



WALMER TOWN COUNCIL

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MINUTES

DRAFT Minutes of the meeting of the Amenity and Environment Committee held on Wednesday 23rd April 2025 at 7pm at Elizabeth House, St Marys Road, Walmer.

Present Councillors:

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

Officer present: Roland Aldred –Town Clerk

641. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting. The Chairman asked members if they would accept moving agenda item 7iii. to item 9 as the two items overlapped, members agreed. Apologies were received from Cllrs Lee and Richardson and were accepted.

642. 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.

643. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were made.

644. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Members received the minutes of the committee meeting held on Wednesday 26th February 2025.

AGREED

That the minutes are a true record and are approved.

Proposed by Cllr Blackwell.

Seconded by Cllr Waite-Gleave.

For 8

Against 0

Abstain 0

645. REPORTS ON MATTERS FROM LAST MEETING

The Clerk reported that the issues of the access road to the Drill Field and lighting on said have been taken up at Full Council and therefore there are no items on this agenda for Amenities and Environment. The Clerk also reported that the contractor had reviewed the current growth at Stony Path and the ground was not yet ready for planting.

646. QUESTIONS FROM THE PUBLIC

No members of the public were present.

647. HIGHWAYS IMPROVEMENT PLAN

- i. Members received a copy of the current HIP. Members requested the Clerk contact KCC about the signage on Kingsdown Road with as they felt the wrong signage was in place, the current signage is that of "Pedestrians in the Road" it was felt correct signage was "Pedestrians likely to cross road ahead".

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 parking cars on the grass verge on the entrance way to James Hall Gardens.
AGREED – To ask the Clerk to do further investigation as to what would be possible to prevent the parking on the piece of land.
Proposed – Cllr Eddy
Seconded – Cllr P Ludwig
For 8 Against – 0 Abstain 0
 - b. Members received a written report on the possibility of a 20-mph zone along The Strand raised at the last meeting.
AGREED – To ask the Walmer Speed Watch Group if they can conduct an exercise on The Strand to get an idea of the average speeds of travel.
Proposed – Cllr Eddy
Seconded – Cllr P Ludwig
For 7 Against – 1 Abstain 0
 - c. Members received a written report on the surface of Court Road raised at the last meeting.
AGREED – To not add this item to the HIP, as the issue is of the foundations of the road, and this is not something Walmer Town Council can tackle, members also felt there were other roads more in need of attention.
Proposed – Cllr Jull
Seconded – Cllr Findley
For 8 Against – 0 Abstain 0
- iii. Item moved to minute 649 i.
- iv. Members received a written report from the Clerk advising that a speed survey will be conducted on Dover Road as requested.

- v. Members received a verbal report from the Clerk on an issue raised by a resident after the agenda had been issued for consideration at the next meeting. The issue was that the resident felt he was constantly reporting overgrown hedges on Salisbury Road and Church Street and was asking the Council to set a scheme to monitor this.

AGREED – Members decided not to take this item at the next meeting as the responsibility for highways and public rights of way sat with Kent County Council, who would have conducted risk assessments into the way these were reported. KCC are aware of the residents' concerns.

Proposed – Cllr L Ludwig

Seconded – Cllr Blackwell

For – 8

Against – 0

Abstain -0

648. CO-OPTION OF AN MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC ON TO THE COMMITTEE

Members received a verbal report from Cllr Eddy about co-opting Mr Knott as part of the Speaking Up Group to the committee as a non-voting member.

AGREED – To recommend to Full Council to co-opt Mr Knott as a non-voting member to the Amenities and Environment Committee.

Proposed – Cllr Eddy

Seconded – Cllr Waite-Gleave

For -7

Against -0

Abstain -1

649. DOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL CYCLING AND WALKING CONSULTATION

Members received a copy of the Dover District Audits -Deal paper written by Dover District Council. Dover District Council released this paper and requested any feedback.

- i. Skylark trail connection to Sustrans 1

Members considered the DDC paper alongside the proposed route from KCC.

AGREED – To ask the Clerk to meet with DDC to discuss and investigate further.

Proposed – Cllr P Ludwig

Seconded – Cllr Eddy

For 8

Against 0

Abstain 0

- ii. Members considered the cycle routes through Walmer (focus routes 101, 102 and 104).

AGREED – Members generally looked upon the proposals positively, with a high level of support for the link between the Skylark Trail and Sustrans 1. Members did have concerns about details within the report which would negatively impact residents, such as removal of parking.

Proposed – Cllr Eddy

Seconded – Cllr Simpson

For 7

Against 1

Abstain 0

- iii. Members considered the walking and wheeling areas of focus within Walmer (Focus areas 202, 203 and 204)

AGREED – Members generally looked upon the proposals positively. Walmer Town Council would be against the proposal to remove the guardrails along The Strand near the paddling pool. Walmer Town Council would also like consideration to be given to installing a crossing at the midway point of The Strand level with the bandstand as there are many events on the Walmer Green that would benefit from this. Members were particularly impressed with the idea of a crossing near Walmer Castle.

Proposed – Cllr Eddy

Seconded – Cllr P Ludwig

For 8

Against 0

Abstain 0

The meeting was closed at 20.00

650. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

June 26, 2025.

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Signature

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Date