



BOXLEY PARISH COUNCIL
www.boxleyparishcouncil.org.uk

Beechen Hall, Wildfell Close, Walderslade, Chatham, Kent. ME5 9RU
☎ 01634 861237 ✉ clerk@boxleyparishcouncil.org.uk
Clerk Mrs Daniela Baylis **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 8 June 2020** by **Telephone conference to follow on from Parish Council Meeting starting at 7.30pm**

- 1 **Apologies and absences**
To receive and accept apologies for absence
- 2 **Election of Environment Committee Chairman**
To elect a new Chair of the Environment Committee as the current Chairman, Cllr Hinder wishes to step down.
- 2 **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.
3. **Minutes of the Meetings held on 2 March 2020 and 9 March 2020**
To consider the minutes and if in order sign as a true record (Pages 3-8)
4. **Matters Arising from the Minutes**
 - 4.1 Minute 3330/4.1 Junction 3 M2. 10 MPs request for action on local infrastructure. It has been requested that this goes on the next JTB agenda
 - 4.2 Any other matters arising from the minutes not on the agenda.

To adjourn to allow members of the public to address the meeting

5. **Planning Applications for Consideration – DECISION**
To consider applications received. See report (page 8).
6. **Ratifications**
To ratify the planning responses made by the Clerk after consulting members. See report (pages 8-12).
7. **Items for Next Agenda – DECISION**
Requests for items to be included on the next agenda.
8. **Next Meeting**
Next full Environment Committee meeting 5 April 2020 at Beechen Hall commencing at 7:30pm.

Daniela Baylis

Daniela Baylis, Clerk to Boxley Parish Council

Date: 3 June 202

Supporting agenda papers for the Environment Committee Meeting 8 June 2020. 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 Meetings held on 2 and 9 March 2020 - DECISION

Minutes of the Environment Committee on Monday 2 March 2020 at Beechen Hall, Wildfell Close, Walderslade commencing at 7.30 pm.

Present: Mrs A Brindle – Chair, Ms L Clarke, Mr I Davies J Willmott, together with Mrs D Baylis, Clerk.

3 Apologies and absences

Cllrs Bob Hinder, John Constable, D Hollands

2. Declaration of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying

Cllr J Willmott stated that he would take no part in any discussion or decision on Planning application 19/505949

To adjourn to allow members of the public to address the meeting.

No members of the public present.

9. Planning Applications for Consideration or ratification

19/506140/TPOA - Spire Alexandra Hospital, Impton Lane, Walderslade

Tree preservation Order application to: G1 – a group of 6 mixed trees 60-65ft tall and spread of 50-60ft consisting of Beech, Ash and Hornbeam to the rear of no 9 Orbit Close, reduce height by 25 percent (15-20ft) remove overhanging branches into neighbours property and the hospitals road by approx. 12f feet. G2 – group of six mixed trees 60-65ft tall and have a spread of 50-60ft consisting of Beech, Ash and Hornbeam to reduce all over by 15-20 feet to clear them of neighbouring property. Deadline 6/3/20.

Boxley Parish Council response: Boxley Parish Council defer to the opinion of the Tree Officer.

20/500673/TPOA – 1 The Medlars, ME14 5RZ

TPO application – T1 Sweet Chestnut re-pollard and reduce 4 x lower lateral branches by 1 m (maintenance/size control). Deadline 11/3/20.

Boxley Parish Council response: Boxley Parish Council defer to the opinion of the Tree Officer.

20/500718/TPOA Land Adjacent The Street Boxley Kent (Boxley Village Green

Tree Preservation Order Application: T3 and T4 – sycamore trees – crown raise the overhanging branches to 4m. These are overhanging the green with many branches almost 1m from the floor, these are causing massive overshadowing and causing people wanting to sit on the benches to have to duck to get underneath them. Deadline 6/3/20 (BPC Application).

Boxley Parish Council response: Boxley Parish Council would like to see this application approved.

