



BOXLEY PARISH COUNCIL
www.boxleyparishcouncil.org.uk

Beechen Hall, Wildfell Close, Walderslade, Chatham, Kent. ME5 9RU
☎ 01634 861237 ☉ clerk@boxleyparishcouncil.org.uk

Clerk Mrs Pauline Bowdery **Assistant Clerk** Mrs Melanie Fooks

A G E N D A

To All Members of the Council, Press and Public

There will be a meeting of the **Environment Committee** on **Monday 11 April 2016 at Beechen Hall, Wildfell Close, Walderslade ME5 9RU** commencing at 7:30 pm when it is proposed to transact the following business:

- 1 **Apologies and absences** (7.30)
To receive and accept apologies for absence.
- 2 **Declaration of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying** (7.31)
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.
- 3 **Minutes of the Meetings of 7th and 14th March 2016 - DECISION** (7.33)
To consider the minutes of the meetings (already circulated) and if in order to sign as a true record.
4. **Matters Arising from the Minutes** (7.35)
 - 4.1 Minute 2849/4.1 HGV parking. See report (pages 3 - 4).
 - 4.2 Minute 2849/4.2 Installation of hard standing/apron at Boxley Road noticeboard. Awaiting response from KCC see report (pages 4-5).
 - 4.3 Minute 2849/4.3 Inconsiderate parking Provender Way. County Councillor Carter has been reminded about the parish council's approach about using his devolved highway budget to install yellow lines at the junctions on Provender Way.
 - 4.4 Any other matters arising from the minutes not on the agenda.

To adjourn to allow members of the public to address the meeting (7.42)

5 **Planning Applications for Consideration - DECISION** (7.47)
To receive and decide on responses to planning applications (pages 5).

6 **Planning Decisions, Appeals and Appeals Decisions - INFORMATION** (8:00)
To receive any updates.
16/500889 Variation of condition 2 to allow handmade clay tiles rather than Kentish peg tiles. Parish council attendance at MBC Planning Committee meeting 7 April 2016. Report to be given at meeting.

TPO application to crown reduce 1 Oak tree by 1-1.5m, remove two lowest limbs of 1 Hornbeam, crown reduction of 1 Pear tree by 3- 4ft at 8 Travertine Road, Boxley, Kent, ME5 9LQ. APPEAL: Dismissed.

15/509444/FULL PROPOSAL: Conversion of existing garage to habitable room, internal alterations, erection of first floor side extension and attached garage - resubmission of 15/506684 ADDRESS: 2 Lombardy Drive Maidstone Kent ME14 5TA

Clerk's note: This decision is included for information purposes. As members will see this was the second attempt for the applicant to gain permission, the first application being reduced

down in size. On both occasions members objected to the application on account of the size and impact on the streetscene. MBC has again refused permission

The Council hereby REFUSES Planning Permission for the above for the following Reason(s):
(1) By virtue of its scale and location, the garage would have a negative impact on the streetscene and the openness of this bend location. As a result, it would be contrary to Maidstone Borough Wide Local Plan 2000 Policy H18, the Maidstone Residential Extensions Supplementary Planning Document and the NPPF.

- 7 **Highways and Byways - DECISION** (8:08)
To consider any issues.
7.1 Bollards on verge adjacent to Boxley Rd/Travertine Rd junction see report (page 5).
- 8 **Technical consultation on implementation of planning changes** (8.25)
To consider the briefing document, enclosed for committee members and available on the website and on request for other members from the office. To decide on a response.
- 9 **Volunteer Groups - INFORMATION** (8.40)
To receive any reports.
- 10 **Policy and Procedures - REVIEW** (8.44)
BPC planning information leaflet. To consider whether the current document is still fit for purpose. The leaflet is enclosed for members but also available from the parish council's website or on request from the office.
- 11 **Matters for Information - INFORMATION** (8.54)
To consider any information.
- 12 **Next Meeting** (8.55)
Next Environment Committee meeting 16th May 2016 at Beechen Hall commencing at 7:30pm. Items for the agenda must be with the parish office no later than 3rd May.

In view of the confidential nature (personal details and data) on the Enforcement item about to be transacted, it is advisable that the public and press will be excluded from the meeting for the duration of or part of the item.

- 13 **Enforcement and Section 106 updates from MBC** (8.56)
To receive any confidential updates.

Pauline Bowdery

Pauline Bowdery
Clerk to Boxley Parish Council

Date: 4 April 2016

In accordance with policy the meeting should close no later than 9:30pm but the Chairman has devolved powers to extend it by 30 minutes.

Items to be returned to agenda: None.

Legislation allows for meetings to be recorded by anyone attending. Persons intending to record or who have concerns about being recorded should please speak to the Clerk.

Supporting agenda papers for the Environment Committee Meeting 11 April 2016. 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 4 Matters Arising from the Minutes. Purpose of item: INFORMATION AND DECISION

Minute 4.1 HGV parking. The following is an update on the work that Helen Whately MP has been doing. (E-mail 16.03.16). Further information has been requested on the issue regarding criminalisation of parking and toll fees to allow collection from foreign operators.

“At a meeting with Andrew Jones at the Department of Transport I asked whether foreign HGV drivers are paying their fair share for using UK roads.

I've now received a letter from the Under Secretary of State, which you can read by clicking the attachments below.

He tells me that since it was introduced on 1st April 2014, the Levy has raised a total of £192.5 million, of which £46.5 million came from foreign registered HGVs. It was estimated to raise £21 million from foreign vehicles, so this is good news.

British lorry drivers felt that it's unfair that they paid to use roads abroad but foreign hauliers didn't pay to use British roads. As a result the Coalition Government introduced the HGV Road User Levy so that drivers of heavy vehicles contributed to the upkeep of our roads.

The Levy applies to both British and foreign HGVs, but the previous Government reduced Vehicle Excise Duty for British lorries at the same time, so UK lorry drivers would not have to pay more”.

Clerk's note: the following letter continues onto a page 2 (another pdf document) with a hyperlink and then signature so page 2 hasn't been reproduced here.



Department
for Transport

Helen Whately MP
House of Commons
London
SW1A 0AA

From the Parliamentary
Under Secretary of State
Andrew Jones MP

Great Minster House
33 Horseferry Road
London
SW1P 4DR

Tel: 0300 330 3000
E-Mail: andrew.jones@dft.gsi.gov.uk

Web site: www.gov.uk/dft

16 OCT 2015

Dear Helen,

Thank you very much for coming in for the meeting on 16th September to discuss transport issues in Kent.

In our discussion you queried whether foreign HGVs are paying their fair share for using the UK's roads, and I undertook to update you on the HGV Levy which we introduced last year with than in mind.

Since 1st April 2014 all HGVs at or above 12 tonnes gross weight using UK roads have been required to pay the HGV Road User Levy. The Levy ensures all such HGVs contribute to the costs of UK road maintenance. The idea is to remove some of the inequality UK hauliers feel when paying to use many roads abroad. The Levy costs up to £10 per day or £1,000 per year.

While UK vehicles must also pay the Levy to keep it in line with European legislation, for most UK-registered HGVs vehicle excise duty (VED) has been reduced so they do not face additional costs. For simplicity, they pay the Levy alongside their VED.

In its first year of operation the Levy raised a total £192.5million in receipts, of which £46.5million was from foreign-registered vehicles and £146million from UK-registered vehicles. Receipts from foreign vehicles were significantly ahead of forecast which had been of the region of £21m per year. This has arisen from higher numbers of vehicles coming to the UK than we had estimated, and the fact that most operators are not buying the best value (long-duration) Levies. Enforcement has also been a good-news story, with the Levy compliance level for foreign vehicles in Great Britain steady at around 95%.

Item 4.2 Installation of hard standing/apron at Boxley Road noticeboard. It is proving extremely difficult to get a definitive answer from KCC concerning this work and if one is not received by

Tuesday 5 April the Clerk will liaise with the committee chairman about sending an e-mail to the Cabinet Members who had previously identified the officer that had to respond.

Item 5 Planning Applications for Consideration. Purpose of item: DECISION

16/502819/TPO TPO application to 4no Oak, 1no. Lime and 1no. Beech - remove any deadwood, cross rubbing or diseased branches and epicormic growth at 3 The Medlars Maidstone Kent ME14 5RZ. Deadline 22 April 2016.

16/502040/FULL Provision of 2 parking spaces with associated means of access at The Pump House Forstal Road Aylesford Kent ME20 7AH. Deadline 21 April 2016.

16/502200/FULL Retrospective application for wooden shed in front garden at Glenside Boxley Road Walderslade Kent ME5 9JE. Deadline 20 April 2016.

16/502703/TPO TPO application to 2no. Hornbeam - Crown lift to give maximum ground clearance of 3m, crown thin by 15% max, cut back branches to give 5m max clearance from rear elevation at 7 Bellgrove Court Boxley Kent ME5 9PQ. Deadline 19 April 2016.

Dennis Hollands site visit report, Court Lodge Farm, The Street (old barn and area beside The Granary and adjacent to the church graveyard).

I attended the site visit due to my Parochial Church Council Chairman role as there might be an issue with the wall between the barn and the graveyard and I asked that the Clerk also accompany me. As members are aware the owner Graham Maskell has been given planning permission to develop the area and it was an extremely interesting visit especially as he had brought along the plans and also spoke of future plans. I have therefore suggested that at some point a site visit is arranged with the Environment Committee so that they can see what is on the ground and what is planned for the future. I have left this with Graham and the Clerk to arrange when it is needed.

Item 7 Highways and Byways. Purpose of item: Decision/guidance

Item 7.1 Bollards on verge adjacent to Boxley Rd/Travertine Rd junction.

KCC Highways has informed the parish council that it will only allow approved contractors to work on its verges and, in this instance, it is now willing to allow bollards to be installed.

Members' previous statement on the action needed was that the parish office was to obtain costs for installing bollards on the verge to stop parking. To stop parking KCC Highways states that 16 bollards should be installed and two quotations to a) supply and fit bollards and b) to fit bollards only have been received from the approved KCC Highway contractor.

The cheapest option, if members want 16 bollards, is for the parish council to purchase the bollards and reflectors and arrange for them to be installed, at a cost of approximately £1,220. For the KCC Highway's contractor to do all the work will cost £3,121. A cheaper "supply and install" quotation has been received from a local firm however it is not clear if this firm is recognised by KCC Highways to allow them to undertake the work. A response is awaited from the firm.

Any damaged bollards will have to be replaced by the parish council however the KCC grass maintenance regime allows for strimming around bollards installed in verges.