



WALMER TOWN COUNCIL

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

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Minutes of the meeting of the Walmer in Bloom Committee held on 15th July 2025 at 62 The Strand, Walmer, at 6.00 pm.

Present:

Cllr L Ludwig (Chairing)
Cllr P Ludwig
Cllr D Richardson
Cllr S Waite Gleave
Mrs D Bogue

Officers present: **John Miles (Administration Officer)**

152. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies received from Cllr E Crockford and Miss A Late.

153. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Waite Gleave declared a VAOI regarding agenda item 8.I.

154. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

RESOLVED – That the minutes be taken as an accurate record.

Proposed by: Cllr D Richardson

Seconded by: Cllr S Waite Gleave

For 4 Against 0 Abstain 0

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

None.

156. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

NOTED: Verbal update from Chairman

We have been approached by a contributor or part of the editorial team of the Deal Despatch who would like to write an article about Hawkshill for the next issue, Steve Coates and chair liaising.

Chairman also informed the committee that the cutting of the meadow at Hawkshill will need to be organised.

157. ADMIN REPORT

i. **NOTED:** Committee was given an update of actions from the last meeting.

- **Action:** Admin to update procedures to ensure that all permissions for names/photos/other required competition media are obtained at the same time.

At the end of the garden competition Admin is to break down the number of nominations between those put in by the community, and those from each member of the committee.

RESOLVED – Admin to request quote from Walmer Batteries for 4x printed vinyl strips for use on WIB banners to indicate voting is open for the garden competition. If quote is less than £30 then inform committee of the quote for a vote to buy the strips.

Proposed by: Cllr D Richardson

Seconded by: Cllr P Ludwig

For 3 Against 1 Abstain 0

- **Actions:** Admin get quote from Walmer Batteries for 4x printed vinyl strips.
Inform committee if over £30 for vote.

158. HAWKSHILL

- i. **NOTED:** Verbal update from Chairman

The committee was informed that Gazen Salts have agreed to cut the meadow at Hawkshill this year, Mr Coates has indicated that it would be preferable if cutting can be moved to September. Mr Coates and Cllr L Ludwig have informed Gazen Salts regarding the types of wildlife within Hawkshill and the location that the cuttings will be moved to. More dead hedging will be added to ensure the cuttings are kept in situ.

- **Actions:** Cllr L Ludwig to contact Gazen Salts to find out if the cutting can be moved to September.

Admin to email Cllr Findley and Mr Coates regarding their views about a grass collector, this was mentioned to members of the committee and Admin during the SSEIB judging.

- ii. **RESOLVED** – Admin to acquire three quotes for the cutting of the hedges at Liverpool Road, financial authority has been delegated to the clerk to arrange cutting up to the value of £1200. With a view to cutting after 1st September to comply with the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981.

Proposed by: Cllr D Richardson

Seconded by: Cllr P Ludwig

For 4 Against 0 Abstain 0

- **Actions:** To diarise annual inspection of the trees and hedges annually to prevent another warning from DDC.

Admin to check council obligations regarding insurance and liability regarding the falling of trees within Hawkshill. Is the council required to do annual checks?

Admin to forward the committee copies of the tree inspection reports from 2024 from Invicta Arboriculture, in order to familiarise themselves with the contents and both short- and long-term actions.

Admin to confirm the original costs for the inspections in 2024.

Admin to find out if cheaper/better rates are available if the inspections are to be done regularly.

Admin to collate all information and add to agenda for the next meeting.

159. WALMER PEACE GARDENS

NOTED: Verbal update from Mrs Bogue

Cllr S Waite Gleave recused herself from voting for the following due to a VAOI.

- i. **RESOLVED** – Reimburse Cllr Waite Gleave for the purchase of water bowser, to be confirmed with Town Clerk.

Proposed by: Cllr L Ludwig

Seconded by: Cllr D Richardson

For 3 Against 0 Abstain 0

- **Actions-** Admin to confirm if payment is possible.
Cllr S Waite Gleave to furnish office with receipt/bank statement regarding purchase of water bowser.

- ii. **NOTED** – Tree at WPG to be checked over by expert to ensure that any works done will not damage the tree or put undue strain on it.
 - **Actions** – Cllr S Waite Gleave and Mrs D Bogue to contact Mr C O’Sullivan, a local expert to examine the tree and inform the committee of what may be needed to trim back the branches.

160. CAMPAIGN 2024

A. WIB CAMPAIGN

- i. **NOTED**- Update for garden competition was included in 157.I.
- ii. **RESOLVED**- A modified version of the volunteer poster is to be completed and laminated for mounting on all planter noticeboards and social media.

Proposed by: Cllr L Ludwig

Seconded by: Cllr P Ludwig

For 4 Against 0 Abstain 0

- **Actions:** Admin to redesign the volunteer poster, then laminate for mounting.

Cllr Waite Gleave left the meeting at this point.

- iii. **NOTED**- Fountain planter at the Lifeboat Station has been damaged several times by people hitting it with their vehicles, photos of the damage were taken and delivered to the office. Repairs were made by the RNLI ahead of the King’s visit. Changes to planters and plants within them are to be considered by the committee, input from current volunteer will be sought. New design to be easier to manage for volunteers and more resistant to damage. Discussion to continue at November meeting.

- **Actions:** Committee to discuss different options that enhance the beauty of the fountain and to avoid potential damage from cars.
Cllr L Ludwig to talk to volunteer for his input regarding possible changes to the fountain planters.

B. WIB PRESENTATION

- i. **RESOLVED:** Cllr D Richardson to contact Walmer Castle and ask whether they can host an event, for cream teas and a tour of the castle garden. The date chosen is the 16 August 2025 at 3pm, although this is flexible from 16-18 August 2025, if these dates are unavailable then the event will be moved to a later date in September. It will also be limited to a maximum of 30 people with a maximum budget as already authorised of £300. Committee delegates authority to council officers to pay invoice as appropriate to maximum of £300.

Proposed by: Cllr D Richardson

Seconded by: Cllr P Ludwig

For 3 Against 0 Abstain 0

- **Actions:** Admin to ensure contact details are available for winners at end of garden competition.
Cllr D Richardson to contact Walmer Castle regarding date and times.
Admin to acquire prizes from Garden Centre.
Admin to confirm any allergies and/or dietary requirements for winners.

RESOLVED- Committee delegates authority to council officers to purchase five prize vouchers for £25 each.

Proposed by: Cllr L Ludwig

Seconded by: Cllr P Ludwig

For 3 Against 0 Abstain 0

- **Actions:** Admin to request purchase of the prize vouchers by Town Clerk.

161. ISSUES FOR INCLUSION ON NEXT AGENDA

No items put forward; items can be sent into the office for consideration.

162. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

- i. **RESOLVED** – The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 2nd September 2025, at 18:00.

Proposed by: Cllr L Ludwig

Seconded by: Cllr P Ludwig

For 3 Against 0 Abstain 0

- **Actions:** Cllr L Ludwig is to email all members of the committee regarding the date of the next meeting as well as the preliminary date for the presentation in order for them to save the date.

The meeting closed at 19.50.

Signed_____

Dated_____