



WALMER TOWN COUNCIL

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

Tel: 01304 362363

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

Minutes of the Meeting of Walmer Town Council held on Wednesday April 1st 2026 – 7.30 pm at Walmer Parish Hall, Dover Road, Walmer.

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

Officer Present: Roland Aldred, Town Clerk.

556.APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs K Lee, M Simpson, and E Crockford.

557.DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were made.

558.OPENNESS AND TRANSPARENCY

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

559.CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr Bond had nothing to report.

560.MINUTES

Members received the minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday, March 4th 2026.

RESOLVED: To approve the minutes and ask the chairman to sign these.

Proposed by Cllr A Friend

Seconded by Cllr M Eddy

For 11 Against 0

Abstain 1

561.REPORT ON ACTIONS FROM THE LAST MEETING

The Clerk reported that the Lease for the Drill Field had been returned to the Rugby Club for review. The Chairmans Badge was on order and should be received in June.

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

- i. No members of the public were present.
- ii. Cllr Martin Paul of KCC reported:

- a. He was still awaiting a meeting with the Environment Agency to discuss progress on the reasons behind the results that caused a poor rating to be applied to Deal beach. This meeting will include the Clerk of WTC.
- b. The football pitch at Freemans Way, Deal is now complete and work is ongoing with local community clubs to see who will take this over.
- c. Cllr Paul is reviewing local bus services to see where improvements are required. He asked that any locals who wished to make any comments contact him.
- d. Cllr Paul has joined the KCC Devolution Committee and will report further on any news.

Cllr Chris Vinson of Dover District Council offered apologies.

563.CRIME AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR REPORTS

Kent Police are carrying out three engagement events over the next few months. The most local events will take place at Wellington’s Café on Deal Seafront on the 23rd April (9.30-10.30am), 28th May and 18th June 2026, from 10am to 11.30am.

There has been an increase in doorstep crime in the area. These crimes have involved the perpetrators knocking on doors to offer roofing services.

Kent Police are offering several Fraud talks within the community.

564.COMMITTEE REPORTS AND MINUTES

- i. To receive any reports and any agreed minutes as follows:
 - a. Amenities & Environment – No minutes to receive.
 - b. Finance & General Purposes – No minutes to receive.
 - c. Walmer in Bloom – minutes from the 17th February 2026.
 - d. Events Committee – minutes from the 28th January 2026
 - e. Planning Committee – minutes from 10th February 2026.
 - f. Climate Emergency Working Group – minutes from 29th January 2026.

RESOLVED – To accept the minutes of the committees.

Proposed by Cllr A Friend

Seconded by Cllr M Eddy

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. Amenities and Environment – draft minutes from the 26th February 2026.
 - b. Planning Committee – draft minutes from 10th March 2026.

RESOLVED – To note points A and C from the Agenda.

Proposed by Cllr M Eddy

Seconded by Cllr A Friend

For 12 Against 0 Abstain 0

565.REPORT OF THE CLERK

The Clerk reported:

- i. Brocante to go on sale next week.
- ii. The survey in to the Christmas event will be online from the 7/4/26.
- iii. The Clerk attended the Deal Town Council meeting regarding their expression of interest submission for the Town of Culture.
- iv. High winds caused damage to a fence panel at the office a new fence panel has been ordered and will be fitted soon.
- v. Winds also caused two trees at Hawkshill to fall, these were already marked to come down from our arboculturalist survey. A quote had been agreed with an arborist to remove these and the contractor was able to come out early to remove all the trees.
- vi. The Internal Auditor is booked for the 26/5/26.
- vii. The invoice for renewal of KALC membership has been received the cost is £2000.00 for the year.

RESOLVED – To continue as members of KALC.

Proposed – Cllr T Bond

Seconded – Cllr M Eddy

For 12

Against 0

Abstain 0

566. FINANCIAL REPORT

- i. Monthly bank balances.

Financial information as at 27/03/26

Charity Bank	£104,485.29
Redwood bank	£104,000.41
Unity Trust current	£45,392.76
Unity Trust Deposit	£97,842.56
Total	£351,721.02

- ii. Committee Budgets

Committee budget vs spend 2025/26 as at 28/2/26

Committee	Budget	Spend	notes
Amenities and Environment	£25,400.00	£ 14,393.43	includes CEWG
Events	£15,000.00	£ 9,627.79	
Finance and General purposes	£ -	-	
Human Resources	£ -	-	
Planning	£ -	-	
Walmer in Bloom	£23,300.00	£ 10,715.72	includes Hawkshill and Peace Garden

iii. Monthly Finance report

Members received the January 2026 monthly financial report.

