

**Minutes of the Environment Committee on Monday 17 August 2015 at Beechen Hall, Wildfell Close, Walderslade commencing at 7.30 pm.**

Councillors present: Mrs Wendy Hinder (Chairman), Mr P Dengate Mrs P Brooks, Mr Ivor Davies, Mr Bob Hinder, Mr D Hollands Mr A Springate, Mrs M Waller together with the Clerk and a member of the public.

**1. Apologies and absences**

Cllrs Ivor Davies (family commitment), Hinchliffe (holiday) and Hollands (holiday).

**2. Declaration of Interests, dispensations, predetermination or Lobbying**

All councillors declared that they had been lobbied on item 7.1. The Chairman notified members that she declared an interest in item 10 as she was Chairman of the MBC Licensing Committee.

**3. Minutes of the Meetings of 6<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> July 2015**

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

**4. Matters Arising From Minutes**

4.1 Minute 2775/4.1 Installation of hard standing/apron at Boxley Road noticeboard. The Clerk is still attempting to get permission for the work from KCC. **Noted.**

4.2 Minute 2775/4.3 Bike barrier. County Cllr Carter has indicated that he may put some of his devolved budget towards the cost of the scheme and KCC Highways are undertaking the investigative work at a cost of £250, paid for by the parish council. **Noted.**

4.3 Minute 2774/5 Planning Application 15/505391/REM Approval of reserved matters. Clarification on the meaning of reserved matters was **received.**

4.4 Minute 2775/7.3 Advertising Boards at Roundwood Roundabout and Westfield Sole Road. Report **noted. Action office.**

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

Item 7.1 was taken at this point.

The meeting was adjourned at 7.34 p.m. to allow a local businessman to comment on the suggestion in item 7.1. The meeting reconvened at 7.42 p.m.

**5. Planning Applications and Appeals for Consideration**

15/505514/FULL. Conversion of garage and insertion of flat roof light, raise roof height and changes to fenestration at 9 Pinewood Drive, Walderslade. **Ratified** the Clerk's decision after consulting with the committee. *Do not wish to object.*

15/503913/FULL. Conversion of integral garage into habitable space and new detached garage to front of dwelling at 7 Wagoners Close Weaving. **Ratified** the Clerk's decision after consulting with the committee. *Do not wish to object.*

Street Trading Consent. Application by Mr Jorg Braese to sell German sausages and steaks, soups, chips and hot/cold drinks from his van on Thursday evenings between the hours of 5.00pm to 8.00pm at 100 Chatham Road, Sandling. **Ratified** the Clerk's decision after consulting with the committee. *The Parish Council does not wish to object to this temporary licence. However it has concerns about this type of street trading in a residential area. Members requested that although MBC is not legally obliged to consult with local residents that it considers any objections/comments received by them during the period of this licence. May we take this opportunity to inform you that we believe street trading has already commenced.*

15/504413/FULL. Demolition of garage and outbuildings and construction of an annexe building at Seeburg, Forge Lane, Bredhurst. **Ratified** the Clerk's decision after consulting with the committee. *Do not wish to object.*

15/503845/FULL. Amendments to planning permission 14/504888/FULL (Change of use of store to 2 x dwellings, 2-storey rear extension to provide 1 x dwelling (3 dwellings total); Provision of external stair cases to 3 x dwellings, new door way to lower ground floor (front elevation) and raising roof height of store) - Increase the floor area at The Pump House, Forstal Road, Aylesford. **Ratified** the Clerk's decision after consulting with the committee. *Do not wish to object.*

15/505737/FULL Retrospective. Alterations to workshop and lean-to at 2 Boxley Cottages Ashford Road Weaving. *No comment.*

15/505739/listed building consent Retrospective. Alterations to workshop and lean-to at 2 Boxley Cottages Ashford Road Weaving. *Defer to the views to the Conservation Officer.*

15/506218/TPO TPO application to 1no. Hornbeam. Reduce by 4 metres from neighbour's roof at 19 Wildfell Close, Walderslade. *Do not wish to object defer to the views to the Landscape Officer.*

15/506244/TCA TPO application to 1no Oak. Crown thin by 20% and raise to 4.5m at 26 Spenlow Drive, Walderslade. *Do not wish to object defer to the views to the Landscape Officer.*

15/506227/TPO TPO application to fell 1no Sycamore at Woodlands, Boarley Lane, Sandling. *Do not wish to object defer to the views to the Landscape Officer.*

