

Minutes of the Environment Committee on Monday 11 January 2016 at Beechen Hall, Wildfell Close, Walderslade commencing at 7.30 pm.

Councillors present: Mrs Wendy Hinder (Chairman), Mrs P Brooks, Mr Ivor Davies, Mr P Dengate, Mr M Hinchliffe, Mr R Hinder, Mr D Hollands, and Mrs M Waller together with the Assistant Clerk.

1 Apologies and absences

None, all members were present.

2 Declaration of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying

None.

3 Minutes of the Meetings of 7th and 14th December 2015

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

4 Matters Arising from the Minutes

4.1 Minute 2821/4.1 Bike barrier at Fitzwilliam Rd/Camomile Drive. Members **received** and **noted** the Clerk's report upon investigation KCC has concluded that a bike barrier would not be possible, due to path layout, width and design, to install barriers to slow down bikes. The installation of the equipment cannot be contained within the boundary of the KCC footpath and would encroach on or do damage to private land/property.

4.2 Minute 2821/4.2 Advertising boards at Roundwood roundabout. As no response had been received from MBC the Assistant Clerk **agreed** to contact MBC for a response. **Action Assistant Clerk.**

4.3 Minute 2821/4.3 HGV parking. The Assistant Clerk informed members that action is now being taken against lorries/HGVs parking either on slip roads or on the hard shoulder through fixed penalty notices. Item 11 is consultation for a Proposed Permanent M20 Lorry area.

4.4 Minute 2821/4.4 Installation of hard standing/apron at Boxley Road noticeboard. The application to KCC (cost £375) for the work is currently being held at the office as KALC has asked KCC to review the fee. This work has been budgeted for in this financial year and members have set a deadline of 29 February to decide whether to proceed. This will give KCC the opportunity to review the charge for the application. **Action office/KCC.**

4.5 Minute 2821/4.5 Weaving Street Speed Reduction. Members received the Clerk's report which highlighted that KCC has not included this area in the ten schemes to be implemented in 2016. The Department of Transport commissioning research into the effectiveness of 20mph speed limits which is due to be published in early 2017. After careful consideration members agreed to wait for the results and review the situation at the next meeting after these have been published. **Action Office.**

4.6 Minute 2822/5 KIMS Medical Campus. Meeting with DHA being arranged. **Noted.**

4.7 Minute 2823/5 Maidstone Enterprise Zone. Meeting with MBC being considered. **Noted.**

4.8 Minute 2823/7.3 KCC charge for PC work on highway land. KALC has asked KCC to review the fee. **Noted.**

4.9 Minute 2824/12.2 Abbey Court. A meeting had been arranged with new owners however it has since been cancelled. The office is waiting for it to be rearranged. Cllr Waller asked that ample parking must be made available at the site for councillors to attend as parking is a bit of an issue. **Action office.**

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

As there were no members of the public present the meeting was not adjourned.

5 **Planning Applications for Consideration - DECISION**

15/510187/FULL Amendment to road alignment approved under planning permission
15/504202/FULL - Proposed construction of spine road and new bridge over existing stream to enable future development on land at Kent Medical Campus, together with creation of two attenuation ponds for surface water drainage purposes at Kent Institute Of Medicine And Surgery Newnham Court Way Weaving Kent ME14 5FT.
Amendments:

- Submission of (NEW)
- Flood Risk Assessment Report
- Typical Culvert Design Concept In Relation To Existing Culvert
- Access Road Alignment
- Access Road Alignment and Section (Amended plan)
- Proposed Access Road Red Line Plan.

Do not wish to object.

15/510371/TPO Tree Preservation Order Application: HORNBEAM (T1) - Fell; HORNBEAM (T2) - Fell; HORNBEAM (T3) - Remove epicormic growth from main stem; BEECH TREE (T4) - Prune back towards boundary line (removing 2-2.5m, leaving 2-3m) at 5 Round Wood Close Walderslade Kent ME5 9UL. Deadline . **Ratified** the Clerk's decision, after consulting committee members

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

15/510089/TPO Tree Preservation Order Application: CHERRY, HAZEL and WILLOW (G1) - Coppice to clear fence line by 2m at Gladepoint Gleamingwood Drive Lordswood Kent ME5 8RF. Deadline: 6 January 2016. **Ratified** the Clerk's decision, after consulting committee members

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

15/510516/TPO TPO application to - G1 Ash saplings and 1no. Beech tree - Fell, 1no Norway maple - Crown lift over footpath to a height of 3.0m & crown lift away from garage to achieve a 2m clearance, G2 row of Field maples - Crown lift laterals over footpath to achieve a 3.0m clearance. 1no Mature Field Maple - Fell. G3 Ash saplings - fell at 2 Alexandra Glen Walderslade Kent ME5 9EB.

