Minutes of the Full Council Meeting

Held at the Westgate-on-Sea Town Council Office

78 St Mildreds Road, Westgate-on-Sea CT8 8RF

on Wednesday 9th September 2026 at 7.00pm

Present:
Cllr David Donaldson (Chair)
Cllr Clive Veck (Vice-Chair)
Cllr Donna Carr
Cllr Sarah Jarman
Cllr Tom King
Cllr Mike Livesey
Cllr David Wallin

Ms Nabila Yakub (Town Clerk)
Cllr Luke Evans (Kent County Council)

11 Members of Public

FC/26/139 Welcome from the Chair
The Chair welcomed everyone present and apologised that the VJ Day flag was missed because the staff member was new to the role, noted that LGR had been paused, and sought volunteers for Saturday's councillor surgery.

FC/26/140 Apologies for Absence
Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Mulinya and Cllr Fenning.
No apologies were received from Cllr Scott.

FC/26/141 Members' Interests
None.

FC/26/142 Finn's Housing Development
Cllr Donaldson outlined Finns' proposed development, noting the site's green-wedge status and Westgate's interest because access would be through the town.

FC/26/143 Public Right to Speak
A speaker raised Palm Court residents' concerns about the Sea Road playground's consultation and its safety, requested reconsideration, and submitted a statement. The Chair said 96% of consultation respondents supported the site and her concerns would be considered.
A speaker outlined a judicial review concerning potentially trust-held land and invited residents to support the beneficiary register and legal fund.

FC/26/144 Minutes
The minutes of the Full Council meeting held on 15th July 2026 were received and approved as an accurate record.

FC/26/145 Football Pitch Online Booking Terms and Conditions
The Council received and noted the terms and conditions for booking the football pitch online. The form is intended for the website and can be adapted for other bookings.

FC/26/146 Tourism Working Party
The Council approved the formation of a Tourism Working Party, with councillors Donaldson, Fenning, Jarman, Livesey, Mulinya and Wallin agreeing to serve.

FC/26/147 National Joint Council (NJC) Pay Award
The Council noted the 2026-27 NJC pay award of 3.3%.

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FC/26/148 Speed Watch
The Council discussed restarting Speed Watch, recruiting volunteers, and publicising how the scheme works. Cllrs Donaldson and Jarman offered to help coordinate.

FC/26/149 Skatepark Phase 2
Cllr Donaldson announced that he had secured £20,000 in Pride in Place Impact funding for Phase Two of the Lymington Road skate park. With more than £40,000 raised overall, work on the second phase was expected to progress in the coming months. Councillors discussed holding a grand opening and whether some funding could support seating or a water fountain for users.

FC/26/150 Committee Updates
Cllr Livesey reported on the successful Blooming Westgate project and Picnic in the Park, upcoming Heritage Open Days, and plans for Remembrance Sunday and Christmas. The Committee also formed a Tourism Working Party.
Cllr King referred to the 35 bus service and proposed legal advice on whether Kent County Council had followed its policies when the service was reduced. He also raised the possibility of new bus shelters and offering to survey potential locations and called for clarification regarding responsibility for the footpath near the proposed Finn's development.
Cllr Wallin said the Planning Committee had considered three applications at the last meeting, which he believed were all approved. Sixteen members of the public had also attended to raise concerns about Finn's proposed Warren Drive development, but with no formal planning application submitted, it was not a matter the committee could formally consider.

FC/26/151 Finance Update
The Council received and noted the Bank Reconciliations for the months of July and August 2026.

FC/26/152 Councillors' Reports
Cllr Carr reported ongoing collection problems and said she and Cllr Jarman were working with TDC to help residents access bins and tackle fly-tipping.
Cllr Wallin raised concerns about a highway obstruction, a proposed HMO in Broadstairs and the Sea Road playground, and praised the bin collection team.
Cllr Livesey called for refreshed Council offices and a website that better engages young people.
Cllr King said vehicles parked near the Minster Road and Canterbury Road traffic lights obstruct visibility and make turning through the junction hazardous.

FC/26/153 County and Thanet District Councillors' Reports
Cllr Evans reported on bus services and subsidies, the pause to LGR, Thanet Way repairs, Speed Watch and speeding concerns, and the proposed Broadstairs HMO's impact on local infrastructure.

FC/26/154 Reports from Steven England, Beat Officer for Westgate and Birchington, and/or Jason Gordon, Community Warden
PC Steven England reported antisocial behaviour and nuisance vehicles at Lymington Road Recreation Ground, with damage to the football pitch. Police planned additional patrols and suggested exploring CCTV and other measures; he also noted a well-attended Speed Watch briefing and welcomed more volunteers.

FC/26/155 CCTV
Council **RESOLVED** to agree purchase and delegate procurement to the Finance and GP Committee.

FC/26/156 Clerk's Correspondence
None.

FC/26/157 Date of Next Meeting:
Wednesday 14th October 2026, 7pm.

Signed: _____ Date: _____

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