20/500690/TCA – Boxley Village Green, The Street, Boxley

Trees in a Conservation Area notification: T1 Cherry Tree – reduce branch on one side to improve shape and encourage more even growth. T2 – Catalpa – remove two branches which overhang the road, these are cracked and likely to fall into the road. Dead wood throughout the tree to be removed to improve health and appearance of tree. Deadline 9/3/20 (BPC application).

Boxley Parish Council response: Boxley Parish Council would like to see this application approved.

20/500599/FULL Burley Profile Specialists, Unit 2 Old Mill Lane, Aylesford, ME20 7DT

Refurbishment of existing building including removal of all asbestos products (roof and wall Panels). Deadline 9/3/20.

Boxley Parish Council response: Boxley Parish Council have no objections to this application .

20/500516/SUB – Valley Park Community School, Huntsman Lane, ME14 5DT

Submission of details pursuant to condition 16 (Community Use Agreement) in relation to

Boxley Parish Council response: Boxley Parish Council would like an explanation of how the conflict between the planning permission requiring all external lighting to be switched off between 10pm and 7am and the Community Use Agreement allowing use of the facilities until 10.30pm.

19/505949 – Land to back of Cherry Orchard Court Lodge Farm, The Street, Boxley

This is on the Agenda for the Planning Committee on the 5th March.
Cllr Lynn Clarke is speaking on behalf of BPC.

4. **Notifications**

Noted

5. **Next Meeting**

Next Environment Committee meeting 9 March 2020 at Beechen Hall, Wildfell Close, Walderslade ME5 9RU commencing at 7.30pm.

Meeting closed 8.45 pm.

Signed as a correct record of the proceedings.

Chairman Date

Minutes of the Environment Committee on Monday 9 March 2020 at Beechen Hall, Wildfell Close, Walderslade commencing at 7.30 pm.

Present: Cllrs A Brindle - Chair, Mr I Davies, Mr B Hinder, Mrs P Huntingford, J Willmott, J Constable, D Hollands together with Mrs D Baylis, Clerk.

4 **Apologies and absences**

Cllr L Clarke

2. **Declaration of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying**
None

10. **Minutes of the Meeting 9 December 2019, 13 January 2020 and 27 January 2020**
The minutes were agreed and signed as a correct record.
The Clerk was asked to send a letter to MP's Tracey Crouch and Helen Whatley asking for an update on what they have done regarding Junction 3 of the M2. **Action Clerk**

11. **Matters Arising from the Minutes**
 - 4.1 Minute 3330/4.1 Junction 3 M2. 10 Kent MPs request for action on local infrastructure.
Cllr B Hinder reported that the JTB meeting had been cancelled due to lack of business.
The Clerk was asked to contact David Burton and ask for this to go on the next Strategic Planning Agenda. **Action Clerk**
 - 4.2 Any other matters arising from the minutes not on the agenda. **None.**

To adjourn to allow members of the public to address the meeting.

Cllr V Davies had attended as a member of the public. He wished to raise Condition 19 on the Popes Field Schools development which required all the amendments to the roads to be implemented before the schools opened. The schools are scheduled to open in September and the roadworks had not been started. This had been raised with Enforcement but as yet there was no breach as the schools had not opened.

Cllr V Davies also raised the matter of the boundary between Grove Green Community Hall and Tescos. Between the Boundary fence and the recycling bins a lot of rubbish had been dumped and there were reports of rats. Cllr Brindle said she would raise the matter with the Manager of the store and the Clerk was asked to report it to Environmental Health.

12. **Planning Applications for Consideration or ratification**

20/500848/TPOA - 11 Sandstone Rise, Boxley, ME5 9DH

TPO application to cut back group of sweet chestnut trees to fence line to clear from residents property.

Boxley Parish Council Response: Boxley Parish Council defer to the views of the Tree Officer.

20/500613/FULL – 2 Ploughmans Way, Boxley, ME5 9DE

Erection of first floor side extension.

