



WALMER TOWN COUNCIL

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

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Minutes of the meeting of the Climate Emergency Working Group held on Tuesday 5th August 2025 at 62 The Strand, Walmer, at 7.00 pm

Present:

Cllr S Waite-Gleave (Chairing)
Cllr P Findley
Cllr R Blackwell
Cllr M Eddy

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

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- Apologies received from Mrs S Fisher.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- None Submitted.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- **Resolved:** That the minutes of 16 June be taken as an accurate record.
 - Proposed by: Cllr Blackwell
 - Seconded by: Cllr Eddy
- For 4 Against 0 Abstain 0

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

- **Noted:** Update Report has been forwarded to the work group members from Admin
- Cllr Waite Gleave informed the group that No-Engine Idling stickers or signs could be purchased by the dozen for use at temporary traffic works or other necessary locations.
- **Resolved:** To approach A&E committee to purchase 10 stickers, cost approx. £40 excl VAT.
 - Proposed – Cllr Eddy
 - Seconded – Cllr Findley
 - For 4 Against 0 Abstain 0
 - **Actions:** Admin to put together report to request purchase of stickers for the A&E Committee meeting on 25 September.
- **Noted:** Possible EV spaces were identified and will be forwarded to Kent County Council.

- **Resolved:** Concerns were raised that the current EV points at the Drill Field are slow at 7kw and may need to be replaced-with newer, faster chargers.
 - Proposed by: Cllr Findley
 - Seconded by: Cllr Eddy
 - For 4 Against 0 Abstain 0
 - **Actions:** Admin to contact KCC regarding possible upgrades to the Drill Field EV charge points.

5. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

- None Submitted.

6. ONGOING PROJECTS

Climate and Ecology Action Plans

- **Noted:** Requests were made to change working and colour coding on action plans to differentiate the completed, near completion and on-going/long-term tasks. A simplified version is to be completed for posting on the council website.
- **Actions:** Admin and Cllr Waite Gleave to modify action plans.
- **Noted:** Copy of new draft texts for website were distributed to all members and reviewed, no changes were required.
- **Actions:** Admin to update webpage.

Updating of Local Resilience Plan

- **Noted:** Cllr Waite Gleave informed the working group that the local resilience plan Workshop with DDC, requested by DAC-KALC to assist clerks to update rudimentary LRP of 2014 for all 35 Dover district local councils was cancelled a second time in July. One of the reasons given for the postponement to September/October is due to the extensive debriefing on extreme weather and flooding after 13th June.
- **Actions:** SWG to forward copy of local resilience plan template provided by Kent Resilience Forum to all members. <https://www.kentprepared.org.uk/community-resilience>.

DDC Climate and Nature Forum

- **Noted:** Update from Cllr Waite Gleave about the July 8th DDC Climate and Nature Forum. This included information regarding the combined Dover and Dartford council application for the Warmer Homes Scheme. SWG told Forum of our new Climate and Ecology Action Plan.
- WTC is still awaiting more input from DDC officer James Traynor regarding donation free gadgets to help residents reduce heat loss from homes (to complement WTC Thermal Imaging service in Nov 2025 – Feb 2026).

Coastal Recovery

- **Noted:** Members were forwarded a copy of the water testing certificate taken by WTC on 16 July 2025, the certificate is in our window, on our website, and on our social media, and can be shared by public. An EA test shortly after 7th July at the Deal Castle beach site test of 9900 indicated a massive spike of pollution in the area. Deal Town council put out a brief about this at the time.

- It is believed that not enough samples are being taken from enough points along the shoreline. **Noted:** WTC testing and publicising of raw data only, from 1 mile south of Deal Castle Beach, at Walmer Castle, for local public to interpret for themselves, has been appreciated by local residents.
- **Noted:** Community concerns exist on social media about storm overflow releases by Southern Water, and potentially polluted seawater quality in the period 24 – 72 hours following heavy rain.
- The next water test sample will be taken on Tuesday 26th August.

