**Minutes of the Boxley Parish Council Environment Committee Meeting held at Beechen Hall, Wildfell Close, Walderslade on 13 May 2024, commencing at 7.30pm.**

**Present**: B Hinder – Chairman, I Davies, C Sheppard, A Brindle, J Akehurst, H Bryant and P Mclean along with Mrs D Baylis (Parish Clerk) and one member of the public

1. **Apologies and absences**

Cllrs M Beckwith and M Cox – apologies accepted.

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

None.

1. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 8 April 2024**

Agreed.

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

1. **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.**

The member of the public had come to talk about the parking on Grovewood Drive South. Drivers are taking no notice of the double yellow lines, bus stop or other road markings. It was agreed to add a request for a Safety Audit from the Stem school end of Grovewood Drive South to Provinder Way. Audit to be during school run times. It was agreed to publicise details of how to contact parking services to request they attend. It was agreed to put this back on the Task List.

It was proposed by Cllr A Brindle, seconded by Cllr C Sheppard to produce a leaflet with details of parking enforcement at MBC to be distributed to local residents and put the information on the website and social media sites.

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

**24/501809/SUB Appledore, Weavering Street, Weavering, ME14 5JJ**

Submission of details to discharge condition 4 (biodiversity) of planning application 24/500769/FULL

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

**24/501702/NMAMD Land East of Gleamingwood Drive, Lordswood, Kent**

Non-material amendment to application 21/500658/OUT to amend approved external materials.

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

**24/501749/TPOA 18 Lombardy Drive, Maidstone, ME14 5TA**

Tree Preservation Order Application: Tree (possibly Cherry) to be felled to ground level.

**Boxley Parish Council** defer to the views of the Tree Officer.

**24/501663/FULL Amber House, Cossington Road, Boxley, ME5 9JB**

Erection of loft extension including rear dormer.

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

**24/501322/FULL Container, Cobtree Manor Park, Forstal Road, Aylesford, Kent**

Removal and replacement of an existing storage container.

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

1. **Ratifications**

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

1. **Planning Decisions, Appeals and Appeals Decisions**

Report noted.

It was proposed by Cllr Hinder, seconded by Cllr P Mclean and all agreed that the planning application for the removal of the self-seeded sycamore tree damaging the closed churchyard wall be re-applied for.

Aldi Store Appeal

It was agreed to make a representation to the Appeal stressing the need for infrastructure to be in place before the store opens.

1. **Highways and Byways – DECISION**
   1. **Highways Improvement Plan.**

Several areas of road from Penenden Heath to Boxley village have been marked. The Clerk was asked to obtain a schedule for the works.

The Clerk was asked to obtain information on the time frame for road repairs after a road problem is marked.

The Clerk was asked to ascertain how much of Impton Lane was being resurfaced. The road works were scheduled for 2 days from 7am to 7pm starting on the 16th May.

* 1. **Junction 3 of the M2/Bluebell Hill**

No update.

* 1. **A249 Bearsted Road Major Infrastructure Project**.

The Clerk was asked to contact Colin Shorter to request regular updates on this work for circulation to residents.

* 1. **Boxley Village**

It was proposed by Cllr C Sheppard, seconded by Cllr P Mclean and all agreed that a new traffic survey be carried out with a budget of £350 set.

* 1. **Any Highways issues raised at the meeting**

Gleamingwood Drive – access from Westfield Sole Road

This was being used by site traffic accessing the site. On the agreed plans this was to be used only as an emergency egress point. It was agreed to keep an watching brief on this access to ensure that agreed planning conditions were adhered to.

The Joint Parishes Traffic Group had met and were looking at speed watch and the purchase of equipment. It was proposed by Cllr C Sheppard, seconded by Cllr P Mclean and all agreed for the Clerk to look at the purchase of new speed watch equipment.

1. **Policy and Procedure – Review**

None on this Agenda.

1. **Task List**

It was agreed to report the rubbish next to Grovewood Green hall to Environmental Health at MBC.

Flooding under motorway bridge in Boarley Lane. Awaiting KCC response.

Withdrawal of B150 bus service. Kent Connect had been contacted. Assistant Clerk to chase for a response.

The land being fenced in on the corner of Grovewood Drive South and Weavering Street would be kept on a watching brief.

1. **Members and Officer’s Reports**

Cllr A Brindle asked the Clerk to source a copy of the agreed Local Plan.

1. **Residents’ Concerns**

The issue with parking by STEM school parents on Grovewood Drive South had been covered during the Public session.

1. **Consultations**

It was proposed by Cllr C Sheppard, seconded by Cllr P Mclean and all agreed to pay for the QR code generation subscription.

1. **Volunteer Groups**

No reports received.

1. **Items for Next Agenda**

None put forward at this meeting.

1. **Next Meeting**

Next Environment Committee meeting 13 May 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**.

1. **Enforcement and CIL/Section 106 updates from MBC**

No CIL received.

1. **Lidsing Garden Development**

The Inspectors feedback questionnaire was gone though and filled in. Clerk to submit responses

1. **Siting of Caravans in the AONB**

Report noted

1. **Bell Lane**

Cllr Hinder requested the Committee’s approval to approach MBC for an update. This was agreed by all.

Meeting closed at 20.44.

Signed as a correct record of the proceedings.

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