Boxley Parish Council Response: Boxley Parish Council have no material planning reason to object to this application.

20/500779/FULL – 77 Lombardy Drive, ME14 5TB

Insertion of 2no, new first floor side windows.

Boxley Parish Council Response: Boxley Parish Council have no material planning reason to object to this application.

20/500951/FULL – 11 Orache Drive, Weaving, ME14 5UG

Demolition of existing conservatory and erection of single storey rear extension with light lantern

Boxley Parish Council Response: Boxley Parish Council have no material planning reason to object to this application.

20/501010/TPOA 5 Sylvan Glade, Walderslade ME5 9PW

TPO Application – Oak tree coppice all remaining stems to fence height due to concerns that the tree can cause damage to properties in a storm/high winds and endanger life. Deadline 26 March 2020.

Boxley Parish Council Response: Boxley Parish Council defer to the views of the Tree Officer

20/500959/ADV – Unit 2, Aylesford Business Park, St Michaels Close, Aylesford ME20 7US Advert Application for 3 No flex faces with overhead LED troughlights (Advert 1,3,4) and 1 No non illuminated flex face (Advert 2). Deadline 26 March 2020.

Boxley Parish Council Response: Boxley Parish Council have no material planning reason to object to this application.

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

The Planning decisions on the Agenda were noted and the responses made out of meeting ratified.

7. **Highways and Byways**

7.1 Highways Improvement Plan.

It was agreed that once projects had been completed they would be put onto a separate list of completed projects.

7.2 Harp Farm Road

There was no further update on any flooding work that has been carried out. The Clerk was asked to chase for an update through Jennie Watson. **Action Clerk**

7.3 Walderslade Woods

An email had been received from Jennie Watson stating that she had found the funding for the works and that work on the speed reduction and island improvements would be done.

7.4 Junction of Yelstead Lane and Dunn Street

There has been another serious collision at this junction and a video was available. It was agreed to put improved signage for this junction on the HIP.

7.5 Installation of double yellow lines on Junctions exiting onto Grovewood Drive South

It was agreed to monitor this until the schools open.

7.6 To consider any issues raised at the meeting

Lodge Road roundabout reports of cars 'drifting'. Cllr John Constable said that he would monitor the situation and report back.

8. **Wildfell Close – flooding to Saracen Fields**

Recent heavy downpours were resulting in water flowing from Walderslade Woods, through

Wildfell Close down to Saracen Fields and pouring out onto Boxley Road. Due to previous flooding to number 2 a French Drain had been installed and the water was flowing out of this. It is thought that this could be due to blocked compartments on Walderslade Woods and this would be reported to MBC for investigation.

9. **New Litter Bin for Weaving Diamond Jubilee Orchard**

It was agreed to purchase a new bin.