Transport

EV Charging points

- **Noted:** Update on WTC EV charging points & income from 1st Jan 2025.
- **Actions:** Admin to contact KCC regarding upgrading to faster chargers and the possibility of increased revenue due to more uptake of charging sessions.
- Admin to continue to cut foliage around the EV points when necessary.

Waste & Pollution Reduction

- **Noted:** Cllr Waite Gleave informed the working group that due to injury, she will be rescheduling visits to local businesses regarding the Walmer Against Plastic Pollution campaign.
- **Actions:** Cllr Waite Gleave and Admin to design WalAPP certificate for distribution.
- **Resolved:** To buy and install one water filling station at Marine Road Toilet by Dec 2025. Admin or Clerk to contact DDC about installation and maintenance contract.
 - Proposed by: Cllr Eddy
 - Seconded by: Cllr Blackwell
 - For 4 Against 0 Abstain 0
 - **Actions:** Admin and Cllr Waite Gleave to order water filling station; Clerk to contact DDC regarding installation and maintenance.

Buildings & energy saving

- **Noted:** Admin informed the working group regarding quotes for bike racks and replacement old front door at WTC Office.
- **Resolved:** Purchase of replacement front door to be put forward to the appropriate body of the council with a view to potential savings of revenue expenditure from energy bills.
 - Proposed by: Cllr Eddy
 - Seconded by: Cllr Waite Gleave
 - For 4 Against 0 Abstain 0
 - **Actions:** Admin to contact possible providers, e.g. Channel windows regarding the possible improvements to energy bills.
 - Admin to notify DDC about changes if they need to send an inspector.
 - Admin to work out the basis of duration that it would take for approximate cost of £1500 to be recovered from saved energy bills after installation of new door.

Shelf & Projector to be installed in WTC committee room.

- **Resolved:** Short focus projector to be purchased for council office for the cost of £119.99. (See minutes A&E 26/6/2025.)

- Proposed by: Cllr Findley
- Seconded by: Cllr Blackwell
- For 4 Against 0 Abstain 0
- **Actions:** Admin to approach Clerk to purchase projector and materials to install.

Restoration of nature

- **Noted:** Preliminary dates for a joint meeting with DTC and PAN representative have been chosen after 1/10/2025.
- **Actions:** Admin to contact DTC and Mr Moles regarding the best dates for them.
- **Noted:** Report on opportunities to liaise with Deal Town Council.

7. NEW PROJECTS

- **Resolved:** To put forward for next year's budget, the purchase of up to 50 small native self-fertilising fruit trees for distribution for front gardens of residents of the parish for a total of £550.
 - Proposed by: Cllr Waite Gleave
 - Seconded by: Cllr Blackwell
 - For 4 Against 0 Abstain 0
 - **Actions:** Admin to add to preliminary budget for 2026/2027.
- **Resolved:** Purchase of beebombs and distribution once they have been delivered, according to amount allocated for same in CEWG 2025/2026 budget. OR put forward to A&E for next meeting.
 - Proposed by: Cllr Waite Gleave
 - Seconded by: Cllr Findley
 - For 4 Against 0 Abstain 0
 - **Actions:** Admin to approach Clerk to purchase new beebombs.

8. POSSIBLE FUTURE AIMS AND INITIATIVES.

Pesticide free Walmer allotments action

- Cllr Findley queried how Walmer Town Council currently deals with the use of chemical herbicides/pesticides at their allotments. Noted: neighbouring council currently enforce allotments are chemical free.
- **Actions:** Admin to forward copy of new 2026 amended WTC allotment contract to Cllr Findley.
- Stoney Path: Possibility of Seeking free professional advice on suitability of stoney path slope for Solar Panels so that allotment holders can use energy for tools.

9. ANY OTHER QUESTIONS OR OBSERVATIONS.

- None

10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 18th September at 19:00 at No 62 The Strand.

The meeting closed at 20:45