



WALMER TOWN COUNCIL

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

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Draft Minutes of the meeting of the Climate Emergency Working Group held on Thursday 18th September 2025 at 62 The Strand, Walmer, at 7.00 pm

Present:

Cllr S Waite-Gleave (Chairing)

Cllr R Blackwell

Cllr M Eddy

Mrs S Fisher

Officers present:

John Miles (Administration Officer)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- Apologies received from Cllr P Findley

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- None Submitted.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- **Resolved:** That the minutes of 5th August be taken as an accurate record.
 - Proposed by: Cllr Eddy
 - Seconded by: Cllr Blackwell
- For 3 Against 0 Abstain 0

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

- **Noted:** Update Report has been forwarded to the working group members by Admin.
- **Noted:** The short focus projector works very well in the committee room.
- **Noted :** A report is to be sent to A&E in follow up on KALC initiative to use no engine idling signs to reduce air pollution

5. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

- None Submitted.

6. ONGOING PROJECTS

Climate and Ecology Action Plans

- **Noted:** Action plans have been updated by Councillor Waite-Gleave and Admin and will be forwarded to the members of the working group, via google docs.

DDC Climate and Nature Forum

- **Noted:** Cllr Waite Gleave informed the working group that there had been no update from Mr J Traynor.
- The next meeting date should be in October as originally scheduled.

Coastal Recovery

- **Noted:** A copy of the water testing certificate was given to the members. This information will be helpful to Downs Sailing Club during planning for the national schools regatta in 2026.
- **Noted :** Environment Agency is legally bound to test designated beaches like Deal Castle beach approx. once a fortnight between 1st May and 30th Sept. Their 7/7/26 very high 9900 test result has been discounted – announced 16/9/2025. The rating of the Deal Castle beach will continue to be ‘poor’. WTC agreed last winter to pay for laboratory tests of water samples from 1 mile further south near Walmer Castle in April, July, August and Oct 2025 in order to provide Walmer residents, businesses and visitors with complementary data on which to base their decision to swim or not. WTC results so far this year have come back from the lab as good or excellent water quality.
- **Noted :** The community campaign group SOSDAW presented its petition to DDC and this will be discussed at DDC Overview and Scrutiny cttee on Mon 13th Oct (public welcome) and at DDC Full Council on 15th Oct 2025. It will be submitted to KCC, SW and DEFRA by year end. The community campaign group SOSDAW will push DDC and Southern Water to enable year-round water testing in the Deal/Walmer area, to get SW to publish interim results of their enquiries before May 2027. Walmer (and Deal) TCs may want to push in a similar direction.
- **Noted :** Public are more aware that pollution and the sewage alerts put out by SW, or EA are likely during and after heavy downpours for up to 3 days when storm overflow are opened.
- Admin is to sign up to mobile phone apps and publicise them via WTC channels, noticeboards, website.
 - *Swimfo from EA / DEFRA*
 - *Surfers against sewage*
 - *Southern Water alerts*
- **Resolved:** To include in CEWG budget for 2026/2027 £900 for 4 laboratory tests to be done in April, July, August, Oct 2026.
- Proposed by: Cllr Eddy
- Seconded by: Cllr Blackwell
- For 3 Against 0 Abstain 0
- Actions:** Admin to sign up for alerts using above links.

Transport

- **EV Points**
 - KCC have been informed of potential sites for new EV points, they are currently looking for a new operator and installations should begin again in late 2025 to early 2026. Sites suggested belong to KCC. We think KCC is administrator of DfT funding.
 - Admin informed the working group that KCC EV projects focus on slower 7kW chargers, Faster ones can be installed if needed on a case-by-case basis. Upgrades of chargers already installed are not possible at the moment, KCC will keep the information sent in their parish files for later use.

- Communication with KCC regarding engine idling/roadside notices is more appropriate to be dealt with between WTC officers and KCC officers.
- Getting Information about mounting signs and permissions needed from KCC officers is currently being sought by the town clerk.

Actions: Admin to find out more regarding mounting signs and permissions needed by KCC.

Thermal Camera

- Leafletting to begin in October on the roads around Gladstone Ward including roads off Blenheim Rd.
- Cllr Waite Gleave will be on Deal Radio twice during October to talk about the Thermal Camera Scheme. Repeated on-line weekly promotion of service throughout October.
- **Resolved:** New leaflet to be completed by Mrs Fisher and Admin for distribution to local residences by members/volunteers.

- Proposed by: Cllr Blackwell

- Seconded by: Cllr Eddy

For 3

Against 0

Abstain 0

Actions: Leaflet to be redesigned by Admin and Mrs Fisher

Admin to complete leaflet ready for distribution by October. Initial run of 500.

Waste & Pollution Reduction

- **Noted:** Members were shown the first draft of the WalAPP Certificate.
- **Resolved:** Admin to redesign the certificate as requested. Cllr Waite Gleave to check with Council Chair regarding whose name to be added to the certificate.

Actions: Certificate to be redesigned by Admin

Car Sharing

- **Noted:** Members were shown the first draft of the Car Sharing-Poster
- **Resolved:** Admin to modify design as requested.

Actions: Poster to be redesigned by Admin and Mrs Fisher

7. NEW PROJECTS

- Cllr Waite Gleave informed the working group about a possible change of classification for Hawkshill Freedown from a Site of Nature Conservation Interest (SNCI) to Local Nature Reserve (LNR).

Resolved: An updated report is to be written to be shared with CEWG and admin and when completed to be submitted as agenda item to Walmer In Bloom committee in November.

- Proposed by: Cllr Waite Gleave

- Seconded by: Cllr Blackwell

For 3

Against 0

Abstain 0

Actions: Cllr Waite Gleave to write updated report and share with CEWG/Admin before WIB in November.

- Cllr Waite Gleave informed the working group of the Kent Sustainable Communities Network with autumn being the most suitable time to sign up.

Resolved: Cllr Waite Gleave to redraft a proposal to be sent to Full Council or via A&E to sign up for the KSCN.

- Proposed by: Cllr Waite Gleave
 - Seconded by: Cllr Eddy
- For 3 Against 0 Abstain 0

Actions: Cllr Waite Gleave to redraft proposal to sign up for the KSCN.

8. BUDGET

Resolved : To accept draft budget with amendments

- Proposed : Cllr Blackwell
- Seconded : Cllr Eddy
- For : 3 Against : 0 Abstain : 0

9. POSSIBLE FUTURE AIMS AND INITIATIVES.

Noted: Deal TC have invited WTC to have stall at DTC Climate Saturday on 15th Nov 2025: 2 Cllrs to attend as last year.

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 13th November at 19:00 at No 62 The Strand.

The meeting closed at 20:45

		2024/25	2025/26				2026/27 proposal
Heading	Sub heading		Current YTD	Expected for balance of year	Total	Budget	Budget
Climate Emergency	Beebombs	0	£0.00	£423.56	£423.56	£0.00	£450.00
	Thermal Camera	130.5	£103.50	£0.00	£103.50	£150.00	£150.00
	Swift boxes	0	£0.00	£100.00	£100.00	£100.00	£100.00
	Water Refill Stations	0	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00
	Churchill Avenue	0	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£1,600.00	£1,600.00
	Biodiversity grants	0	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£1,500.00	£1,500.00
	Seawater Testing kits (NEW)	0	£840.00	£0.00	£840.00	£840.00	£900.00
	Walmer against Plastic	0	£0.00	£50.00	£50.00	£50.00	£0.00
	Tree Purchase (NEW)	0	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£0.00	£550.00

DRAFT