10. **Policy and Procedures**
None scheduled for review. **Noted.**
11. **Members and Officer's Reports**
Cllr Bob Hinder reported that he had not been able to find any update on the Care Home Appeal. No decision had been made yet.
The Planning Committee had decided on the Land to the Back of Cherry Orchard – 19/505949
The applicants would have to submit a site redevelopment plan within 2 months.
11. **Consultations**
MC/18/0556 – Gibraltar Farm, Ham Lane, Gillingham, ME7 3JJ
Application for approval of reserved matters being appearance, landscaping, layout and scale pursuant to planning permission MC/18/0556 – Outline application with some matters reserved (appearance, landscaping, layout, scale) for construction of 450 market and affordable dwellings with associated access, estate roads and residential open space (renewal of planning permission MC/14/2395)
Boxley Parish Council response: Boxley Parish council would like to reiterate its previous objections to this application.
The applicant recognises that there are traffic issues on Westfield Sole Road by reason of his proposed improvements. These improvements are only going to be on the stretch of the Road that adjoins land that he owns. The whole road will need improving for it to be safe. An increase of traffic on this road would lead to congestion, crashes and potentially personal injuries.
Boxley Parish Council is very concerned at how the site traffic is going to navigate these very narrow lanes to the site. What is the proposed route for HGV's? There has still been no Safety Audit of Westfield Sole Road and this needs to be done before this application is considered and a decision made.
We object to any development which will increase traffic along Walderslade Woods and the already overcapacity Junction 3 of the M2.
The proposed work will create a fast route away from the development towards Maidstone and the M20 through Boxley Village. In a November 2018 survey Boxley village recorded an average 52,391 vehicular movements per week which is already too many. The single road through the village is unclassified and any additional traffic would have a severe and direct impact on the residential properties that line the road as it is a linear village. The Parish Council has received several reports from pedestrians who have been hit by car wing mirrors whilst using the very narrow pavements. Any increase in traffic through this village would be dangerous.
Boxley Parish Council objects on highways grounds, specifically the impact on the health and safety of other road users and the impact on the local highway infrastructure on Lidsing Road, Forge Lane, Westfield Sole Road, Yelstead Lane, Harp Farm Road, The Street (Boxley village), Walderslade Woods and Junction 3 of the M2.
12. **Volunteer Groups**
No reports received. The chairman of the Walderslade Woods Group is on Holiday but a work day is planned at the end of the month.
The Friends of Weaving Heath did a litter picking day and collected 15 bags of rubbish and 4 pallets.
13. **Items for Next Agenda**
Requests for items to be included on the agenda to be submitted no later than 27 January 2020.

Noted.

14. **Next Meeting**

Next Environment Committee meeting 6 April 2020 at Tyland Barn, Sandling following on from the Parish Council meeting commencing at 7.30pm.

15. **Enforcement and CIL/Section 106 updates from MBC. Received and Noted.**

Meeting closed 8.55 pm.

Signed as a correct record of the proceedings.

Chairman Date

Item 6. Planning Applications for Consideration – DECISION

20/502038/FULL Popesfield, Bearsted Road, Weaving, Kent

Variation of Condition 19 of planning permission 18/506656/FULL (Primary School and Special Educational Needs Secondary School) to include provision of a controlled pedestrian crossing point on Bearsted Road until such time that the upgrade works as part of the A249 Bearsted Road Improvement Scheme relevant to this development have been completed.

Comments due 8 June but extension granted until the 9th. **See report pages 12-13**

20/502199/TPOA 7 Silvertree Close, Boxley, ME5 9ST

Tree preservation order application: five trees from Walderslade Woods, branches overhanging back garden, trim branches over the boundary.

20/502258/FULL 33 Alexandra Glen, Walderslade, ME5 9EB

Erection of a two storey side extension (resubmission of 19/502258/FULL)

20/502230/TPOA 8 Abigail Crescent, Walderslade, ME5 9DZ

TPO application to reduce height of one Beech tree from 12m to 6m, and reduce the height of one oak tree from 15m to 7.5m.

20/502314/TPOA 2 Wildfell Close, Walderslade, ME5 9RU

TPO application for 1x (T2) Hornbeam – reduce lateral branches away from house to leave 2 meters clearance.

20/502315/TPOA 2 Wildfell Close, Walderslade, ME5 9RU

TPO application for 1x (T3) Sweet Chestnut, crown lift by removal of lowest branches to create clearance no house/porch of 1-2 meters and over footpath/road by 3 meters.

Item 7. Ratifications

20/500569/FULL 51 Bargrove Road, ME14 5RT

Erection of a two storey rear/side, first floor side/front extension with 2 number first floor dormers to rear on a catslide roof

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

20/501115/FULL 13 Yew Tree Close, ME5 8XN

Demolition of flat roof porch, erection of a single storey pitched roof porch to front elevation and erection of a single storey pitched roof side extension

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

20/501211/FULL Anacabri, Weaving Street, ME14 5JH

Demolition of the conservatory and garage/store. Erection of a two storey/single storey rear extension and a front porch extension

No objection, will not affect the street scene and may in fact improve it with removal of building on the side – BH

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

20/501307/TPOA 11 Micawber Close, Boxley, ME5 9JZ

Tree preservation order application: Sweet Chestnut – remove all trunk/stem suckers to the first main branch (approximately 6m from ground level)

Boxley Parish Council defer to the views of the Tree Officer

20/501359/FULL South Moor, Grove Green, ME14 5JW

Retrospective application for erection of an outbuilding

Boxley Parish Council have no material planning reasons to object to this application but do not approve of retrospective planning applications.