15/506182/TPO TPO application to 1no Sweet Chestnut. Crown lift to 6 metres at 813 Beechen House, Lordswood Lane, Walderslade. *Do not wish to object defer to the views to the Landscape Officer.*

15/506283/FULL Erection of first floor and two storey side extension at 3 Maxton Close Bearsted. *Do not wish to object.*

15/506032/FULL Conversion of garage to habitable room at 9 Cobnut Close, Weaving. *Do not wish to object.*

MC/15/2778 Construction of a 5-bedroomed detached dwelling with associated parking at High View Farm, Lords Wood Lane, Lordswood. *Wish to object due to the bulk and size of the proposed building which is significantly larger than the other houses planned for the area being developed.*

15/506330/FULL Erection of 3 bed detached house at land Adjoining 35 Timber Tops, Lordswood. *Wish to object and reported to the planning committee. The proposal is over development of the site and out of keeping in size and bulk to the area which will have a detrimental and dominating impact on the street scene. The addition of a driveway immediately on the curve of the junction is considered a safety hazard for pedestrians and other road users. Concern is raised about the additional on-street car parking that will be associated with a new dwelling.*

15/505391/REM Approval of Reserved Matters (Layout, appearance, landscape, scale and access) following outline planning permission 14/504931/OUT (Outline (all matters reserved). Erection of one 4 bedroom dwelling) at Medway Cottage, Forstal Road, Sandling. *Noted.*

15/503913/FULL Conversion of integral garage into habitable space and new detached garage to front of dwelling at 7 Wagoners Close, Weaving. *Do not wish to object.*

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

None submitted.

## 7. **Highways and Byways**

- 7.1 Yelsted Lane request for Not suitable for HGV signs. After lengthy discussion and consideration of the information put forward by the member of the public and the Road Haulage Association members' **agreed no further action** revisit in six months. The Clerk was asked to investigate issues relating to lorry movements around the immediate area. **Action: Clerk.**
- 7.1 Street light replacement programme report **noted**. KCCH, T & W to be contacted to stress the need to give advance notice to residents as there are car parking issues in many of the roads. **Action: office.**
- 7.2 Grovewood Drive North pedestrian crossing. **Agreed no further**
- 7.3 PROW Round Wood Valley, review whether to make another request to KCC PROW for the footpath to be made a PROW. **Agreed review in six months.**
- 7.4 Public Toilets. Members' **agreed** to support NALC's campaign to have business rates removed from public toilets. **Action: office.**

## 8. **Volunteer Groups**

### **Received and noted**

- 8.1 Walderslade Woodlands Group reports. Members' **noted** the excellent work of the volunteer group. The Clerk was asked to organise an article for the Downs Mail about the danger of setting fires in the woods and also contact schools about educating children about the problems setting fires cause. **Action: Clerk.**
- 8.2 Friends of Boxley Warren. Cllr Bob Hinder gave an update and expressed concern that he had still not received a response from County Councillor Carter about the lack of action at the entrance. The Boxley Warren Local Nature Reserve Management Committee had a meeting scheduled for 21 September and he had been invited to attend. He hoped to get the volunteers back on site to work in an area away from paths. The Clerk reported that she was expecting an update from the engineer responsible for the work and she would pass the details on. **Action: Clerk.**  
It was suggested that if KCC did not undertake the work to secure soon then it should be contacted and asked to fund the work to bring the site back to the condition it was in prior to the volunteer group being withdrawn. **Action (if required): Clerk and Cllr Bob Hinder)**

## 9. **Policy and procedures review**

None to review.

## 10. **MBC Consultation on new Statement of Licensing Policy**

The report on the draft policy and the request from the Estates Committee that a particular section be supported was **received and noted**. It was **agreed** that the response would be **The parish council welcomes and supports the document. It particularly supports the section *Application to vary premises licence at community premises to remove the mandatory requirement for a DPS.***

## 11. **Maidstone Local Plan.**

No information had been received.

## 12. **Matters for information**

Churned up footway adjacent to A229 near Cobtree Golf Course. **Noted** the footway had been repaired and bollards installed.

## 13. **Next Meeting**

Next full environment meeting 14<sup>th</sup> September 2015 at Beechen Hall commencing at 7.30 p.m.

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

An update was received on the building adjacent to Street Farm. It was **agreed** that the Clerk would request a timeline for MBC to deal with the issue. **Action: Clerk.**

Meeting closed at 9.02 pm.

Signed as a correct record of the proceedings.

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