

**Minutes of the Environment Committee on Monday 8 January 2018 at Beechen Hall,
Wildfell Close, Walderslade commencing at 7.30 pm.**

Councillors present: Mrs Wendy Hinder (Chairman), Mr Ivor Davies, Mr Bob Hinder and Mr D Hollands together with the Clerk.

1 Apologies and absences

Cllrs Dengate (work commitment), Clarke (unwell) and Constable (holiday).

2 Declaration of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying

None.

3 Minutes of the Meetings 4 & 11 December 2017

The minutes were **agreed** and **signed** as a correct record.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

4.1 Minute 3045/5 Kitewood Land Impton Lane. Kitewood will attend the 5 February meeting to update members on a proposal. **Noted.**

4.2 Minute 3045/4.1 Development Wildfell Close. An amended planning application was being prepared for submission to the Planning Officer. **Noted.**

4.3 Minute 3045/4.2 Ancient Woodland and TPOs. The issue will be taken by Maidstone KALC to the 15/01/18 MBC liaison meeting. **Noted.**

4.4 Minute 3045/4.5 Boxley Road, Walderslade, KCC tree/verge maintenance. The Chairman notified members that KCC's final stage of maintenance work was planned for February 2018. **Noted.** Cllr Bob Hinder would identify the property storing a compost bin on the verge in order that the office could send a letter asking for its removal. **Action: Cllr Bob Hinder and office.**

4.5 Minute 3045/4.6 Traffic Speeds, Boxley Road/Beechen Bank Road. Awaiting response from Medway Council. **Noted. Action: Clerk was asked to send a reminder that a response was still outstanding.**

4.6 Minute 3045/4.7 Chatham Road design, Sandling. KCC has insufficient funds to complete the whole design. Issue to be taken to the 16th January scheduled meeting with Paul Carter. **Action: Cllr Wendy Hinder.**

4.7 Minute 3057/7.1 Junction 3 M2. The issue is being taken up with the Minister responsible for Highways. Response awaited from Helen Whately MP. **Noted.**

4.8 Minute 3057/7.2 Flooding Boxley Road. Awaiting response from Southern Water. After brief discussion it was decided **no further action on the reservoir issue.** Cllr Davies raised the issue of the flooding on Boxley road near the junction of Longwood. The issue to be raised with the Highway Inspector to see if some minor local work could allow excess water to drain away to the side. **Action: Clerk.**

4.9 Any other matters arising from the minutes not on the agenda. None.

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

5. Planning Applications for Consideration

17/506237/FULL - Erection of a single storey front extension to existing garage (re submission of 17/502798/FULL) at 39 Coltsfoot Drive Weaving. **Ratified** the Clerk's decision, after consulting members, *The Parish Council has no material planning reason to object.*

17/506340/FULL. Proposed detached double garage. Hillside Harbourland Close Boxley. **Ratified** the Clerk's decision, after consulting members, *The Parish Council has no material reasons to object however there are concerns about the parking and access/egress on and at the junction of Harbourland Close.*

17/506339/FULL. Single storey side extension. Hillside Harbourland Close Boxley. **Ratified** the Clerk's decision, after consulting members, *The Parish Council has no material reasons*

to object however there are concerns about the parking and access/egress on and at the junction of Harbourland Close.

17/506384/FULL Two storey front/side extension combined with first floor side extension above existing ground floor extension and external alterations. 6 The Covert Walderslade. *Wish to see refused but not reported to the Planning Committee. Members felt that due to the topology of the site there will be a loss of privacy to the neighbours and there would be an adverse impact on the street scene due to over development of the site.*

17/506439/FULL. Amendments to existing car park to provide 29 additional spaces. Towergate House Eclipse Park Sittingbourne Road. *The Parish Council has no material reasons to object.*

17/506440/FULL. Variation of condition 3 to application MA/07/1773 with amendment to allow the provision of additional 29 parking spaces. Towergate House Eclipse Park Sittingbourne Road. *The Parish Council has no material reasons to object.*

18/500039/TPO PROPOSAL: TPO application to reduce the crown of two Ash trees by 30% and to thin the crown on one Hazel tree by 25-30%. 14 Trotwood Close Walderslade. *Do not wish to object, defer to the views of the landscape officer.*

6. **Planning Decisions, Appeals and Appeals Decisions**

17/505399/FULL. Garage/Store (works started). The Stables, Street Farm, The Street, Boxley, Kent, ME14 3DR. Cllr Bob Hinder attended the MBC meeting. GRANTED. Cllr Bob Hinder gave a verbal report on his attendance. He had highlighted to the meeting that by continually allowing retrospective planning applications they were depriving themselves of the right to set conditions to mitigate any harm.