20/501385/FULL 1 Boxley Cottages, ME14 4AA

Erection of a dormer window to rear and a detached 2 bay carriage, including widening of existing site entrance

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

20/501386/LBX 1 Boxley Cottage, ME14 4AA

Listed building consent for erection of a dormer window to rear and a detached 2 bay carriage, including widening of existing site entrance

Boxley Parish Council defer to the views of the Conservation Officer

20/501454/SUB Plot 3, Maidstone Innovation Centre, Newnham Court Way, Weaving

Submission of details pursuant to condition 3 (details of materials) of application 18/506658/REM

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

20/501455/SUB Plot 3, Maidstone Innovation Centre, Newnham Court Way, Weaving

Submission of details pursuant to Condition 8 (details of planting scheme in connection with 'green walling' of application 18/506658/REM)

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

20/500091/FULL Bredhurst Garden Centre, ME7 3ND

Minor material amendment to 17/502100/FULL (demolition of existing wedding venue, office and other commercial buildings and erection of 4 no. detached dwellings with associated parking, access, infrastructure and landscaping works to allow relocations of Plots 1 and 2 including amendments to the locations of the approved garages)

If the Case Officer is minded to approve Boxley Parish Council would like the Application referred to the Planning Committee

Boxley Parish Council object to this application as moving plots 1 and 2 closer to the road will in fact, contrary to the design statement have a detrimental effect on the street scene. Given that it is stated that the scheme was started on the 1/6/2019 as stated, we fail to see the reasoning behind the moving of plots 1 and 2 at this late stage. If the Case Officer is minded to approve Boxley Parish Council would like the Application referred to the Planning Committee

20/503191/OUT Lavender Cottage, Weaving, ME14 5LD

Approval of reserved matters following outline application for access, layout, and scale for the demolition of existing outbuildings and erection of a single storey detached dwelling with associated access and parking

Boxley Parish Council has no material planning reason to object to this application

20/501443/FULL 8 Greensands, Boxley, ME5 9DQ

Demolition of existing shed. Erection of two storey side extension to include integral garage and part two storey, part single storey rear extension.

Boxley Parish Council has no material planning reason to object to this application

20/501169/FULL Bridgewater, Tyland Lane, Sandling, ME14 3BL

Erection of a single storey rear extension including new render to facades and erection of single storey rear ext Boxley Parish Council have no material planning reasons to object to this application. However, the CIL form is incomplete and it has been noted that work has already been started ension to existing garage (resubmission of 19/503437/FULL) (part retrospective)

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

20/501391/LBC Watercress Cottage, The Street, Boxley, ME14 3DX

Listed building consent for conversion of attached double garage to create additional ground floor living accommodation, including replacement of garage doors with two new windows, weatherboarding to match existing and insertion of a heritage style roof light to eastern elevation. Erection of a new two storey bay oak cart-shed with log store, and relocation of removed garage doors to existing three bay cart-shed to create secure storage for mowers etc

Boxley Parish Council do not wish to object and defer to the views of the Conservation Officer

20/501390/FULL Watercress Cottage, The Street, Boxley, ME14 3DX

Conversion of attached double garage to create additional ground floor living accommodation, including replacement of garage doors with two new windows, weatherboarding to match existing and insertion of a heritage style roof light to eastern elevation. Erection of a new two storey bay oak cart-shed with log store, and relocation of removed garage doors to existing three bay cart-shed to create secure storage for mowers etc

Boxley Parish Council do not wish to object and defer to the views of the Conservation Officer

20/501429/OUT Land at Impton Lane, Walderslade

Outline application for 5 no. residential units, with associated access, parking, hard and soft landscaping, and sustainable drainage systems (all matters reserved except for access)

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

However, it is noted that the woodland management plan is only for 10 years with no proposals for what will happen after this period. The CIL form is incomplete as there are no figures given for total indoor floor coverage in Section 6.

