

**Minutes of the Boxley Parish Council Environment Committee Meeting held at Beechen Hall, Wildfell Close, Walderslade on 5 February 2024, commencing at 7.30pm.**

**Present:** A Brindle – Acting Chairman, I Davies, C Sheppard, H Bryant (to item 8.6) and P Mclean along with Mrs D Baylis (Parish Clerk)

1. **Apologies and absences**  
Cllrs P Huntingford, B Hinder, M Beckwith and S Mayes – apologies accepted.
2. **Declaration of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying**  
None
3. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 11 December 2023**  
Agreed.

It was proposed by Cllr A Brindle seconded by Cllr P Mclean and all agreed to exclude members of the public from the Confidential section.

4. **Matters Arising from the Minutes**  
None

**Public Session at the discretion of the Chairman. Parishioners may address the meeting with regard to any item on the Agenda (time limited to 3 minutes per person). Items not on the Agenda must be submitted to the Clerk in advance of the meeting. Non-parishioners are only able to address the meeting at the invitation of the Chairman.**

No members of the public were present.

5. **Planning Applications for Consideration – DECISION**

**24/500215/FULL Cobtree Manor Golf Course, Chatham Road, Sandling, ME14 3AZ**

Erection of a single storey mono-pitched extension to south facing elevation and a pergola to main entrance. Alterations to fenestration to the north, south and west facing elevations, including the blocking up of windows and the insertion of new bi-fold doors and double doors, and creation of a slate patio.

**Boxley Parish Council** have no material planning reasons to object to this application.

**24/500119/FULL Valley Park Community Schools, Huntsmans Lane, Maidstone, ME14 5DT**

Demolition of kitchen/canteen and ramp/. Erection of a pre-fabricated modular administration unit with access ramp and steps.

**Boxley Parish Council** have no material planning reasons to object to this application.

**24/500110/TCA Land Adjacent The Oast Grove Green Weaving Kent ME14 5PX**

Conservation area notification to remove one Sycamore (T1).

**Boxley Parish Council** object to this application and would not like to see the removal of a healthy tree.

6. **Ratifications**

It was proposed by Cllr A Brindle, seconded by Cllr C Sheppard and all agreed that the ratification of the planning responses made out of meeting be made.

7. **Planning Decisions, Appeals and Appeals Decisions**  
Noted.
8. **Highways and Byways – DECISION**
  - 8.1 **Highways Improvement Plan.**  
The HIP was looked at. It was agreed to add the flooding at Impton Lane near junction with Bracken Hill and the flooding under the motorway bridge.
  - 8.2 **Junction 3 of the M2/Bluebell Hill**  
No further updates.
  - 8.3 **A249 Bearsted Road Major Infrastructure Project.**  
The work is progressing fast.
  - 8.4 **Boxley Village**  
Following communication with a resident by Cllr Bryant it was agreed to try and organise a Saturday litter pick for Boxley. Clerk to contact BVS to see if they would get involved.
  - 8.5 **Lower Thames Crossing**  
The contracts have been given out for the building of the crossing.
  - 8.6 **Any Highways issues raised at the meeting**  
Cllr Brindle had attended the first meeting of the combined parish traffic group. Several items were looked at including speed limits on rural roads, speed indicator devices, the KCC booklet on road improvements, recording of accidents. Several Councillors were producing reports for the next meeting and she would report back on the results. The aim is to produce joined up HIP items so that KCC take more notice. The Clerk was asked to circulate the notes to all Councillors for information.
9. **Policy and Procedure – Review**  
None on this Agenda.
10. **Task List**  
Noted.
11. **Members and Officer's Reports**  
Cllr Bryant was working with Boxley's Community Beat Officer on the nuisance motor and quad bikes in Walderslade. She was sending information through to the police and said that residents needed to be encouraged to do the same. Jacob Troth was speaking to officers in Medway and Tunbridge to get a joined up approach to the issue. The Clerk was asked to put information on the Website. Another issue was a couple of dangerous out of control dogs being walked in the woodland. The Clerk was asked to look at signage.
12. **Residents' Concerns**  
Residents were unhappy with shrub clearance in a property on the corner of Grovewood Drive South and Weaving Street. The Clerk was asked to see if the property owners had bought the land from Wards. The Clerk was asked to look at the permitted height of fences adjacent to roads.  
A resident had been in contact regarding the withdrawal of the B150 bus. The Clerk was asked to get in touch with Kent Connect to see if there were any options for residents with this service.

- 13. **Playground for Sandling**  
No further update.
- 14. **Consultations**  
The latest Lidsing consultation was looked at and the Clerk would circulate a draft response on Friday 9 february.
- 15. **Volunteer Groups**  
No reports received.
- 16. **Items for Next Agenda**  
It was agreed to put the Combined Parish Traffic Group on the next Parish Council Agenda.
- 17. **Next Meeting**  
Next Environment Committee meeting 11 March 2024.

**In view of the confidential nature of the item about to be transacted, it is advised that the public and press will be excluded from the meeting for the duration of the following items.**

- 18. **Enforcement and CIL/Section 106 updates from MBC**  
No CIL received.

Meeting closed at 20.45.

Signed as a correct record of the proceedings.

Chairman ..... Date .....