



BOXLEY PARISH COUNCIL
www.boxleyparishcouncil.org.uk

Beechen Hall, Wildfell Close, Walderslade, Chatham, Kent. ME5 9RU

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Clerk Mrs Pauline Bowdery **Assistant Clerk** Mrs Melanie Fooks

A G E N D A

To All Members of the Council, Press and Public

There will be a meeting of the **Environment Committee** on **Monday 11 June 2018** at Beechen Hall, Wildfell Close, Walderslade ME5 9RU commencing at 7:30 pm when it is proposed to transact the following business:

- 1 **Apologies and absences** (7.30)
To receive and accept apologies for absence.
- 2 **Declaration of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying** (7.31)
Members are required to declare any interests, dispensations, predetermination or lobbying on items on this agenda. Members are reminded that changes to the Register of Interests should be notified to the Clerk.
3. **Minutes of the Meetings 14 May 2018.** (7.32)
To consider the minutes and if in order sign as a true record (previously circulated).
4. **Matters Arising from the Minutes** (7.35)
 - 4.1 Minute 3110/4.1. Development Land Adjacent Wildfell Close. Subject to conditions being approved at officer level planning permission has been granted. The issue has now been referred to the parish council with a request for guidance on how to progress the project.
 - 4.2 Minute 3110/4.2 Ancient Woodland and TPOs. A councillor attending the next meeting is asked to take up the issue. **Action; KALC representatives.**
 - 4.3 Minute 3110/4.3 Boxley Road, Walderslade, KCC tree/verge maintenance. KCC appears not to be undertaking any more work on the verges. Members guidance are sought.
 - 4.4 Minute 3110/4.4 Traffic Speeds, Boxley Road/Beechen Bank Road. Helen Whately MP has written to Neil Davies CEO Medway Council (e-mail 03.05.18).
 - 4.5 Minute 3110/4.6 Fixed plate pedestrian crossing signs Grovewood Drive North. Will be installed in July/August.
 - 4.6 Minute 3110/4.7 Yellow lines at junctions along Provender Way. Junction names submitted to KCC. Paul Carter contacted 30/05/18.
 - 4.7 Minute 3110/4.8 Chatham Road Sandling new road layout. Work has commenced.
 - 4.8 Minute 3113/12.2 Litter bins. Response awaited from MBC. Request made to Parks Department for better bins.
 - 4.9 Any other matters arising from the minutes not on the agenda.
- To adjourn to allow members of the public to address the meeting** (7.47)
5. **Planning Applications for Consideration - DECISION** (7.57)
To receive and decide on responses to planning applications. See reports (pages 3-4).
6. **Planning Decisions, Appeals and Appeals Decisions - INFORMATION** (8.10)
STEM School Public Inquiry. Verbal report from Cllr Bob Hinder.
7. **Highways and Byways - DECISION** (8:12)
 - 7.1 Speed bumps Boxley Village, petition for their removal. See report (page 4).
 - 7.2 Roundabout sponsorship. See report (page 4).
 - 7.3 Parking Hotline. See report (pages 4-5).

- 7.4 Flooding in parish. See report (page 5).
- 7.5 Junction 3 M2. Helen Whately MP is arranging a meeting with Highway England, probably early June, about plans to tackle congestion (e-mail 03/05/18).
- 7.6 Pothole App. See report (page 5)
8. **Franklin Drive Play Area.** (8.26)
The donation from Gallagher's for the play equipment has been received and the equipment has been ordered.
9. **Policy and Procedures - REVIEW** (8.30)
None
10. **Members Reports - INFORMATION** (8.31)
To receive any reports or notification of issues from members.
11. **Volunteer Groups - INFORMATION** (8.36)
To receive any reports.
12. **Matters for Information – INFORMATION** (8.42)
To receive any reports.
12.1 School KIMS site. See page (6).
12.2 M2 Junction 5 Improvements.. See report (pages 6-7).
13. **Items for Next Agenda** (8.46)
Requests for items to be included on the agenda to be submitted no later than 25 June 2018.
14. **Next Meeting** (8.47)
Next Environment Committee meeting 11 June at Beechen Hall commencing at 7:30pm.
15. **Enforcement and Section 106 updates from MBC** (8.48)
To receive any information.

Pauline Bowdery

Pauline Bowdery
Clerk to Boxley Parish Council

Date: 4 June 2018

In accordance with policy the meeting should close no later than 9:30pm but the Chairman has devolved powers to extend it by 30 minutes.

Items to be returned to agenda: Minute 3031/15.1 MC/17/2341 Proposed development Darland Farm (checked 28/02/2018).