20/501415/FULL 15 Brownelw Copse, Walderslade, ME5 9JQ

Erection of a single storey rear extension

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

20/501489/TPOA 10 The Covert, Boxley, ME5 9JJ

TPO application to reduce height of overhanging Hornbeams shown in photo received 02.04.2020 to height of 12m

Boxley Parish Council defer to the views of the Tree Officer

20/501540/FULL Units 37-38 Lordswood Industrial Estate, Gleamingwood Drive, ME5 8RZ

Erection of 2.4 m high palisade fence to connect with and match existing fence

Boxley Parish Council has no material planning reasons to object to this application

20/501530/TPOA 1 Olivine Close, Walderslade, ME5 9NQ

TPO application to cut back line of mixed species trees from rear boundary to give a clearance of 2 metres from the wall.

Boxley Parish Council defers to the views of the Tree Officer

20/501539/SUB Maidstone Innovation Centre Newnham Court Way Weaving Maidstone Kent ME14 5

Submission of details pursuant to Condition 2 (materials) in relation to planning permission 18/506658/REM

Boxley Parish Council has no material planning reasons to object to this application

20/501518/LAWPRO Old Willow Barn Tyland Lane Sandling Kent ME14 3BL

Lawful Development Certificate for the proposed replacement of one existing residential caravan and demolish the existing sheds. Replace with the stationing of two residential caravans

Boxley Parish Council object to this application. This application should be a full planning application for the demolition of a shed to be replaced by a caravan and not the Lawful Development Certificate applied for which gives the misleading impression that it is the replacement of one caravan with another and not two caravans. The second caravan would be more prominent in an area adjacent to the ANOB and change the scenic quality of the area.

20/501154/LBC St Andrews Chapel, Boarley Lane, Sandling, ME14 3BU

Listed building consent for creation of vehicular site access and temporary site facilities

Boxley Parish Council has no material planning reasons to object to this application and defer to the views of the Conservation Officer

20/501170/FULL Bridgewater, Tyland Lane, Sandling, ME14 3BL

Installation of a window to front gable and insertion of side dormer

Boxley Parish Council has no material planning reasons to object to this application

20/501374/FULL Lillicos Country Store, The Forstal Beddow Way, ME20 7BT

Modifications to the shop entrance including new ramps, decking and entrance canopy. Relocation of stable sample any hay storage. Re-arrangement of parking area to increase parking numbers from 35-52 (additional 17no.) Change of use to incorporate new cage area within kitchen within premises.

Boxley Parish Council have no objections to this application.

20/501330/FULL Flintstones, Impton Lane, ME5 9EE

Demolition of existing bungalow and part of garage block, and erection of a new detached chalet bungalow

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

20/500765/OUT Gibraltar Farm, Ham Lane

Outline application (with all matters reserved except access) for the erection of up to 450 market and affordable dwellings, children's nursery and supporting retail space up to 85sqm, with provision of main access to Ham Lane; estate roads; cycle and pedestrian routes; residential and access to Ham Lane; estate roads; cycle and pedestrian routes; residential and community open space and landscaping; new junction for Lidsing Road/Hempstead Road and realignment and widening of Lidsing Road. Off site related highway works to Westfield Sole Road, Shawstead Road, Hempstead Road, Chapel Lane, Hempstead Valley Drive, Hoath Way roundabout, Hoath Way and M2 junction 4.

Previous objection submitted**20/501626/FULL 36 Olivine Close, Walderslade**

Erection of a single storey front extension and first floor extension over existing garage
Boxley Parish Council have no material planning reasons to object to this application.

