

Minutes of the Environment Committee on Monday 21st May, 2012 at Beechen Hall, Wildfell Close, Walderslade commencing at 7.50 p.m.

Councillors present; Mrs W Hinder (Chairman), Mrs P Brooks, Mr I Davies, Mr P Dengate, Mr B Hinder, Mr K Perry, Mrs A Spain, Mr A Springate, and Mrs M Waller together with the Assistant Clerk.

The meeting started later than advertised due to the overrun of a presentation on land purchase.

1. Declaration of Interest or Lobbying.

Councillors present confirmed they had been lobbied in item 6. Cllr Dengate notified members as a matter of courtesy that he was part of the original residents group that had objected to a previous application to develop Cowbeck Woods.

2. Apologies and absences

All members were present. Cllrs P Brooks and M Waller gave their apologies for the next meeting.

3. Minutes of the Meetings of 4th and 16th April 2012.

The minutes of the meetings were **agreed** and **signed** as a true and correct record.

4. Matters Arising From Minutes.

4.1 Minute 2395/4.1 inconsiderate parking Walderslade Village/Boxley Road. Cllr I Davies confirmed he would notify Cllr Hinder of the next PACT meeting.

4.2 Minute 2395/4.2 marker at Cossington Lane. Members **noted** that work will commence w/c 6/6/12.

4.3 Minute 2395/4.4 PRoW Round Wood valley. Members **noted** that a formal application will be submitted by the Parish Office to KCC.

4.4 Minute 2395/4.5 Lidsing Road. **Noted** a request for additional signage etc. has been submitted.

4.5 Minute 2395/4.6 empty properties. A report was given by Cllr P Brooks at the full Parish Council Meeting 14 May 2012. Cllr Brooks confirmed that she would keep a close eye on the situation and will notify the Council of any changes.

The meeting was not adjourned as there were no members of the public present

5. Planning Applications and Appeals for Consideration.

MA/12/0668 – An application for listed building consent for the installation of 4no. externally illuminated signs, 5 no. internally illuminated signs and 5no. non-illuminated signs and rope lighting to the front elevation at Newnham Court Inn, Newnham Court Farm, Bearsted. *Noted.*

MA/12/0665 –An application for advertisement consent for the installation of 4no. externally illuminated signs, 5 no. internally illuminated signs and 5no. non-illuminated signs at Newnham Court Inn, Newnham Court Farm, Bearsted.

Do not wish to object

MA/12/0693 – Application to vary condition 1 (no vehicle may arrive, depart, be loaded or unloaded within the general site, nor shall vehicles equipped with refrigeration units be allowed to remain stationary in the service yard except between the hours of 0600 and 2300 Monday to Saturdays and 0800 – 1600 Sundays and Bank Holidays. A maximum of five vehicles can visit the site between 1900 -2300 Monday to Saturday and a maximum of three vehicles can visit the site between 1300 and 1600 on Sundays and Bank Holidays) of MA/00/0292 to read as follows:

No vehicle may arrive, depart, be loaded or unloaded within the general site, nor shall vehicles equipped with refrigeration units be allowed to remain stationary in the service yard except between the hours of 0600 and 0000 hours Monday to Saturdays

and 0800 – 2000 Sundays and Bank Holidays. A maximum of six vehicles can visit the site between 1900 -0000 Monday to Saturday and a maximum of four vehicles can visit the site between 1300 and 2000 on Sundays and Bank Holidays. At Tesco Stores Ltd, Minor Centre, Grovewood Drive North.

Members wish to see this application refused and reported to the planning committee for the reasons set out below:

This is a residential area and the additional noise this will cause at this time of night would be unacceptable to local residents.

The Parish Council considers the current hours and amount of vehicle movements are reasonable and acceptable and therefore does not agree there is any evidence to support the change.

It must also be noted The Highway Code states that it is illegal to sound a car horn after the hours of 2300.

TA/0063/12 – Tree Preservation Order no.1 of 1969: An application for consent for works to 1(no) Hornbeam tree being, reduce canopy by 30%, thin canopy by 15% (removing dead wood and split branches), crown lift lateral branches up to 4m above ground level and clear all risings at 17 Pyrus Close, Walderslade.

Do not wish to object subject to the views of the Landscape Officer.

MA/12/0711 - Erection of a single storey rear extension at 27 Restharrow Road, Members asked for this application to be deferred and ratified at the next meeting to allow any objections to be received from neighbours.

MA/12/0687 Erection of a single storey rear extension to both house and garage at 39 Coltsfoot Drive.

Do not wish to object

Penhurst Close – Members noted the Land at Penhurst Close had been sold by Wards to Palace Estates and an application will be submitted for the development of single storey shops. Members deferred any judgement until an application has been formally submitted.

6. **Cowbeck Woods**

Members **received** further details from the land owner's agent concerning the area that they may be putting forward for development. Members deferred any judgement until an application has been formally submitted.

7. **Walderslade Woods and Volunteer Group**

Received Cllr Springate's report on the recent work undertaken on its task day by the group.

8. **Highways and Byways.**

8.1 Humming article and noise at Walderslade, **received** a verbal update, from the Assistant Clerk. Maidstone Borough Council has issued a three month compliance order and the office is monitoring the situation and will update members as it develops.

8.2 Boxley Road/Beechen Bank speed reduction – Members **noted** Subject to no objections from the public to the 18th July JTB (consultation and an advert being progressed May/June). The provisional date set for commencement of works is first week in August.

8.3 Request from two Councillors that a letter is sent to KCC to move the start of 40mph speed limit to north of Grange Lane. Members asked for this to be **deferred** until the meeting on 18th June so that further options could be considered and discussed.

9. **Policy and procedures review.**

Traffic Management Informative. Members **agreed** subject to amending the title of this policy to Traffic Management Advisory that it was still fit for purpose.

10. **Matters for information.**

10.1 **Noted.** South East Water Resources Update – Drought Special.

10.2 **Noted.** Request for Parking Restrictions: Old Chatham Road. Request for these has been refused by MBC. Members **agreed** that another letter is sent to Environmental Health on the grounds of health reasons and cc to Aylesford Parish Council. **Action Office.**

11. **Voluntary Village Green Application**

Members **received** the application and map outlining the area of the village green and unanimously **agreed** with its content which is to be submitted by Kent County Council.

12. **Next Meeting.**

Next environment meetings 11th and 18th June 2012 (full) at Beechen Hall commencing at 7.30 p.m.

No members of the public or press were present but due to the confidential nature (personal details and data) on the Enforcement item about to be transacted, the item was taken in confidence.

13. **Enforcement and Section 106 updates from MBC.**

There were no updates available.

Meeting closed 8.40 pm.

Signed as a correct record of the proceedings.

Chairman.....Date.....