April 2018 T&MBC Local Plan update (checked 28/02/2018).

August 2018 Minute 3028/4.6 Speed Reduction Walderslade Woods Road.

September 2018 minute 3093/8.6 Lidsing Roads. Return to agenda to consider safety record and members wish for chevrons at junctions; KCC refused request for these as the crash records do not show there is a problem at junctions.

October 2018 Minute 3093/8.5 Provender Way snow and ice. Has KCC amended it to a Primary Route.

Minute 3011/8.3 Westfield Sole Rd/Yelsted Lane/ Harp Farm Rd, return if any fundamental changes. Minute 3028/4.1. Land to the rear of Tesco Grove Green. Parish office will undertake the work when it is able.

Legislation allows for meetings to be recorded by anyone attending. Persons intending to record or who have concerns about being recorded should please speak to the Clerk.

Supporting agenda papers for the Environment Committee Meeting 11 June 2018. The Chairman will assume that these have been read prior to the meeting. Councillors wishing to suggest changes to any policy or procedure document in this agenda should notify the office, in writing, at least three working days in advance of the meeting to allow details to be circulated at the meeting (or in advance if particularly contentious).

Item 5 Planning Applications for Consideration - DECISION

RATIFICATION

Take in the outstanding planning applications

18/502507/TPO - TPO Application for works to one Beech Tree - Reduce crown by 50%, crown thin remainder by 50%. Crown lifting by approximately 1 metre & reduction in width of the crown by approximately 3 metres at Fagus Close Walderslade. To ratify the Clerk's decision, after consulting members *Do not wish to object defer to landscape officer's views.*

18/502239/FULL – Proposed single storey side extension with internal alterations. Demolition of conservatory (Amendment to 16/505026/FULL) at Grove Green Road, Weaving. To ratify the Clerk's decision, after consulting members *The Parish Council has no material planning reasons to object.*

18/5021456/FULL – Erection of a building to provide office accommodation to existing factory and creation of additional parking facilities at 33 Lordswood Industrial Estate, Gleamingwood Drive, Lordswood. To ratify the Clerk's decision, after consulting members *The Parish Council wishes to see the application refused. It is considered that the proposed car parking spaces, to serve the office accommodation, will create on and off site road safety issues. Future HGV and van deliveries to the site will have nowhere to park or wait and there appears to be insufficient turning provisions for HGVs. Close to the applicant's site is Revenge Road, which serves the main area of the Lordswood Industrial development, it is completely saturated with on-street car and van parking leading to a reduction in vision sight lines and dangerous conditions for pedestrians and drivers. This saturation has led to HGVs waiting and parking in the adjacent Badger Road which is residential. The loss of on site lorry and HGV parking will potentially force HGVs onto Gleamingwood Drive and Badger Road. If there is insufficient on-site HGV turning provision then vehicles will be forced to reverse onto Gleamingwood Drive which with its proximity to the Revenge Road and Badger Road junctions is unacceptable. No mention is made of Section 106 funding to improve the local infrastructure yet there is an urgent need for improvements at the hazardous Lordswood Lane/Gleamingwood Drive junction. The parish council would like to apply for a Section 106 contribution towards highway improvements at the Gleamingwood Drive/Lordswood Lane junction.*

18/502370/FULL - Garage conversion & single storey side extension at Henley Fields, Weaving. To ratify the Clerk's decision, after consulting members *The Parish Council has no material planning reasons to object*

18/502560/TPO - TPO Application to Remove Any Deadwood, Any Crossing, Rubbing or Diseased Branches on T12, T13, T14 and T16 (Oaks) and T19 (Lime) and T23 (Beech) at The Medlars Maidstone. To ratify the Clerk's decision, after consulting members *Do not wish to object defer to landscape officer's views.*

18/502319/FULL - Variation of Conditions 2 and 4 of application MA/09/1280 (Change of use to children's indoor activity centre with alterations to the external appearance of the building and associated works including single storey extension to south-west elevation and car parking as shown on drawing nos. 09.03.01, 09.03.02, 09.03.03, 09.03.05 RevC, 09.03.06 RevC and 09.03.07 RevC received on 20th July 2009 and 09.03.09 Rev C and DHA/7215/01 RevA received on 11th August 2009). - To allow the use of the site as a children's gymnastics centre and to extend the opening hours to between 8.00am and 10.00pm at Units 30 & 32 Newnham Court Shopping Village Bearsted

Road Weaving. To ratify the Clerk's decision, after consulting members *The Parish Council has no material planning reasons to object.*

18/502213/FULL - Retrospective construction of a detached Garage to the front of the property at The Firs Boxley Road Walderslade. To ratify the Clerk's decision, after consulting members *The Parish Council wish to see this refused for the following planning reasons:*

- *The structure has an adverse and unacceptable impact on the streetscene.*
- *The structure brings forward the build line on Boxley Road. There is concern that if is allowed this will set an unacceptable precedent in the area.*

The Parish Council considers that the right of the Borough Council to object or manage a planning application is seriously eroded by the legislation allowing retrospective planning applications.

If the Planning Officer is minded to grant permission then the Parish Council asks that the application is reported to the Planning Committee.

DECISIONS

18/502715/FULL Loft conversion with front and rear dormers and extension of existing side dormer. Pine Lodge Boxley Road Walderslade ME5 9JD. Deadline 21 June 2018

18/502214/FULL Erection of a single storey rear extension to provide kitchen/family room, together with minor internal alterations. 9 Camomile Drive Weaving Maidstone Kent ME14 5FL. Deadline 19 June 2018

18/502621/FULL Erection of a first floor dormer extension to existing double garage for general purpose loft room. 1 The Spinney Walderslade Chatham Kent ME5 9JP. Deadline 19 June 2018.

18/502525/FULL Demolition of conservatory and erection of a two storey side extension and a rear single storey addition. Byways Grove Green Road Weaving ME14 5JX. Deadline 25 June 2018

Item 7 Highways and Byways - INFORMATION

- 7.1 Speed bumps Boxley Village. KCC will be removing the speed humps in Boxley Village during the resurfacing work and will not be replacing them until the petition response has been progressed. The e-petition closes on 31 May and as at 30 May has received 13 signatures. KCC officers will review the petition and then decide whether it has to go to KCC Committee.
- 7.2 Roundabout sponsorship. KCC has been contacted. A response is awaited from the officer responsible for permission etc. A reminder was sent 30 May.
- 7.3 Parking Hotline. To notify members of a scheme run by Medway Council, following taken from Medway Council website, a telephone number and e-mail address is supplied on the website.

Residents encouraged to call new hotline to report illegally parked cars

Published: Monday, 6th November 2017

Medway Council is making it easier for residents to report parking concerns with a new hotline and email service.

From today, Monday, 6 November, residents will be able to contact the council's parking enforcement team directly from 7am until 1am each day to report illegally parked vehicles.

With more vehicles on Medway's roads the council has listened to motorists and businesses and is encouraging people to call the team if they see illegally parked cars. Civil enforcement officers will then respond as quickly as they can and issue penalty charge notices where appropriate. Officers carry out regular patrols across Medway and the hotline will help them target areas which face the biggest problem with illegally parked vehicles.

Our parking services team deal with a range of issues including: vehicles which are parked next to a dropped kerb, stopped in a restricted areas outside schools, parked in a disabled bay without a badge and vehicles stopped on a pedestrian crossing. If you are walking

down the road and see a car parked illegally, for example on double yellow lines, you can call the hotline and officers will be sent to the street as soon as possible.

'Motorists will be able to contact the parking enforcement team directly'

Cllr Phil Filmer, Medway Council's Portfolio Holder in charge of Frontline Services, said: "It is fantastic that motorists will be able to contact the parking enforcement team directly on the phone or by email. The new hotline will make parking enforcement even more responsive and will help to keep Medway moving. Illegally parked vehicles can put people's lives at risk, especially if parked outside schools. This hotline will make Medway a safer place for people living, working, learning and visiting across Chatham, Gillingham, Strood, Rainham and Rochester. I would encourage all motorists to park responsibly and to call the hotline to report illegally parked vehicles."

7.4 Flooding. Four areas were particularly badly hit by the recent deluge.

Members have previously reported all five sites to KCC but the response was mixed.

- Boxley Road near junction Longwood. KCC removed the initial query of whether any road changes are needed from the KCC website, without contacting the parish council. A resident has requested permanent flooding signs be erected.
- The Street, Boxley Village, three property were flooded. Requests for drain clearance have been made by the local councillor but the strength and amount of water has caused serious flooding. Residents have been asked to formally approach KCC about the issue and to involve the parish council if no response is received.
- Cossington Lane/Brownlowe Copse, properties were flooded. WWG has, in the recent past installed a pond and sways in the woodland which has alleviated some of the problems during normal rain, but this did not contain the recent downpour.
- Impton Lane at the junction of Cinnabar Close. There was, a few years ago, a collapsed drain and it appears there are still problems.
- Boxley Road/Travertine Road junction.

In all five areas residents/councillors are of the opinion that serious investigation and probably remedial roadworks will be needed but so far the parish council has failed in its efforts to get KCC to discuss the situations.

Councillors guidance is sought on how they wish to escalate these issues and whether they wish to take it the Maidstone Joint Transport Board.

Members may also wish to ask for the drainage clearance records for the parish to check exactly when drains are scheduled for cleaning.

7.6 Deferred from parish council. Pothole App. Response from County Councillor Carter

"We have spoken to our customers in the past and general consensus was that they didn't necessarily want an app (which uses data, storage and requires initial download), they simply want the ability to be able to report from their mobile devices. We have therefore made our fault reporting tool mobile friendly and customers can now visit the site www.kent.gov.uk/highwayfaults and use the tool to report any issues from any device. The tool will recognise what kind of device the customer is using and optimise the maps and content for that particular device, so it should work much better whatever you are using whether it be a laptop, a smartphone or a tablet.

Many of our customers will only report the odd fault each year, so don't necessarily want to have to download an app just to be able to report something to us. We receive more than 10,000 highways enquiries each month and currently around 50% of these are coming in through our tool. We are keeping an eye on current technology, as well as what other highway authorities are using, as we are always open to new ideas, but we do have to bear in mind the cost of implementing these new systems and integrating them with our back-office systems".

Clerk's note: Members had suggested the app and signing up to countryeye because of the speed in which a report can be made. The above hyperlink just takes you to the current report a problem page.

Item 12 Matters for Information - INFORMATION

12.1 School KIMS site. Article taken from Helen Whately MP newsletter (e-mail 9/5/18)

*“Some parents are having to drive half way round Maidstone to get their children to primary school because we're running out of space in local schools. **With more housing on the way, the problem is only going to get worse.***

In 2017, we got Government funding for a new primary school and a special school near Maidstone. A site was identified on the edge of Bearsted which would serve the community where primary school places are so badly needed, within walking distance for a good number of pupils. Some concerns were raised about traffic and the designation of the site as green space, but it seemed like these problems could be solved, until a few weeks ago when the whole plan was thrown up in the air. A mental health unit is currently being built on an adjacent site and the alarm was suddenly raised that a school and a mental health unit couldn't be side by side.”

[section dealing with what the unit is and it is okay to have a school by it]

“I'm working with Maidstone Council, KCC and the Government to try to get this all sorted out, because the fact is, Maidstone's children need more schools and we need them soon.”

Clerk's note: It is believed the land that is being considered for the site is the area identified as a nature reserve.

12.2 M2 Junction 5 Improvements. Progress report from Highway England. (e-mail 30/5/18)

“As you know, Highways England is currently progressing an improvement scheme at M2 junction 5 in Kent. If you recall, Option 12A was presented at public consultation in Autumn 2017.

There was little support for Option 12A with 68% of the general public not supporting this option. Highways England therefore undertook a review of the rejected flyover option (Option 4) to determine if there were opportunities to reduce the cost of the scheme, whilst maintaining the benefits of this option.

A revised scheme has been developed, referred to as Option 4H1. This option delivers the Roads Investment Strategy 1 outcomes, increases safety benefits over Option 12A and ensures there are no traffic signals on the A249 mainline. We are today pleased to announce Option 4H1 as our preferred route.

Although lower cost than Option 4, the revised Option 4H1 still remains above the original allocated budget. Highways England has had a series of discussions with external partners to identify additional financial contributions to the scheme and now includes a £2.5 million contribution from Kent County Council.

For more information about the scheme, our webpage can be found at www.highwaysengland.co.uk/projects/m2-junction-5-improvements/.

We consulted on proposals to improve the M2 Junction 5/A249 Stockbury Roundabout between September and October 2017. Since then we have been carefully considering all the feedback we received.

We can now confirm that a modified version of the discounted flyover option (Option 4) has been chosen as our preferred route for this scheme. This is called Option 4H1. You can view the Preferred Route Announcement brochure, along with the Report on Public Consultation and our Scheme Assessment Report, [on our consultation page](#).

Towards the end of 2018/early 2019 we will be holding a series of drop in events around the scheme to give people with an interest in it the opportunity to talk to us. Please see the 'Community news' section below for more details. We will also be making special

arrangements to meet with any landowners who will be affected, and we have contacted these people individually.

What next?

Now we have announced the preferred route, we will carry out more detailed surveys and investigations to allow us to continue to design Option 4H1. The scheme will proceed under the Highways Act 1980 so there will be a series of public information events in late 2018/early 2019.

We currently expect work to start on site no later than March 2020 with an anticipated 18 month construction period.