



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 26th March 2026 at 62 The Strand, Walmer, at 7.00 pm

Present:

Cllr S Waite-Gleave (Chairing)

Cllr R Blackwell

Cllr P Findley

Cllr M Eddy

Invited Guest :

Mr Jim Stokes of Downs Sailing Club

Officers present:

John Miles (Administration Officer)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- Apologies received from Mrs S Fisher.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

- None Received.

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- **Resolved:** That the minutes of 19th January 2026 be taken as an accurate record.
 - Proposed by: Cllr Findley
 - Seconded by: Cllr Blackwell
- For 3 Against 0 Abstain 1

4. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Resolved – Brought forward to before Item 5

Proposed – Cllr Waite Gleave

Seconded – Cllr Eddy

For: 4 Against:0 Abstain: 0

- Mr J Stokes from the Downs Sailing Club addressed the members of the committee regarding the upcoming NSSR National Schools Sailing Regatta in late July 2026.
- All planning seems to be going well, with contractors signed up for the regatta.
- Due to long term costs, a permanent water fountain/filling station will not be installed for the regatta. Instead, a temporary one will be set up.
- Mr Stokes will contact the town clerk regarding the temporary closing of the Cornwall Road entrance to the drill field.

- Members of the council are to be invited to a presentation and questions evening before the regatta begins.
- Plans and other information regarding the regatta's use of the green and the drill field will be forwarded to WTC & DDC. Including arrangements for storage of materials. Emergency services, Coastguard and RNLI will have a briefing evening in June, WTC to be invited.
- Once the purchase of water bottles is confirmed, WTC and DSC will work together on a sticker for the exterior.
- WTC have been offered a full A5 page free as 'supporter' in the DSC brochure to be sent out to numerous other groups for the regatta. We will be informed of the deadline for artwork, WTC entry may mention active travel routes and hospitality outlets.

Actions: Admin to look over design for water bottles.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS CEWG AND A&E MEETINGS

- Updates from chair will be added to later entries
- **Noted:** The working group received an update on previous actions from Admin.
- Working group were also informed that the meeting between WiB Cttee and Kent Wildlife Trust went ahead on 25th March 2026, slides circulated by email.
- Regarding the locations for drop kerbs in Walmer, Cllr Eddy will be meeting with KCC officers about the current HIP.

6. ONGOING PROJECTS

Transport and Active Travel

• EV Points

- **Noted:** Working Group received up to date costs for 2026.
- **Noted:** Working group received a comparison of costs and profit share between 2024 and 2025. Monitoring by admin indicates appropriate use of charging sites.
- **Noted:** Working Group received a response from KCC regarding future development of EV points in Walmer. Cllr Waite Gleave informed the working group about a recent article online about Ministry LEVI grant to KCC for EV plans and will forward it to admin.
- Members noted that most of the priority locations for EV charge points in Walmer are in the Lower and Middle Walmer wards and it may be prudent to investigate places in Upper Walmer, also.
- KCC are accepting locations from members of the public for new LEVI EV points.

Water Filler Installation

- **Noted:** The update for the water filler station was received by the working group
- For the report to A&E, it was requested that a sketch plan of the location of the water filling station and the hard standing be included.

Resolved – Recommendation to be sent to A&E once the report is double checked and redrafted to allow for more information to be added.

Proposed – Cllr Waite Gleave

Seconded – Cllr Findley

For: 4 Against:0 Abstain: 0

Actions: Admin and Cllr Waite-Gleave to write an updated report to A&E regarding the purchase and installation of the water filling station

Coastal Pollution and Recovery

- Cllr Waite-Gleave informed the working group that she has been in contact with leader of DDC Cllr Kevin Mills regarding the sea water status around Deal and Walmer, and the provision by DDC of year-round signage referring public to the year-round alerts from app <https://www.southernwater.co.uk/our-region/clean-rivers-and-seas-task-force/rivers-and-seas-watch/>

- Water testing will be going ahead this year in several location, with notices posted like last year.

Resolved – To continue with four water tests this year at Walmer Castle.

Proposed – Cllr Findley

Seconded – Cllr Eddy

For: 4 Against:0 Abstain: 0

Actions: Water testing to continue between April and October 2026.

Nature Recovery and Pesticide Free Walmer

- Several entries in the Climate action plan are to be updated to completed status.
- An amendment was added to the allotment tenancy regarding the use of chemical additives; a more comprehensive version is to be considered in the future.
- The working group have requested that a two-sided, A5 leaflet be created to be sent out to current and future allotment holders. This is to inform them of the side effects of chemical pesticides and the possible alternatives that can be used.

Resolved – Working group requests that officers and A&E chairman collaborate to produce a leaflet to inform allotment users about organic gardening and NAS advice.

Proposed – Cllr Findley

Seconded – Cllr Eddy

For: 4 Against:0 Abstain: 0

Actions: Admin to work with A&E Chairman regarding leaflet about the use of chemical additives in allotments.

- Cllr Waite Gleave informed the working group about the meeting with KWT regarding the possibility of upgrading the protective status of Hawkshill Freedown from LWS to LNR.

7. WASTE & POLLUTION REDUCTION

Walmer Against Plastics Pollution

- **Noted:** Certificates and stickers have been received, Cllr Waite Gleave to visit and hand out to local businesses as a thank you for cutting down on single use plastics.
- Members indicated that there was also a need to publicise this more, as it effects the health of both humans and wildlife.

8. WALMER LOCAL RESILIENCE PLAN

- Cllr Waite-Gleave informed CEWG that the proposal for the Local Resilience Plan for Walmer be going to the full council meeting in April, following meeting 23/3/2026 with clerk, Cllr Simpson & Cllr Waite-Gleave.
- Members supported the idea of the WTC resilience plan, several volunteering to sit on a working group. Autumn 2026 was noted as a guideline for a completed first draft of the plan.

- **Noted:** A recommendation to the full council about the plan and that CEWG welcomes the suggestion from officers for the formation of a Resilience Plan working group/task and finish group as a constructive way forward.

9. NATURE AND BIODIVERSITY GRANT

- **RESOLVED-** Working Group approved the grant application from Downs Sailing Club to be sent to the next meeting of the A&E Committee.

Proposed by: Cllr Eddy

Seconded by: Cllr Findley

For 4

Against 0

Abstain 0

10. POSSIBLE NEW/FUTURE AIMS AND INITIATIVES.

- Priority is to implement items on Climate Action Plan.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Thursday 28th May at 7pm.

Meeting ended at 20:45