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

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

6.1 Land At Junction Of New Cut Road And Bearsted Road Weaving Kent. Proposal: Advertisement consent for 1x hoarding sign. Written appeal commencing. **Noted.**

6.2 Lordswood Urban Extension Planning Appeal Decision - ALLOWED. **Noted.** Members' asked that it be minuted that the parish council was extremely disappointed at the decision and the fact that KCC did not object on highways grounds. Concern was also expressed that all Section 106 payments were going to Medway Council, the Clerk was asked to investigate whether MBC had applied for Section 106 payments for this area. **Action: Clerk.**

6.3 Bethany, Boxley Road, Walderslade. Decision - DISMISSED.

7 **Highways and Byways**

7.1 Cllr Hinchliffe report on the KCC Parish Seminar 9th November 2015. **Received and noted.**

7.2 Bollards on verge adjacent to Boxley Rd/Travertine Rd junction. After discussion it was **agreed** that the Clerk would submit options to the next committee. The suggested project is to be used to test the form that the Environment Committee was likely to adopt. Members asked that the PCSO be approached to place advisory notes on the offending vehicles parking on the verge. It was also highlighted that a leaflet drop could be undertaken to ask residents not to park on the area. **Action: Clerk.**

- 7.3 Charge for PC work on highway property. The KentALC report that it was in discussion with KCC about the charge was **received** and **noted**.
- 7.4 Maidstone Joint Transport Board agenda report on funding available for improvements at the M20 junction 7 and signalisation of the Bearsted Road roundabout was **received** and **noted**.
- 7.5 HGV parking Grovewood Drive South. The Clerk reported an increase in reports of this type of parking with 3 HGVs parked there overnight 8/9 December. The problem had been reported to KCC. **Action: Clerk to monitor.**
- 7.6 KCC Planning application responses. Notification that KCC will in future object to planning applications on highway grounds as it has identified severe congestion in many areas. Members decided that in future copies of parish council's responses, where it has expressed objection or concerns regarding traffic impact, are to be supplied to KCC. **Action: parish office.**
- 7.7 Local Wildlife Site Cuckoo Wood, Sandling Lane. The update on its boundary and inclusion in the LWS register was **noted**.
- 8 **Volunteer Groups**
Received and **noted** Rob Burrow's December report. Cllr Ivor Davies added that, despite the weather, the group had had a good turnout for the task day.
- 9 **Policy and Procedures**
 Street Maintenance Policy. After lengthy discussion the suggested changes to the current documents and the adoption of 2 other documents were **agreed**. It was identified that funding for any work would normally be released in quarterly amounts. The document was to be tested on the bollards request at Boxley Road/Travertine Road
- 10 **Maidstone Local Plan**
 The Clerk's report on Planning training on 24 November 2015 and the MBC update on the timescale for adopting the Local Plan were **received** and **noted**.
11. **Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL)**
 Members agreed a response to a Government review of CIL. **Action: Clerk.**
12. **Matters for Information - INFORMATION**
 12.1 Section 106s explanation **received** and **noted**.
 12.2 Abbey Court, Boarley Lane new tenants. Members would be pleased to receive an invitation to visit the company. Cllr Waller asked that the company is informed that the palling fence bordering Boarley Lane is in a poor state of repair and in need of replacement or maintenance. **Action: Clerk.**
13. **Draft Budget 2016/2017**
 Members were invited to submit projects for consideration for the draft budget. None submitted.
14. **Next Meeting**
 Next full environment meeting 11 January 2016 at Beechen Hall commencing at 7:30pm.
15. **Enforcement and Section 106 updates from MBC**
 Update on a property in Walderslade was **noted**.

Meeting closed at 9.35 pm.

Signed as a correct record of the proceedings.

Chairman Date

DRAFT