



WALMER TOWN COUNCIL

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

Present Councillors: Cllr T Bond (Chairman), Cllr M Simpson, Cllr A Friend, Cllr M Eddy, 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.

127.APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs K Lee, L Ludwig, E Crockford and J Murray.

128.DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations were made.

129.OPENNESS AND TRANSPARENCY

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

130.CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Cllr Bond reported that he had attended the Armed Forces Day at Deal Pier and the Royal Marines Concert on Walmer Green on behalf of Walmer Town Council.

The Chairman had been contacted by local media in relation to the cancellation of the Christmas event.

Cllr Bond wished to extend his sympathies to the family of Deal Town Councillor, Ben Bano who sadly passed away recently. The funeral is on the 20th July 2026 in St Thomas' Church Deal at 11.30. Flowers are limited to family only but if anyone wishes to donate on behalf of Cllr Bano the charity selected is Seeking Sanctuary. Walmer Town Council on behalf of the whole council have sent a sympathy card to the family.

131.MINUTES

Members received the minutes of the Council meeting held on Wednesday, June 3rd 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 0

132.REPORT ON ACTIONS FROM THE LAST MEETING

No updates were provided

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

No members of the public, DDC or KCC were present.

134.CRIME AND ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR REPORTS

There was no report to present.

135.COMMITTEE REPORTS AND MINUTES

i. To receive any reports and any agreed minutes as follows:

- a. Amenities & Environment – minutes from the 23rd April 2026.
- b. Finance & General Purposes –No minutes to receive.
- c. Walmer in Bloom – No minutes to receive.
- d. Events Committee – Minutes from 27th May 2026.
- e. Planning Committee – Minutes from 5th May 2026.
- f. Climate Emergency Working Group – Minutes from 26th March 2026.

RESOLVED – To accept the minutes of the committees.

Proposed by Cllr A Friend

Seconded by Cllr M Eddy

For 11 Against 0 Abstain 0

ii. To receive any comments about the draft minutes of meetings taken place since the last council meeting.

- a. Amenities & Environment – Minutes from 16th June, 2026
- b. Events Committee – minutes from 17th June, 2026
- c. Planning Committee – minutes from the 9th June 2026
- d. Climate Emergency Working Group – minutes from the 28th May 2026

RESOLVED – To note.

Proposed by Cllr M Eddy

Seconded by Cllr A Friend

For 11 Against 0 Abstain 0

iii. Members received a request to add Cllr Friend to the Resilience Plan working Group.

RESOLVED – To appoint Cllr Friend to the working party.

Proposed by Cllr M Eddy

Seconded by Cllr S Waite-Gleave

For 10 Against 0 Abstain 1

136.REPORT OF THE CLERK

The Clerk reported:

- i. The Drill Field lease is still with the Rugby Club, and we are awaiting a response from the Club.
- ii. Children's Festival on Saturday 4th July 2026 any volunteers to assist on the day should contact the office by the 2nd July.
- iii. A Pilates session will be taking place at the Peace Garden on Saturday for sign up please see online poster.

- iv. A wasp's nest has been discovered at the Peace Garden, near to the open area where children can play. Cllr Findley and the Clerk attended the site and identified the wasps as Median Wasps that required removal. Due to the biodiverse nature of the area and work of the volunteers in creating such a rich biodiversity within the area, the normal method of spraying pesticides was deemed unsuitable. Following a number of phone calls the Clerk has been able to identify a contractor who freezes the nest causing minimal impact to the ecosystem. The contractor works with a researcher from the University of Central London, and the nest may be used for research purposes.
- v. Walmer in Bloom voting is now open
- vi. We are awaiting a date from DDC to install the water fountain on the Marine Road facilities.

Members wish to thank the Clerk for the work completed on the Community Resilience Working Group. Members also wished to thank the Clerk for his diligence in finding a company that was able to remove the wasp nest without the need for pesticides.

137. FINANCIAL REPORT

- i. Monthly bank balances.

Bank Balances as at 23/06/26

Charity Bank	£104,485.29
Redwood bank	£104,000.41
Unity Trust current	£29,372.28
Unity Trust Deposit	£317,533.97
Total	£555,391.95

- ii. Committee Budgets

Committee budget vs spend 2026/27 as at 31/05/26

Committee	Budget	Spend	notes
Amenities and Environment	£28,000.00	£ 4,322.00	includes CEWG
Events	£16,500.00	£ 558.99	
Finance and General purposes	£ -		
Human Resources	£ -		
Planning	£ -		
Walmer in Bloom	£26,800.00	£ 2,842.76	includes Hawkshill and Peace Garden

RESOLVED – Members agreed to note the bank balances and committee budget positions.

Proposed by Cllr A Friend

Seconded by Cllr M Eddy

For 11

Against 0

Abstain 0

iii. Monthly Finance report

Due to bank statement not being available the monthly finance report was not able to be presented.

138.OUTDOOR GYM

Members received a verbal report from the Clerk on the progress of the Outdoor Gym. The draft compound licence has now been received and is with Kompan to review once this is completed Kompan will suggest a start date for DDC to accept. A further complication has arisen in that there will need to be a two-week advertisement period for the use of the land in the local paper, DDC have this in hand.

139.DOVER DISTRICT COUNCIL PARKING STRATEGY

Members received written report from the Clerk on the recommendations made to DDC regarding car parking from the car parking strategy. Phase one has now been implemented, and phase 2 is now due to start being reviewed, this will include Borrow Pit car park. Dover District Council have requested to meet with representatives of Walmer Town Council to discuss this and have been clear that they are open to all solutions at this point. Walmer Town Council in a previous resolution opposed any parking charges being added to Borrow Pit and members discussed reasons behind the opposition to any charges being added. Members concerns centred around the previous attempt to charge which failed, the resident's opposition to on street charges, any tarmacking would lead to further flooding issues in the area and barriers to active travel. Although not part of phase 2 members also discussed the recommendation within the report to allow overnight camping and were opposed to the idea, members noted that there were already several sites offering space for campervans in the area and that previously there had been issues with campervans in the area.

140.CONSULTATION ON THE REMOVAL OF THE ON-CALL FIRE SECTION IN DEAL

Members received a written report from the Clerk regarding an upcoming consultation on the removal of the on-call section from Deal Fire Station. On the night the Clerk verbally updated the members that the consultation had been put on hold to further review the data.

141.SAILING REGATTA CAMPING

Members received a verbal update on the arrangements for the camping at the Drill field from the Rugby Club. There will be one large marquee on site to provide a sheltered space for dining, activities and should it be necessary shelter. No fires will be allowed. The gate from Cornwall Road will be locked for security reasons. After the event a thorough walk over of the entire ground will be carried out to ensure no tent pegs have been left behind.

142. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

2nd September 2026.

The meeting closed at 20.15

Signed: Date: