

**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 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> 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** KCC's report that the installation of a bike barrier would not be possible, within the boundary of the footpath. **No further action.**

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 them for an update. **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. At item 11 members are requested to complete a stakeholder 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. Members set a deadline of 29 February to proceed with the application and the work. The office has been asked to obtain the latest information from KALC. **Action office.**

4.5 Minute 2821/4.5 Weaving Street Speed Reduction. Information was **received** that KCC had not included this area in the ten schemes to be implemented in 2016. The Department of Transport is commissioning research into the effectiveness of 20mph speed limits 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. Members considered requests from residents for speed restrictions on Walderslade woods road however they **agreed** not to do anything at this present moment as members felt the speed was adequate to the volume of traffic. A request was also received with regards to Gleaming Wood Drive and members **agreed** to review once the development has commenced for 89 houses. **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 due to operational reasons. The office is to maintain contact with the company. **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. **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 Gleaming wood Drive Lordswood Kent ME5 8RF. **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.*

15/510498/TPO Tree Preservation Order Application: 3 No. CONIFER - Fell; 1 No. WILLOW - Prune to tidy up to around 20% at 27 Forestdale Road, Boxley Kent ME5 9NB.

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

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

The following decisions were **received** and **noted**.

\* 14/0018 Hillah, Cossington Road, Walderslade. MBC Permitted.

\*15/503623/FULL - Erection of a single storey rear extension, conversion of roof space to include roof extension with insertion of rear dormers and changes to fenestration. Installation of roof lights to front at Wilmarie and erection of front porch at Northdown at Wilmarie and Northdown, Chatham Road, Sandling. Permitted by MBC.

15/504669/FULL Demolition of all existing yard buildings. Erection of two chalet style bungalows with detached open side garages at Willow Farm Tyland Lane Sandling Kent ME14 3BL. Refused

\*14/504230/FULL: New annex extension. Resubmission of 14/500451 at 14 Exton Gardens, Weaving. PC wish to see refused but MBC Permitted.

## 7 Highways and Byways

- 7.1 Bollards on verge adjacent to Boxley Rd/Travertine Rd junction. Members **received** the Clerk's report and completed project form. After a lengthy discussion Cllr Bob Hinder proposed **in principal** to agree, subject to cost the installation of verge bollards. Cllr Hollands seconded the proposal with five in favour and three abstentions. **Action office.**
- 7.2 Inconsiderate parking Provender Way. PCSO Matt Adlington's request for the PC's support in trying to address inconsiderate parking in Provender Way both at school times and when there is a show on at Maidstone Studios was received. He explained that neither he nor the civil enforcement officer have the powers to issue parking tickets, Cllr Dengate questioned why they did not have the powers (Road Traffic Act 1988 section 22). Members considered the options put forward by the PCSO and agreed to support the investigation of double yellow lines at the junctions along Provender Way for safety reasons. They also invited PCSO Adlington to attend the next PC meeting to answer any concerns from Councillors on this issue. **Action Clerk & PCSO Adlington.**
- 7.3 Inconsiderate Parking advice notes – Members **received** and **noted** the Clerk's report which included a draft of the current advice note. Members made several amendments to the letter however some councillors raised concerns with distributing the notes when there are problems. It was **agreed** that the amended draft advice note was returned to the next full environment meeting. **Action office.**
- 7.4 Old Chalk New Downs Project – Members **received** and **noted** the Consultation workshop on Tuesday 8 March, at Bredhurst Village Hall starting at 10am. Cllr Bob Hinder to attend and Cllr Ivor Davies agreed to attend if the Clerk did not want to go and it was suggested to invite Rob Burrows of WWG. **Action Office.**

## 8 Volunteer Groups

Walderslade Woods Group - **Received** and **noted** Rob Burrow's January report.  
 Friends of Boxley Warren - Cllr Bob Hinder gave a verbal update explaining the group did not carry out their task day on Sunday 10 January due to bad weather. He also notified members that the awards for all grant was unsuccessful again for different reasons this time. Cllr Wendy Hinder announced that she had put the group forward for Celebrate Maidstone it was agreed that Walderslade Woods Group and Vinters Valley Nature Reserve should also be put forward subject to their approval. **Action Clerk.**

## 9 Policy and Procedures

- 9.1 Environment committee – Review of policies and procedures Calendar 2016/2017. **Noted.**
- 9.2 Community Improvement Draft letters – Members made minor amends to the draft template for overgrown vegetation letter and **agreed** for the Clerk to send out as and when required. **Action Clerk.**

10. **Maidstone Local Plan** – Nothing to report.

11. **Proposed Permanent M20 Lorry Area: Invitation to Stakeholder Briefing** – Members **received** the consultation and provided answers to the questions with additional comments. **Action Clerk.**

## 12. Matters for Information - INFORMATION

- 12.1 Advance warning of a consultation from DCLG on the proposed changes to the National Planning Policy Framework. This will be placed on 8 February agenda. **Noted.**

12.2 Recycling of plastics – Notification of a county wide letter drop between 11-15 Januarys. **Noted.**

12.3 Proposed further modifications to the Kent Minerals and Waste Local Plan (MWLP) 2013-30. **Noted** there is nothing in this report that impacts on the parish.

13. **Next Meeting**

Next full environment meeting 8 February 2016 at Beechen Hall commencing at 7:30pm.

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

No updates were given.

Meeting closed at 9.35 pm.

Signed as a correct record of the proceedings.

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