

**Deal Town Council**  
**Town Hall, High Street,**  
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**The minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held in the Town Hall  
on 13<sup>th</sup> April 2011. Theme, 'Your Town, Your Say'.**

**Present:**

**Cllr B Bano (Chairman)**  
**Cllr W Elliott**  
**Cllr B Bano**  
**Cllr Mrs M Burnham**  
**Cllr Mrs K Blackburn**  
**Cllr B Grivell**

**Cllr J Trickey**  
**Cllr Mrs C Stickler**  
**Cllr P Acarnley**  
**Cllr B Henderson**  
**Cllr A Friend**

**Officers:**

**Lin Dykes, Town Clerk**  
**Lorna Crow, Deputy Town Clerk**  
**Mike Osborne, Premises Officer**

**Joanne Pitcher, Mayor's Secretary**  
**Tony Higgins, Town Sergeant**  
**Andrew Kononowicz, Deputy  
Premises Officer**

**70 members of the public were also present.**

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| <b>1.</b> | <b>Chairman's opening remarks.</b> Cllr Bano called the meeting to order at 7.15pm and read out the fire safety instructions. A welcome was given to everyone present on an evening for raising local issues and celebrating local success.   |
| <b>2.</b> | <b>Apologies for absence:</b> Cllr T Bond (work).   |
| <b>3.</b> | <b>The minutes of the previous Annual Town Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> April 2010.</b> The minutes were presented and it was agreed they should be confirmed as an accurate record. (P) BGa (S) WE. The minutes were duly signed by the Chairman of the Council.  |
| <b>4.</b> | <b>Chairman's Report:</b> Cllr Bano thanked all those present who worked so hard for the town of Deal including Councillors and the Town Hall staff – all of whom have part time hours and who regularly multi-task to cover the range of duties required. Cllr Bano reflected on the year that had included successful events in the town, promotion of the town to visitors, civic receptions and links with armed forces organisations. Thanks were recorded to the 2235 (Deal) Squadron Air Training Corp (Air Cadets) for their support at civic functions. Cllr Bano advised all present that it was hoped that the Annual Report of the Council would be distributed in June and comments and feedback were always welcome on Council activity. A final reminder was given to all present about the need to observe pre-election publicity rules and the period of purdah for all serving Councillors. |
| <b>5.</b> | <b>Guest speakers:</b><br>1. Sergeant Chris Gurney from the Kent Police Neighbourhood Policing Team gave an overview of crime statistics in Deal and explained how understanding of the data could be distorted when such small numbers   |

were involved. Sgt Gurney also explained examples of police activity that could not be measured by statistics such as dealing with neighbour issues, searching for lost children, talking to victims of crime etc. Following an example of how the local Neighbourhood Police team works, Sgt Gurney reminded everyone present that with limited yet sufficient resources available, the Police welcomed contact from members of the public and in some cases relied heavily on local information from residents of the town.

2. Mr Robin Green, Chairman of the Deal Society gave an overview of information available to date on the Deal Flood and Transport study currently in the hands of consultants GVA having been commissioned by Dover District Council. Having explained the background to the study and the adoption of the Dover District Council Core Strategy in February 2010 outlining site allocations for 1600 new homes by 2026, Mr Green explained the 4 step process in the study culminating in a Masterplan to be produced by September 2011. Mr Green expressed concerns on two counts for consideration as follows:

- (i) Concern at the under-representation of the people of Deal in the process as both the initial meeting and the subsequent stakeholder workshop were top heavy with non residents and DDC officials.

- (ii) Concern that little attempt was being made to engage with local people in this study, and that the deadline of September 2011 for the Masterplan was too tight for any meaningful consultation.