7. **Highways and Byways**

- 7.1 Yellow lines at junctions on Provender Way. The report on the problems faced by parents parking inconsiderably and dangerously and the lack of support from other organisations was **received** and **noted**. After discussion it was **agreed** that the issue is taken to the Paul Carter meeting and the school was to be approached about involving South East Today. **Action: Cllr Wendy Hinder and office.**
- 7.2 Yellow lines Provender Way. MBC's failure to yellow line a bus stop box. It was **agreed** to write to Alison Broom cc ARRIVA. **Action: Clerk.**
- 7.3 Yellow lines Boxley Road/Travertine Close. Request from resident to have yellow lines installed to stop vehicles parking on the small verge by the junction of Travertine Road. Members thanked the resident for bringing the issue to their attention but currently it was felt that his request could not be taken further. **Action: Clerk.**
- 7.4 Gleamingwood Drive/verge to rear of Yew Tree Close. The MBC explanation as to why the trees had been felled was **received** and **noted**.
- 7.5 Councillor Wendy Hinder has a scheduled meeting on 16 January with County Councillor Paul Carter concerning outstanding or new highway issues. Issues identified for discussion were
- Old Chatham Road new design, the parish council has just been notified that there is insufficient funding to do all the work.
 - Junction 3 of the M2 and the local North Ward traffic issues.
 - Yellow lines Provender Way.
- 7.6 Maidstone Pantomime at Maidstone Studios. A couple of complaints have been received about the parking on Grovewood Drive North and Provender Way however two known families attending the pantomime (from outside the area) managed to easily park within Maidstone Studios. A resident and Cllr Hollands reported that the parking on the verge had not appeared to have damaged it. **Noted.**
- 7.7 Cllr Hollands reported that almost all the signage in Boxley Village was obscured by vegetation. **Action: Office to report.**

- 7.8 Solar powered sign south of M2 bridge Lidsing Road. KCC to be asked what the sign, which has never been seen working, was for. **Action: Office.**
8. **Safer Crossing Point Grovewood Drive North**
The information on the fixed electronic signs was **received** and **noted**. After discussion members **agreed** that KCC would be approached to put up fixed plate warning signs for pedestrians crossing. **Action: Clerk.** No further action was identified, the Clerk was thanked for her work on the issue.
9. **20mph speed limits**
As Cllr Constable was not present the item was deferred until the next meeting. **Action: office.** Cllr Bob Hinder notified members that a recent press report on a Bath City audit of its recently installed 20 mph limit zones highlighted the fact that in the year after they were installed there were more accidents. A copy of the audit report to be located. **Action: office.**
10. **Street Maintenance Budget**
Barrier the Spinney, Walderslade. The report on the issue of quad bikes using footpaths was **received** and **noted**. After discussion it was **agreed** that the situation would be monitored. The Chairman thanked Cllr Davies for delivering the letter to residents.
11. **Policy and Procedures**
Policies and Procedures Review Calendar (review). **Agreed.**
12. **Members Reports**
None.
13. **Volunteer Groups**
Friends of Boxley Warren. The sudden death of Steve Wright was reported with Cllr Bob Hinder saying that the group and many people had been devastated by the news.
14. **Matters for Information**
Maidstone Joint Transportation Board 17 January 2018 5.00 pm Town Hall.
15. **Next Meeting**
Next Environment Committee meeting 5 February 2018 at Beechen Hall commencing at 7:30pm.
16. **Enforcement and Section 106 confidential updates from MBC**
Members **received** and **noted** updates on the outstanding issues.

Meeting closed at 8.33pm.

Signed as a correct record of the proceedings.

Chairman Date