20/502007/FULL 22 Gleaners close, Weaving

Erection of a double garage on existing driveway and replacement of part of the existing drive with soft landscaping

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

Item 6. 20/502038/FULL Popesfield, Bearsted Road, Weaving, Kent
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For Information:

From: Matthew Blythin <matthew.blythin@dhaplanning.co.uk>

Sent: 15 May 2020 16:38

To: clerk@boxleyparishcouncil.org.uk

Subject: Bearsted Primary Academy and Snowfields Academy, Popesfield

Dear Mrs Bayliss

I hope this email finds the Parish well given the current ongoing challenges we are all facing.

I wanted to write to update the Parish on the primary and SEN schools at Popesfield. As the Parish are aware, KCC are progressing highway upgrade works at the Bearsted Road roundabout and surrounding road network and these were originally planned and programmed to be in place by the time the schools would open. Unfortunately KCC confirmed earlier this year that this would no longer be the case due to delays in their programme and the current situation around COVID-19 has only increased these delays. The schools planning permission includes a condition requiring these works to be in place prior to opening and we have therefore been in ongoing discussions with MBC and KCC Highways regarding amendments to the condition that would enable the opening of the schools in advance of completion of these works in a way which would still safeguard pedestrian safety.

As the Parish may recall, the schools will initially open with only a very small proportion of the final school roll, increasing incrementally over time. Given this, KCC Highways have indicated that from a highway capacity perspective, they are content for the schools to open based on the current programme of highway works. With regard to pedestrian safety, it has been agreed that the highway works being progressed by KCC will include a controlled crossing point on Bearsted Road for the duration of the works until such time that the new permanent crossing is in place and that this will be a contractual requirement for the chosen contractor carrying out the works. This will ensure that anyone walking to the school from the south via

New Cut will benefit from a continuous dedicated pedestrian route and controlled crossing, which was KCC's original concern.

On this basis, we have submitted an application to MBC to vary the associated condition to require a controlled pedestrian crossing on Bearsted Road until such time that the KCC upgrade works are complete. The Parish will no doubt shortly be formally consulted on this by MBC and we would be very happy to discuss in more detail with the Parish by phone or other means (Teams, Skype or Zoom) to answer any queries that you may have. The Trust are extremely keen to work constructive and proactively with the local community and are very excited about welcoming their new 2020 intake who have now had their places confirmed and look forward to working with the Parish on an ongoing basis.

I trust the above is helpful and look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards

Matthew Blythin

Director

Email: matthew.blythin@dhaplanning.co.uk

Office: 01622 776226

Mobile: 07764492270

From: Matthew Blythin <matthew.blythin@dhaplanning.co.uk>

Date: 19 May 2020 at 14:41:05 BST

To: "Val Springett (Cllr)" <ValSpringett@maidstone.gov.uk>

Cc: "Mike Cuming (Cllr)" <MikeCuming@Maidstone.gov.uk>, "Denis Spooner (Cllr)" <DenisSpooner@Maidstone.gov.uk>, "Bob Hinder (Cllr)" <BobHinder@Maidstone.gov.uk>, "Anne Brindle (Cllr)" <AnneBrindle@Maidstone.gov.uk>

Subject: RE: Bearsted Primary Academy and Snowfields Academy, Popesfield

Dear Councillor Springett,

Many thanks for the reply. The Trust have confirmed that 35 places have been confirmed at Bearsted Primary Academy in reception year, with an additional 7 awaiting confirmation. This could increase as a result of the appeals process locally. Snowfields are likely to start with c.48 pupils. It has also been confirmed that the nursery will not open until January.

For robustness, the submission considers a potential year 1 intake of 120 primary pupils and 55 SEN pupils, but as the above shows, the number of confirmed pupils is less at the outset than the anticipated numbers at opening.

I hope that this helps but please let me know if there are any other queries.

Kind regards

Matt

Matthew Blythin

Director

