

533. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs Lee, Simpson and P Ludwig and were accepted.

534. OPENNESS AND TRANSPARENCY

The Chairman reminded the meeting of the terms of various rights to record and transmit the transactions of the meeting under the Local Government Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

535. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr S Waite-Gleave declared a OSI in respect of item 544 ii. as a member and signatory for the Marke Wood Gardeners. Cllr P Findley declared a VAOI in respect of item 544 i. as a member of Walmer and Deal Action for Swifts. Cllrs L Ludwig and D Richardson declared a VAOI in respect of item 539 ii b and d as these are in close proximity to their residences. Cllr L Ludwig declared a DPI in respect of item 543 as an allotment holder.

536. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Members received the minutes of the committee meeting held on Wednesday 4th December 2024.

AGREED

That the minutes are a true record and are approved.

Proposed by Cllr S Waite-Gleave.

Seconded by Cllr Findley.

For 7

Against 0

Abstain 0

537. REPORTS ON MATTERS FROM LAST MEETING

No further reports given.

538. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The one member of the public had no questions.

539. HIGHWAYS IMPROVEMENT PLAN

- i. Members received a copy of the current HIP

NOTED

- ii. Members received information on requests made to the Council for consideration to add to the HIP.

- a. Members received a written report on public correspondence in regard to issues with crossing Kingsdown Road near Walmer Castle.

AGREED – To add the issue to the HIP to explore additional signage with KCC to improve safety.

Proposed – Cllr D Richardson

Seconded – Cllr S Waite-Gleave

For 7 Against – 0 Abstain 0

- b. Members received a written report on public correspondence requesting addition lighting from the RNLI station towards Walmer Castle.

AGREED – To not add this to the HIP as neither DDC or KCC are willing to be involved in the scheme and the additional light pollution was unnecessary.

Proposed – Cllr R Blackwell

Seconded – Cllr P Findley

For 7 Against – 0 Abstain 0

- c. Members received a written report on public correspondence about the parking situation on Salisbury Road once the school re-opens.

AGREED – To not add this item to the HIP, the planning application includes provision for parking and pick up/drop off. Dover District Council have already advised that they would not consider a residents parking scheme in this area.

Proposed – Cllr D Richardson

Seconded – Cllr M Eddy

For 7 Against – 0 Abstain 0

- d. Members received a written report on public correspondence requesting a disabled space be included on the triangle part of the Road on The Beach opposite Canada Road.

AGREED – To not add this item to the HIP, Disabled spaces may be required in this area in the future, these may be more appropriate to be in the marked spaces on the seaside of the road on The Strand.

Proposed – Cllr L Ludwig

Seconded – Cllr D Richardson

For 6 Against – 1 Abstain 0

- e. Members received a written report on public correspondence about speeding on Dover Road in Upper Walmer and the idea of a 20mph zone.
AGREED – To add this item to the HIP, members requested that the Clerk make contact with DDC to request speed strips be placed in the road near Thompson Close to review average speeds.

Proposed – Cllr M Eddy

Seconded – Cllr S Waite-Gleave

For 6

Against – 1

Abstain 0

- f. Members received a written report on public correspondence on parking issues on James Hall Gardens.

AGREED – To not add this item to the HIP, there are significant parking issues in the area already and adding double yellow lines will not fix this issue. The cars parked on both sides acts as a speed reducing measure on the road which has a benefit with the school at the other end.

Proposed – Cllr R Blackwell

Seconded – Cllr P Jull

For 6

Against – 0

Abstain 1

- iii. Members received a verbal report from the Clerk in relation to the broken lights in the alleyway between Walmer Train Station and Court Road.

- iv. Members requested that an item be placed on the agenda for next meeting in relation to:

- a. James Hall Gardens Green Space parking issues
- b. The Strand – 20mph zone
- c. Court Road's undulating surface

540. STONEY PATH

Members received a verbal update on Stoney Path in relation to planting.

541. RUGBY CLUB

Members received a verbal report from Cllr L Ludwig in relation to the Rugby Club and Drill Field. Cllr L Ludwig reported that she had met with the Chairman, Director of Rugby and Director of Finance separately. That there was only minimal usage of the MUGA that could take place in its current form. The rugby club was keen to discuss the lighting of the access road which currently they pay for the electricity as previously a loose agreement had been made with Walmer Town Council about repaying this. The breast screening unit will be set up in the car park of the Rugby Club, the club may need some assistance ensuring that the access road is sufficiently clear to allow the unit access. The Club have cut back the hedges.

AGREED – To ask the Clerk to investigate regarding the lighting.

Proposed – Cllr L Ludwig

Seconded – Cllr D Richardson

For 7

Against 0

Abstain 0

AGREED – To not re-open the MUGA in April. Keys will be asked to be returned from Monitor, and a copy will be passed to the Rugby Club to use if they wish. They will need to ensure that they have full insurance to cover this and will need to pay for any inspections required as part of that insurance.

Proposed – Cllr L Ludwig

Seconded – Cllr R Blackwell

For 6

Against 1

Abstain 0

542. WALMER STATION

Members received correspondence from a member of the public in relation to the facilities and opening times of the station.

Cllr L Ludwig was absent for the vote

AGREED – For the Chairman to write to The Department of Transport, Southeastern and the local Member of Parliament requesting that additional toilet facilities were required at the location, self-cleaning toilets and toilets that are paid for by advertising companies are available.

Proposed – Cllr M Eddy

Seconded – Cllr S Waite-Gleave

For 6 Against 0 Abstain 0

543. WATER TESTING KITS

Members received a written recommendation from the Climate Emergency Working Group about increasing the budget for Water Testing Kits.

AGREED – To recommend to council an increase in the budget to £840.

Proposed – Cllr S Waite-Gleave

Seconded – Cllr R Blackwell

For 5 Against 1 Abstain 1

544. BIODIVERSITY GRANTS

Members received Biodiversity Grant applications from:

Cllr S Waite-Gleave did not vote on these items.

- i. Walmer and Deal Action for Swifts – For the provision of additional swift boxes and leaflets.

AGREED – To recommend to Council a grant of £473.79 be awarded

Proposed – Cllr M Eddy

Seconded – Cllr R Blackwell

For 6 Against 0 Abstain 0

- ii. Marke Wood Gardeners – For plants for Marke Wood.

AGREED To recommend to Council a grant of £304.85 be awarded.

Proposed – Cllr M Eddy

Seconded – Cllr R Blackwell

For 6 Against 0 Abstain 0

543. ALLOTMENT PRICES

Cllr L Ludwig left the room for this item

Members received a written recommendation for setting of prices for Allotments for 2025/26.

AGREED – To accept the recommendation of the officer of 48p per square metre.

Proposed – Cllr D Richardson

Seconded – Cllr P Jull

For 5 Against 0 Abstain 1

The meeting closed at 20.45

420. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

April 23, 2025.

.....
Signature

.....
Date

DRAFT