Financial update for month of March 2026					
Balance at start of month		£343,345.15			
Payments			Receipts		
Who	For	Amount	Who	For	Amount
Staff	Salaries	£5,554.52	Allotment Holders	Deposit, Rent and Insurance Payments	£2,655.36
Apex Clean Ltd	Office Cleaning	£360.00	English Sports Council	Grant for Outdoor Gym	£15,000.00
British Gas	Utility Bills	£240.63			
Business Stream	Utility Bills	£92.98			
Councillors	Councillors Allowance	£5,490.00			
Dave Halpin	Window Cleaning	£12.00			
Dover District Council	Public Toilet Contribution	£6,108.79			
Eagle Security Alarms	Installation of alarm	£162.00			
Easily Webhosting	Website domain renewal	£29.71			
Edge IT Systems	Payment for programs	£1,300.92			
HMRC (PAYE/NI)	Tax and National Insurance	£1,842.08			
Invicta Arboriculture	Tree Survey for Hawkshill	£595.00			
Kent Association of Local Clerks	Training Course	£60.00			
Kent County Council Local Government Pension Scheme	Pension Payment	£2,260.71			
Leaf Tree Service	Tree Works at Hawkshill and Peace Gardens	£2,910.00			
Lloyds Bank	Bank Charges	£3.00			
Mitec	Telecoms	£142.19			
Mrs C Walker	Claim for flowers for Walmer Peace Gardens	£45.23			
Red Dog Garden Services	Disposal of planter	£75.00			
Sandwich Glass	Installation of door	£1,835.00			
Unity Bank	Bank Charges	£10.15			
Viking	Stationary	£104.01			
Walmer And Deal Action For Swifts	Grant Payment	£498.76			
Walmer Parish Churches	Meeting Room Hire	£85.00			
Your Parking Sign	Purchase of no parking signs	£58.84			
Total		£29,876.52	Total		£17,655.36
Balance at end of month		£331,123.99			
This month spend		-£12,221.16		Last year -£19,775.15	
% of yrs precept for month		4.68%		% of precept for month -7.94%	
Total net spend YTD		-£191,422.73		Total spent LYTD -£224,271.51	
% of precept YTD		73.25%		% of precept LYTD -90.00%	

RESOLVED – Members agreed to note the bank balances, committee budget positions and monthly finance updates.

Proposed by Cllr A Friend

Seconded by Cllr M Eddy

For 12

Against 0

Abstain 0

567. ABSENCE OF CLLR K LEE

Members received a verbal report from the Clerk that Cllr K Lee was approaching the 6-month mark since last appearing at meeting, this automatically triggers a resignation of office. Members can agree an additional 6-month absence should they wish to do so. Cllr K Lee has been absent due to ill health but does wish to continue as a member.

RESOLVED – To grant Cllr K Lee an additional 6-month absence due to ill health

Proposed by Cllr A Friend

Seconded by Cllr J Murray

For 11

Against 0

Abstain 1

568. LOCAL RESILIENCE PLAN

Members received written proposal from Cllr S Waite-Gleave to form a working party to work on a local resilience plan for Walmer.

RESOLVED – To form a working party to work on a local resilience plan.

Proposed by Cllr S Waite-Gleave

Seconded by Cllr M Eddy

For 6 Against 3 Abstain 3

RESOLVED – To appoint Cllrs S Waite-Gleave, J Murray, M Eddy and M Simpson to the working party.

Proposed by Cllr A Friend

Seconded by Cllr M Eddy

For 10 Against 2 Abstain 0

569.OUTDOOR GYM

Members received a written report and verbal update on the progress of the Outdoor Gym. Planning permission is no longer required with a Certificate of Lawfulness having been issued by Dover District Council. The lease for the section of land to which the Outdoor Gym is to be located is progressing and in the verbal update it was confirmed that we have now received a copy of the lease. The Sport England Award has been confirmed, signed and we have now received the money.

RESOLVED – To call an additional meeting of the Full Council on the 09/04/26 – 7pm at No 62 The Strand for the purposes of agreeing the lease, this will allow us to sign the agreement with the supplier, who will then be able to provide dates for installation.

Proposed by Cllr J Murray

Seconded by Cllr A Friend

For 12 Against 0 Abstain 0

570.DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Full Council meeting – Thursday 9th April
Annual Town meeting – Wednesday 15th April
The meeting closed at 20.30

Signed: Date: