

**Minutes of the Environment Committee on Monday 12 June 2017 at Beechen Hall,
Wildfell Close commencing at 7.30 pm.**

Councillors present: Mr P Dengate (Chairman), Ms L Clarke, Mr Ivor Davies, Mr Bob Hinder, together with the Clerk and visiting Councillor Mr G Hayday.

1 Apologies and absences

Cllr Wendy Hinder (MBC meeting) and Cllr Hollands (holiday). Mr J Constable (absent).

2 Declaration of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying

None

3 Minutes of the Meeting 8 & 15 May 2017.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7.33pm to allow Cllr Hinder to raise an issue on behalf of a resident who requested action to get a 40mph speed limit on Lidsing Road which has had numerous accidents. It was noted that Medway Council had recently reduced the speed limit from 60 to 40 on a nearby rural road. The parish office was to obtain up to date crash data and include the issue on the agenda for the planned KCC meeting on 27 June. To be placed on the agenda for the July meeting. Meeting reconvened 7.44pm.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

4.1 Minute 2986/4.1 Inconsiderate parking Provender Way, yellow lines. Meeting with KCC Highways scheduled for 27 June. **Noted.**

4.2 Minute 2986/4.2 Grovewood Drive South yellow lines. Meeting with KCC Highways scheduled for 27 June. **Noted.**

4.3 Minute 2986/4.3. Land to the rear of Tesco Grove Green. Parish office will attempt to locate the owners when office time allows. **Noted.**

4.4 Minute 2986/4.4 Development Wildfell Close. Cllr Bob Hinder notified members that he had contacted Councillor Carter but had only received an acknowledgement of receipt. The parish office had been contacted and informed that KCC will be replacing the jammed height barrier to allow access for the company undertaking the drainage survey. The Clerk had been informed that MBC was now discussing whether affordable housing needed to be provided. Cllr Bob Hinder was asked to write another letter to Councillor Carter informing him of the latest development. **Action: Cllr Bob Hinder & Clerk.**

4.5 Minute 2986/4.5. Grovewood Drive North Crossing facility. Meeting with KCC Highways scheduled for 27 June. **Noted.**

4.6 Minute 2986/4.6. Parking at Grovewood Drive North, Shepherd's Gate Drive etc. Meeting with KCC Highways scheduled for 27 June. **Noted.**

4.7 Minute 2986/12 Seat at Timber Tops Play Area. Awaiting installation by MBC. **Noted.**

4.8 Minute 2986/8.2 Community Payback Service. The Clerk has been supplied with a document which she needs to consider and place before members for approval and signature. **Noted. Action: Clerk.**

4.9 Minute 2988/7.1 Lower Thames Crossing. Additional traffic and air pollution. Issue to be raised at 27 June meeting. **Noted.**

4.10 Minute 2988/10 Ancient Woodland. The issue will be taken by Maidstone KALC to the next MBC liaison meeting, date yet to be confirmed. **Noted.**

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

5. Pre-application consultation

To receive a pre-application from Kitewood, land at Impton Lane. Deferred to next meeting. **Action: Environment Committee.**

6. Planning Applications for Consideration

17/500471 Land North of Street Farm Cottages. **Ratified** Clerk's decision, after consultation with Cllr Wendy Hinder, to instruct MBC that if the planning officer

is minded to refuse the application then the parish council does not require it to be reported to the MBC Planning Committee.

17/502409/TPO Application - 1 x Oak tree - reduce height of the crown by 25% and cut back overhanging branches, estimated height of tree after works 15 metres. 3 Celestine Close Walderslade.

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

17/502616/FULL Erection of a single storey front extension. Freshwoods Bearsted Road Weaving.

Do not wish to object.

17/502788/TPO: TPO application to remove dead, damaged or diseased limbs, crown thin by 30% and crown lift to first major branching to 1 no. Oak tree. 10 Round Wood Close Walderslade.

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

17/502851/TPO application for 2 no. Hornbeam Trees to Pollard to a height of 10 meters above ground, and thin canopy by no more than 15% at 2 The Covert Walderslade.

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

17/502845/TPO application for tree works as per schedule to 10no. Common Ash; 9no. Common Oak, 1no. Ashleaf Maple; 1no. Common Horse Chestnut; 3no. English Elm; 1no. Lucombe Oak; 2no. Sycamore; 1no. Norway Maple and 1no. Common Hawthorn at Valley Park Community School Huntsman Lane, Maidstone.

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

17/502804/FULL. Change of use of land to provide an extension to the existing play area in connection with the existing day nursery at Pennies Day Nursery Newnham Court Shopping Village Bearsted Road Weaving.

Do not wish to object.

17/502911/FULL. Erection of a part first floor/part two storey side extension. 11 Henley Fields Weaving.

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

7. **Planning Decisions, Appeals and Appeals Decisions**

The Granary, Court Lodge Farm, Boxley. Planning appeal – dismissed.

8. **Highways and Byways**

8.1 Boxley Parish road classifications. Members **received and noted** the Clerk's summary on the road classifications. **No further action.**

8.2 Parking of HGVs in residential areas. Members **agreed** a watching brief would be kept and the item returned to the agenda if the situation deteriorated.

9. **Tree Preservation Orders**

Members were notified that Maidstone Borough Council will only consider trees for a Tree Preservation Order if they are publicly visible, in good condition and under immediate threat of damage or removal. **Agreed** defer the issue to Maidstone KALC to take forward with the Ancient Woodland's query. **Action: Office.**

10. **Policy and Procedures**

Laminated Planning Advice sheets, available at meeting. The Clerk has reviewed the contents and considers that they are still fit for purpose. **Noted.**

11. **Members Reports**

None

12. **Volunteer Groups**

Walderslade Woodlands Group were taking delivery of their 2-wheel tractor. Cllr Bob Hinder thanked the Clerk and office for the display at the hall on polling day on Friends of Boxley Warren and he was confident that a number of volunteers.

13. **Matters for Information**

None.

14. **Next Meeting**

Next Environment Committee meeting 10 July 2017 at Beechen Hall commencing at 7:30pm. **Noted.**

In view of the confidential nature (personal details and data) on the Enforcement item about to be transacted, it is advisable that the public and press will be excluded from the meeting for the duration of or part of the item.

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

Cllr Bob Hinder notified members that he had written to Alison Broome MBC. Members **received and noted** the confidential update on 3 enforcement issues.

Concern was expressed at some of the responses from MBC. The Clerk was asked to contact MBC Enforcement about unauthorised materials, in the form of guttering and downs pipes at one of the sites. **Action: Office.**

The Clerk was asked to report the builder's rubble bags on land adjacent to Walderslade Woods Road near the Round Wood roundabout. **Action: Office**

Meeting closed at 8.31 pm.

Signed as a correct record of the proceedings.

Chairman Date