



WALMER TOWN COUNCIL

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DRAFT Minutes of the Meeting of Walmer Town Council held on Wednesday 5th February 2025 – 7 pm at The Baptist Church Hall, Kelvedon Road, Walmer.

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

Officer Present: Roland Aldred, Town Clerk

491. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs Lee and Crockford offered apologies that were accepted.

492. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Bond declared a VAOI in respect of item 494 as his wife may use the upgraded facilities at Tides for business purposes.

493. OPENNESS AND TRANSPARENCY

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

494. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr Bond reported:

- i. That KCC had been unsuccessful in becoming one of the first tier of authorities to join the new devolved council structure. This was only announced today so we await further information. This means County Council elections will be held this year.
- ii. It is looking increasingly likely that Tides will remain open for tennis and sports hall bookings from March 2025 to January 2026.

495. MINUTES

Members received the minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday, 15th January 2025.

RESOLVED: That the minutes be approved and signed.

Proposed by Cllr Friend

Seconded by Cllr Eddy

For 12

Against 0

Abstain 1

496. REPORT ON ACTIONS FROM THE LAST MEETING

No reports given as items are covered elsewhere in the agenda.

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

- i. No members of the public were present.
- ii. No members of Dover District or Kent County Council had a report to give.

498. CRIME AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR REPORTS

Cllr L Ludwig updated that although no specific reports for Walmer were made, there has been an increase in rogue traders in the area.

499. 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 – from 27th November 2024.
- c. Walmer in Bloom Minutes from 5th November 2024.
- d. Events Committee – from 3rd December 2024.
- e. Planning Committee – No minutes to report.
- f. Climate Emergency Working Group — No minutes to report.

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

Proposed Cllr Friend

Seconded Cllr Grist

For 13

Against 0

Abstain 0

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

- a. Finance & General Purposes from the meeting held January 22 2025.
- b. Walmer in Bloom from the meeting held January 14 2025.
- c. Events Committee from the meeting held January 28 2025.

RESOLVED – To note

Proposed Cllr Eddy

Seconded Cllr Friend

For 13

Against 0

Abstain 0

500. REPORT OF THE CLERK

The Clerk reported:

- i. There has been an increased number of reports of dog fouling to the office in the last few weeks. Reports have been made to DDC.
- ii. The Notice board at St Saviours Church has fallen off. Work will be needed to repair the glass and to re-attach the board to the wall as the current board on which it was attached is rotten.

501. FINANCIAL REPORT

i. Bank Balances

Bank Balances as at 30/01/25

Charity Bank	£100,000.00
Redwood Bank	£100,000.00
Unity Trust Current	£31,896.25
Unity Trust Deposit	£115,600.40
Total	£347,496.65

ii. Monthly Finance report

Members received the November and December 2024 monthly financial report.

Financial update for month of January 2025					
Balance at start of month	£	358,738.73			
Payments			Receipts		
Who	For	Amount	Who	For	Amount
Atman	PAT Testing	£62.58			
Staff	Salaries	£5,157.22			
KCC LGPS	Pensions	£2,068.88			
Mitec	Telecoms	£129.83			
Amazon	PPE For Hawkshill	£129.05			
Cllr P Ludwig	Expenses for Course	£53.52			
Mr J Miles	Travel Expenses	£16.10			
Cllr S Waite Gleave	Travel Expenses	£45.60			
Mr D Halpin	Window Cleaning	£12.00			
Lloyds Bank	Bank Charges	£3.00			
Kent Copier Services	Photocopier Rental	£184.31			
HMRC	Staff Tax and National Insurance	£1,391.17			
Edge IT	IT Support	£979.20			
Cllr J Murray	Travel Expenses	£57.20			
Panel Warehouse	Header for notice board	£351.60			
Walmer Baptist Church	Hire of Church hall	£30.00			
British Gas	Utility Bills	£361.08			
Vision ICT	Website	£210.00			
Unity Bank	Service Charge	£10.20			
Total		£11,252.54	Total		£0.00
Balance at end of month		£347,486.19			
This month spend		-£11,252.54	Last year		£31,708.05
% of yrs precept for month		4.52%	% of precept for month		-12.88%
Total net spend YTD		-£149,390.18	Total spent LYTD		-£107,314.42
% of precept YTD		59.95%	% of precept LYTD		43.60%

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

Proposed Cllr Jull

Seconded Cllr Eddy

For 13

Against 0

Abstain 0

502. MEETING DATES

Members received a draft of meeting dates for 2025/26.

