

Minutes of the Environment Committee on Monday 20 May 2013 at Beechen Hall, Wildfell Close, Walderslade commencing at 7.32 p.m.

Councillors present: Mrs W Hinder (Chairman), Mrs P Brooks, Mr I Davies (departed during Item 7.1), Mr P Dengate, Mrs A Spain (departed at the end of Item 8.4), Mr A Springate and together with the Clerk (departed at the end of Item 8.4) and Assistant Clerk.

1. Apologies and absences

Cllr Holmes (work) and Cllr B Hinder and Cllr M Waller (Holiday)

2. Declaration of Interest or Lobbying.

Cllr Spain declared a pecuniary interest on planning application MA/13/0533. Cllr Brooks notified members that she had been approached about the application.

3. Minutes of the Meeting of 8 & 15 April 2013.

The minutes were **agreed** with one slight amendment to item 9.2 in the 15th April minutes deleting the word 'again' and **signed** as a correct record.

4. Matters Arising From Minutes.

4.1 Minute 2525/4.1 Maidstone Studios: The Chairman reported that she had received confirmation that MBC were not responsible for the electronic noticeboards coming into Maidstone and has requested the office contact KCC. **Action: Office.**

4.2 Minute 2525/4.2 Quad bikes: An update was given to Members by the clerk with regards to the type of barriers that were suitable for the proposed exits. Cllr Dengate requested a photo of the proposed barriers and a map showing where they will be installed to be circulated to the whole committee. Cllr I Davies proposed, seconded by Cllr Brooks, 5 in favour and 1 abstention that subject no adverse comments from Cllr Dengate that the Clerk proceeds with this project and to apportion the earmarked budget accordingly. A full report will be returned to the environment committee as the project progresses. **Action: Clerk.**

4.3 Minute 2526/12 Community Infrastructure Levy: Members **received** and **noted** the Clerk's report. As there still had been no response to the request to have this on the KAPC Area Committee agenda, it was suggested that Cllr Wendy Hinder points this out at the next meeting. **Action: Cllr W. Hinder.**

4.4 Minute 2252/6.1 MBC Planning Committee – Freedom of Information request. The clerk confirmed that she had spoken to Peter Hockney at MBC who could not accurately respond to the specific application as they were not required to keep notes on the hours worked, however he agreed to forward the relevant information based on a similar application in 2012. **Action MBC**

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

Items 7 & 8 were taken at this point of the meeting.

7. Neighbourhood Development Plans

7.1 The Clerk presented to members the 'draft audit of the parish' and further minor amendments were made. It was agreed that the draft would be made available to residents for comment. This document will be submitted to MBC in response to the SHLAA/SEDLAA call for sites consultation.

7.2 Local Green Spaces- The clerk confirmed that she had received a response from MBC who have stated that 'The local green space designation needs to be identified through either the local plan or Neighbourhood Plan'. MBC is not currently undertaking any work to designate new Local Green Space Areas as part of the forthcoming Local Plan although work is being undertaken to prepare a Green and Blue Infrastructure Strategy.

8. Maidstone Borough Local Plan

8.1 Local Development Scheme consultation – Members noted the Clerk's report.

8.2 SHLAA/SEDLAA call for sites. Members acknowledged the sites that have been submitted and will affect the Parish and these have been included in the 'draft audit of the parish'. A drop in session has been arranged for 21 May to discuss these sites and it was agreed that Cllrs Wendy Hinder, Ivor Davies and the Clerk would attend.

8.3 Interim Approval Maidstone Borough Local Plan Policies – Members **received** and **noted** the Clerk's report and will await a further update. **Action: Clerk**

8.4 Update from Michael Murphy, Principal Planning Officer – Members **received** and **noted** the response from Michael Murphy outlining the relationship between the National Planning Policy Framework and Local Plan.

The meeting closed at 8.54pm due to lack of quorate.

Items 5.1 – 5.13 will be ratified at the meeting on 3 June, 2013. Items 9 – 12 will be deferred to the next full environment meeting on 10 June, 2013.

Next Meeting.

Next full environment meeting 10 June 2013 at Beechen Hall commencing at 7.30 p.m.

Meeting closed at 8.54 p.m.

Signed as a correct record of the proceedings.

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