

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

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**Clerk:** Daniela Baylis

**Assistant Clerk:** Heidi Pearson

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**A G E N D A**

There will be meeting of a Woodland Working Group on Monday 17 July 2024 at Beechen Hall, Wildfell Close, Walderslade, ME5 9RU at 6.30pm

1. **Apologies and absences**

To receive and accept apologies for absence.

1. **Declaration of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying**

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.

1. **Minutes of the meeting held on the 24 July 2023**
2. **Impton Lane Open Space**
3. **Weavering Diamond Jubilee Orchard**
4. **Franklin Drive**
5. **Beechen Hall**
6. **Trees Adjacent to Feldspar Close**
7. **Walderslade Woodlands**
8. **Items for Next Agenda – DECISION**

Requests for items to be included on the next agenda.

1. **Next Meeting**

19 February 2025 (unless required earlier)

Daniela Baylis

Daniela Baylis

Clerk to Boxley Parish Council Date: 1 July 2024

**Supporting agenda papers for the Woodland Working Group Meeting on 10 July 2024. 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 3. Minutes of the meeting held on 24 July 2023**

W

**Minutes of the Boxley Parish Council Woodland Working Group Meeting held at Beechen Hall, Wildfell Close, Walderslade on 24 July 2023**

**Councillors Present**: Cllrs H Bryant, D Hubbard, S Mayes and I Davies along with the Clerk, Mrs D Baylis

**Election of Chairman and Vice-Chairman**

Cllr S Mayes proposed Cllr Bryant as Chairman, this was seconded by Cllr Hubbard and all agreed.

Cllr I Davies proposed Cllr D Hubbard as Vice-Chairman, this was seconded by Cllr S Mayes and all agreed.

1. **Apologies and absences**

None

2 **Declaration of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying**

None.

3. **Woodland Management Committee Terms of reference**

The Terms of reference were agreed and would be put to full Council for adoption.

4. **Woodland Plans**

a) **Walderslade Woodlands**

This was deferred until after the completion of the 3 yearly safety inspection.

b) **Impton Lane**

It was decided that a walk round with a Tree Surgeon and a report would suffice.

c) **Weavering Diamond Jubilee Orchard**

It was decided that a walk round with a Tree Surgeon and a report would suffice.

d) **Franklin Drive**

It was decided that a walk round with a Tree Surgeon and a report would suffice.

e) **Beechen Hall**

The Clerk was asked to circulate the original plan she had found. This plan had never been enacted or submitted to MBC for approval.

5. **Three yearly Safety Inspection for Walderslade Woodlands**

It was proposed by Cllr Bryant, seconded by Cllr Mayes and all agreed to accept the quotation from Company B.

6. **Items for next Agenda**

7. **Next Meeting**

Another meeting would be arranged once the 3 yearly inspection of Walderslade Woodlands has been arranged.

Meeting closed at 19.20

Signed as a correct record of the proceedings.

Chairman ……………………………………………….. Date ………………………………………………………..

**Item 4. Impton Lane Open Space**

W

This is due for a tree inspection. There are no real issues. The houses are still dumping rubbish such as old fence material into the open space. Most of this is cleared by the Parish Caretaker. The management plan is in the folder but I can see no records that show that this was ever approved or enacted.

Work on this space is usually on a needs basis.

**Item 5. Weavering Diamond Jubilee Orchard**

W

This is due for a tree inspection. The Fruit trees are growing very slowly. The gap in the corner frequently complained about by one resident in Grove Green Lane is now fully filled in by vegetation. The last tree work carried out was in 2021 when trees adjacent to Grove Green Lane were trimmed/dead ones felled.

The road side verges are flailed by Landscape Services twice a year. There is a management plan from 2013 in the folder. I can find no evidence that this has ever been enacted.

The trees have been inspected every three years and an inspection is due again this year.

There is an area in the orchard where children had built a structure in trees that overlook a neighbororing property. The Parish Caretaker has taken this down but feels that a reoccurance is likely so he will be keeping an eye on the area. There was an incident on the night of the 18th where large rockets were being fired off into the undergrowth in an attempt to harm foxes. The rocket cases have been recovered by Cllr Sullivan and the matter reported to the police.

**Item 6. Franklin Drive**

W

This is due for a tree inspection. There is no management plan for these trees.

**Item 7. Beechen Hall**

W

The Tree report is on Agenda as a separate attachment. The Tree Protection Plan for the container installation, which was part of the granted planning permission, needs to be implemented (separate attachment) before the container can be purchased and installed.

**Item 8. Trees adjacent to Feldspar Close**

W

There are several very large Sweet Chestnut trees that are on the verge of the footpath leading into the woodland and the rear gardens of peroperties in Feldspar Close. These are frequently complained about by residents who are worried about the size of the trees and the proximity to their properties. A tree survey was carried out on these trees and the report is a separate attachement to this Agenda.

The Clerk recommends a site visit before the meeting.

**Item 9. Walderslade Woodlands**

W

There are no reported problems. The Dormouse nestboxes are on order. The locking post for the path down from Alexandra Glen has been installed.

The Clerk is working through the tree report and highlighting those trees that will need professional work and once this is done it will be sent to Hoods for action.