3. Abi Coleman from Deal Community First Responders gave a presentation on the work of these 15 local volunteers who support the South East Coast Ambulance Service. They log their availability with the Ambulance Service call centre and are then contacted if an ambulance crew cannot attend a local serious casualty in their 8 minute target period. They are now set up as a registered charity CECAM raising funds for vehicles and more emergency kits which cost approx £1600 each – only 1 kit is supplied by the Ambulance Service in each area of volunteers. Figures for last year included a total of 1,671 calls to patients averaging approx 139 cases per month and 2,720 volunteer hours of coverage in this life saving local service.

6. **Feedback from previous recipients of Deal Town Council grants.**

Representatives from the following organisations then took the opportunity to present details of their organisation and (if appropriate) how they had used any financial grant awards made by Deal Town Council:

A Walk in Deal

ACE

Addelam History Research Group

2235 (Deal) Squadron Air Training Corps

Association of Men of Kent and Kentish Men

Deal & Walmer Allotment Association

Deal & Walmer Chamber of Trade

Deal Festival of Music and the Arts

Deal Maritime Folk Festival

Deal & Walmer Amateur Rowing Club

Deal and St Omer Twinning Society

Deal, Walmer and Kingsdown Regatta Association

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|     | <p>Deal With It<br/>Deal Writers<br/>Deal Stroke Club<br/>Dover, Deal and District Citizens Advice Bureau<br/>Duke of Edinburgh Awards<br/>FONDS<br/>Kent Miners Festival<br/>Royal Marines Cadets<br/>Pathfinders<br/>The Prosperity Network<br/>TOPS.</p> <p>All speakers were limited to 2 minutes for their presentations which were well received by those present. Cllr Bano thanked all the speakers for their presentations with a special mention of thanks to the young uniformed participants who had spoken so well.</p>   |
| 7.  | <p><b>Presentation of cheques from the Mayor's Charity Fund.</b> Cllr Bano briefly explained how the money for this charity fund was raised and advised that he was keen that the funds should go to local organisations working in our community. Cheques were then presented to:<br/>TOPS – Breast cancer support<br/>The Deal Stroke Club.</p>  |
| 8.  | <p><b>Open session for questions or comments relating to the above agenda items.</b> A number of questions were raised by members of the public relating to the Flood and Transport Study prompted by the presentation from Mr Green. Questions and comments included:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. As the first 2 meetings had been by invitation only, how could residents become involved?</li> <li>2. It had been promised that copies of documents and slides on display at the meetings would be made available but this had not happened. In some cases, either no response or a less than courteous response had been received by those contacting DDC for copies of the said documents.</li> <li>3. The meetings called had been at very short notice and a town meeting was needed on this issue.</li> <li>4. Concern was expressed that no members of the Deal Town Council Planning Committee had attended the meetings.</li> </ol> <p>Members of the public were urged to contact Elizabeth Rix at DDC by e-mail to voice their concerns about the lack of any local workshops being scheduled in. It was confirmed that if any further meetings were called before the elections, the current Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Deal Town Council Planning Committee would attend, and that after the May 5<sup>th</sup> elections the new Council may well wish to take up this issue.</p> |
| 9.  | <p><b>Open session for questions or comments on any issues of interest.</b> Cllr Bano reminded those present that this was the meeting for the Deal electorate to raise any issues of their choosing. There were no questions or comments from members of the public.</p>  |
| 10. | <p><b>Chairman's closing remarks.</b> Cllr Bano thanked everyone for coming along and participating. He acknowledged the wide range of activities underway across the community and commented on how pleasing it was to hear what had been achieved with the support of Town Council grants. A final vote of thanks was made to the staff for organising the evening and to everyone who had</p>   |

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|  | taken the trouble to attend, listen and participate. As there was no further business the meeting closed at 8.35pm. Light refreshments were then served and the rest of the evening was an opportunity to chat informally with Councillors and to network with the representatives from the various organisations. |
|  | <b>Date of next Annual Town Meeting: Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> April 2012.</b>  |
|  | <b>Lin Dykes<br/>Town Clerk<br/>14<sup>th</sup> April 2011.</b>  |

12/4/12