RESOLVED – To accept the draft dates subject to any reviews of dates if clashes occur with Deal Town Council.

Proposed – Cllr Friend

Seconded – Cllr P Eddy

For 13

Against 0

Abstain 0

503. GRANTS

Members received recommendations from the Finance & General Purposes Committee in response to Grant requests from:

- i. The Deal Society

Application for a grant of £100 towards the printing of their leaflet advertising Heritage week.

RESOLVED – To approve the Grant.

Proposed – Cllr Friend

Seconded – Cllr P Ludwig

For 13

Against 0

Abstain 0

- ii. Deal and Dover Tennis CIC

Application for £500 towards the cost of a free tennis lessons for children at Marke Wood scheme.

RESOLVED – To approve the Grant.

Proposed – Cllr Findley

Seconded – Cllr P Ludwig

For 11

Against 0

Abstain 2

- iii. Air Ambulance charity Kent, Sussex and Surrey

Application for £500 towards the operating costs of the Kent Air Ambulance

RESOLVED – To approve the Grant.

Proposed – Cllr P Ludwig

Seconded – Cllr Friend

For 13

Against 0

Abstain 0

504. OUTDOOR GYM

Members received a Gantt Chart of the proposed target timescale for the project. It was noted that as a lot of the items on the project are outside of Walmer Town Council's control these may require adjustment as the project progresses. Members received a verbal report from Cllr L Ludwig into the project and work undertaken by the working group.

RESOLVED – To approve the spending of £366 to Dover District Council, to allow the licence to be prepared for Walmer Town Council to review.

Proposed – Cllr Jull

Seconded – Cllr Blackwell

For 13

Against 0

Abstain 0

505. DDC TOILETS

Members received a written report with an updated proposal from Dover District Council on the financial support requested for public toilets in Walmer.

RESOLVED – To agree to the latest proposal that does not include support for the toilets in Marine Road and agree that the Clerk can pay £23271.58

Proposed – Cllr Friend
Seconded – Cllr Richardson
For 13 Against 0 Abstain 0

506. LOCAL RESILIENCE PLAN

Members received a written report from Cllr Waite-Gleave on the Local Resilience plans that the Kent Resilience Forum are championing.

Noted

507. CONFIDENTIAL TO BE HELD UNDER THE PUBLIC BODIES (admission to meetings)

ACT 1960

RESOLVED – To move into a private session to discuss items of contractual or Human Resources nature.

Proposed – Cllr Friend

Seconded – Cllr Eddy

For 13 Against 0 Abstain 0

508. OFFICE FRONTAGE

Members received 4 quotations for painting of the front of the office.

RESOLVED – To agree to the quote from BT Decorating.

Proposed – Cllr P Ludwig

Seconded – Cllr Jull

For 12 Against 0 Abstain 1

509. HR MATTERS

Members received a written report as requested at the last meeting on staff pay levels.

Noted

510. MARKE WOOD PLAYPARK PAYMENT TERMS

Members received a written report answering questions the Finance & General Purposes Committee has posed in risk levels of prepaying the financial support agreed for Marke Wood Play Park.

RESOLVED – To accept the option proposed by Dover District Council to pay 50% straight away and 50% midway through the build and to authorise the clerk to do so.

Proposed – Cllr Richardson

Seconded – Cllr Blackwell

For 11 Against 0 Abstain 2

511. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

5th March 2025 – 7.30pm – Walmer Parish Hall.

The meeting closed at 20.00 pm.

Signed: Date: