

**Minutes of the Environment Committee on Monday 12 March 2018 at Beechen Hall,
Wildfell Close, Walderslade commencing at 7.30 pm.**

Councillors present: Mrs Wendy Hinder (Chairman), Mrs A Brindle, Ms L Clarke, Mr Ivor Davies, Mr Bob Hinder together with the Assistant Clerk

- 1 **Apologies and absences**
- 2 **Declaration of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying**
None.
3. **Pre-application consultation Kitewood**
To enable Kitewood to submit a Topographical survey to members they have requested the visit is rescheduled to the 9 April meeting. **Noted. Action: Office.**
4. **Minutes of the Meeting 5 February 2018.**
The minutes were **agreed** and **signed** as a correct record.
5. **Matters Arising from the Minutes**
 - 5.1 Minute 3074/6.1 Development Wildfell Close. Members **received** and **noted** the Clerk's report in which the development has been scaled down from 12 to 9 dwellings. The response for the planning application is covered under item 6.
 - 5.2 Minute 3074/6.2 Ancient Woodland and TPOs. Maidstone KALC did not place this on the MBC liaison meeting agenda. It will be taken to the next meeting 09/04/18. **Noted.**
 - 5.3 Minute 3074/6.3 Boxley Road, Walderslade, KCC tree/verge maintenance. KCC confirmed work is being undertaken. Cllr Wendy Hinder stated the work has not been completed and chipping has not been done. KCC to be reminded. **Action Cllr Wendy Hinder.**
 - 5.4 Minute 3074/6.4 Traffic Speeds, Boxley Road/Beechen Bank Road. Members **received** the clerk's report and asked for this to be escalated to MP's Tracy Crouch and Helen Whately. **Action Office/Cllr Bob Hinder.**
 - 5.5 Minute 3074/6.5 Flooding Boxley Road near junction Longwood. KCC website shows "works programmed". However, Cllr Davies stated that this work has not been carried out and the drain situated above this junction is also blocked and needs to be reported. **Action: Cllr Davies.**
 - 5.6 Minute 3074/6.6 Obscured signage Boxley Village. Request for maintenance made. KCC website shows "under investigation. **Noted**
 - 5.7 Minute 3074/6.7 Fixed plate pedestrian crossing signs Grovewood Drive North. Request for these to be installed made to KCC. This item was dealt with under 8.4.
 - 5.8 Minute 3076/9.4 Solar powered sign south of M2 bridge Lidsing Road. KCC reminded that an engineer was due to go out to check whether sign worked, update requested 28/02/18. **Noted.**
 - 5.9 Minute 3076/9.8 KCC Tree Maintenance Beechen Bank Road. Awaiting report from KCC. **Noted.**

As no members of the public were present the meeting was not adjourned.

6. **Planning Applications for Consideration**

18/500888/FULL. Demolition of existing garden wall to the west and erection of a new garden wall feature partially enclosing the site. 63 Bargrove Road Maidstone.
The Parish Council can see no material planning reason to object.

18/500958/TPO application to coppice two Oaks and one Chestnut tree. High Oaks 2 Butleigh Drive Sandling.
Do not wish to object and defer to the views of the Landscape Officer.

Application No: 15/507909/FULL AMENDED DETAILS Walderslade Woods Including Land Off Wildfell Close Walderslade. Change of use of woodland and grassland to provide for formal public open space with associated ancillary structures (including seating and natural play equipment), improvement to paths and landscaping; and the erection of 9 no. dwellings with garaging, landscaping and access on land west of Wildfell Close.
The Parish Council wish to see approved.

18/501054/TPO TPO application - 3no. Hornbeam Trees - Fell, 2no. Hornbeam Trees - 30/50% Reduction. 19 Orbit Close Walderslade.
Do not wish to object and defer to the views of the Landscape Officer.

18/501053/TPO application – 1 No. Scots Pine and 1 No. Holly - Fell at Vinters Lodge, Lodge Road, Grove Green.
Do not wish to object and defer to the views of the Landscape Officer.

18/500942/FUL – Proposed flat roof rear extension at 105 Badger Road, Walderslade.
The Parish Council can see no material planning reason to object.

Application for Street Trading Consent for Lynn Karen Mandy Kehily to sell food at St Michaels Close, Aylesford. **Agreed.**

7. **Planning Decisions, Appeals and Appeals Decisions**

7.1 APP/U2235/W/17/3191553. Notification of Appeal Lodged with the Planning Inspectorate. Erection of 2 no. dwellings with associated landscaping and car parking. Land North of Street Farm Cottages Forge Lane Boxley. The Planning Inspectorate/Secretary of State has decided that the appeal will be determined based on Written Representations. Deadline for additional submissions 16 March 2018.
Noted.

7.2 APP/U2235/W/18/3194811 Notification of Appeal Lodged with the Planning Inspectorate. Minor Material Amendment to condition 2 of 15/503845/FULL (Amendments to planning permission 14/504888/FULL (Change of use of store to 2 x dwellings, 2-storey rear extension to provide 1 x dwelling (3 dwellings total); Provision of external stair cases to 3 x dwellings, new door way to lower ground floor (front elevation) and raising roof height of store) to increase the floor area of the dwellings.) The Pump House Forstal Road Aylesford. Written Representations. Deadline 15/03/2018. (e-mail 09/02/18). BPC response was object due to adverse impact on the original building. **Noted.**

7.3 17/505898/FULL 1 Yew Tree Close Lordswood Chatham Kent. MBC Planning Committee 22 February. Cllr Bob Hinder attended to represent the parish council and the application was refused by MBC.
A local resident asked that Cllr Hinder be thanked.
MBC reason for refusal "The setback which is subject to this application is an attractive element of the street scene in Gleaming Wood Drive which reflects and mirrors a woodland edge, and its loss would diminish the quality of the street scene and the rhythm of these open space setbacks on Gleaming Wood Drive thereby being contrary to policy DM1 of the Maidstone Borough Local Plan."

It was suggested that this wording for is noted for any future use. **Action office.**

7.4 APP/U2235/W/17/3187907 Town and Country Planning Act 1990. The Cowshed, Street Farm, The Street, Boxley, MAIDSTONE, ME14 3DR. Hearing 27 March 2018, commencing 10.00 at Maidstone House Room 6b. It was **agreed** that Cllrs Clarke and Brindle would attend. **Action Cllrs Clarke/Brindle.**

8. **Highways and Byways**

8.1 Yellow lines at junctions along Provender Way. Cllr Hinder's meeting with County Councillor Paul Carter raised £2,000 from his devolved budget to pay for some yellow lines at the junction. St John's School have now provided a list of roads they would like considered which consists:

- Blacksmith Drive
- Shearers Close
- Threshers Drive
- Wagoners Close

It is still not sure how many yellow lines £2,000 will cover and advice will be sought from KCC. **Action office.**

8.2 Yellow lines Provender Way. Cllr Hollands notified the office that the bus stop is on yellow lines Members **received** and **noted** MBC's response the DYL's are enforceable at all times whereas bus stop markings are not.

It was also confirmed that Enforcement Officers had been visiting the area and issuing tickets to motorists who were illegally parked. **NFA.**

8.3 Chatham Road design, Sandling. The work was programmed for April however with the snow and further comments from Cllr Carter being made on the design an update has been requested from KCC. **Noted.**

8.4 Grovewood Drive North pedestrian crossing fixed plate signs. KCC is arranging for these to be purchased and erected. The cost to purchase and erect two signs, which BPC would have to pay for is in the region of £500. Members agreed to fund this project and release £500.00 from the street maintenance budget. **Action office.**

8.5 Provender Way snow and ice. Members received and noted the Clerk's report and agreed to make a case to KCC requesting that St Johns School is put onto the primary route for gritting during adverse weather particularly as it is also on a bus route. **Action office.**

8.6 Lidsing Road. Request for road painted chevrons at all its junctions. Six months ago the parish council was informed that the lack of crashes on Lidsing Road did not warrant any remedial work, specifically the painted chevrons members requested, the situation remains the same. Members decided no further action was required but did request the junction of Harp Farm Road and Lidsing Road is reviewed for safety reasons and returned to the agenda in six months. **Action office.**

9. **20mph speed limits**

Members **received** and **noted** a further report compiled by Cllr Davies. Cllr Dengate requested Cllr Davies be thanked for the report and after discussion members **agreed** no further action.

10. **DoT Consultation – Proposals for the creation of a Major Road Network**

Members **received** the briefing note and **agreed** with the suggested responses from the Clerk. **Action office.**

11. **Franklin Drive Play Area.**

Members **received** and **agreed** the draft Heads of Terms for the 99-year lease. Members also unanimously **agreed** to vire £1500.00 from the street maintenance budget to cover the cost of tree maintenance, additional signage and landscaping. **Action office.**

12. **Policy and Procedures**

12.1 Terms of Reference **reviewed** and **agreed.**

12.2 Sale of Public Land. The procedure was reviewed by the Clerk and is still considered fit for purpose **Noted.**

13. **Members Reports**

13.1 Cllrs Bob and Wendy Hinder attended the M & S Public Exhibition 22 Feb 2018 at the Hilton Hotel, Eclipse Park they were very surprised at the number in attendance and how many were in favour of the application. The presentation was impressive as were

the plans which included a ragstone wall. It is anticipated that it will be built subject to approval by next Easter 2019.

14. **Volunteer Groups**

Friends of Boxley Warren. Cllr Bob Hinder reported that he would try and coordinate members to plant Steve Wright's memorial Oak tree which has been delivered.

Walderslade Woodlands Group. Cllr Davies confirmed that the group did not meet for their monthly task day on Sunday 11 March due to bad weather. He also stated that the conditions in Cossington Road have improved since the ponds have been built.

15. **Matters for Information**

None.

16. **New Item**

Consultation on M20 Junctions 3-5 Smart Motorway Scheme

Deadline 29 March 2019. Cllr Bob Hinder **agreed** to respond on behalf of BPC and asked for the link to be forwarded by email to him. **Action office.**

17. **Items for Next Agenda**

Cllr Dengate requested an item for "Cat Claws", these devices are proposed to be installed into pavements at the kerb edge to prevent inconsiderate drivers from parking on the kerb.

Action office.

18. **Next Meeting**

Next Environment Committee meeting 9th April 2018 at Beechen Hall commencing at 7:30pm.

19. **Enforcement and Section 106 updates from MBC**

There were none.

Meeting closed at 8.45 pm.

Signed as a correct record of the proceedings.

Chairman Date