Minutes of the Environment Committee on Monday 5 November 2018 at European School of Osteopathy, Boxley commencing at 9.00 pm.

Councillors present: Mrs W Hinder (Chair), Mrs A Brindle, Ms L Clarke, Mr I Davies, Mr D Hollands, Mr J Willmott and Mrs M Fooks (Assistant Clerk). Visiting Councillors Mr V Davies and Mr D Hollands.

1.   **Apologies and absences**
     Apologies: Cllr Constable

2.   **Declaration of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying**
     None declared.

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

3.   **Planning Applications for Consideration**

     Ratification
     TPO Application to Oak (T12) Crown reduction (20% of foliage branches) to a height of 12 metres with a radial spread of 5 metres. 3 The Medlars Maidstone ME14 5RZ. **Ratified** the Clerk's decision, after consulting members
     Do not wish to object defer to the views of the Landscape Officer.

     18/505216/TPO Application - Silver Birch (T1) - remove lowest northern branch. Crown lift
     to achieve ground clearance of 5.5m Silver Birch (T2) - Crown lift to achieve ground clearance of 5.5m Oak (T3) - Crown lift to achieve ground clearance of 5.5m Reasons for
     work - excessive shading.3 Violet Close Boxley ME5 9ND. **Ratified** the Clerk's decision, after consulting members
     Do not wish to object defer to the views of the Landscape Officer.

     TPO application to remove T1 Oak. 14 Forestdale Road Boxley Chatham Kent ME5 9NB. **Ratified** the Clerk's decision, after consulting members
     Do not wish to object defer to the views of the Landscape Officer.

     18/505251/LBC Listed Building Consent for proposed shower room to first floor. The Old Vicarage The Street Boxley Maidstone Kent. **Ratified** the Clerk's decision, after consulting members
     The parish council has no material planning reasons to object.

     Decisions
     18/505302/TPO application to 1x Cherry & 2x Sweet chestnut trees - Reduce height by Approx. 4m to a total height of approx 17m. 11 Sandstone Rise Boxley Chatham Kent ME5 9DH.
     Do not wish to object, defer to the views of the Landscape Officer.

     18/505264/FULL Retrospective application for retention of a car parking area. Unit 33 Adjacent Lordswood Industrial Estate, Gleamingwood Drive Lordswood Chatham.
     Boxley Parish Council strongly objects to the loss of ancient woodland and this position is also supported by the recent amendment to NPPF (118) which gives additional protection. If this was not a retrospective planning application, it would no doubt be refused by MBC as it is contrary to NPPF 118. MBC's decision for the previous application for this site 17/500117 was refusal due to 'an unacceptable and unjustified loss of ancient woodland, which would have adverse effects upon an irreplaceable habitat and the ecological importance of the site'.   Despite the woodland flora and fauna already being compromised the parish council wishes to object to this application.

The applicant appears to have put forward a management plan for the active management of the remaining ancient woodland which the parish council fully supports and if the planning officer is minded to approve these plans the parish council would ask that this is a condition of approval.

The parish council strongly objects to retrospective planning applications as they remove the power of local planning authorities to properly influence development.

If the planning officer is minded to recommend refusal the parish council would support this and enforcement action.

If the planning officer is minded to approve, we request for it to be referred to the planning committee.

18/505008/FULL Two storey side extension with associated parking. 15 Cinnabar Close Walderslade Chatham Kent ME5 9PF.
The parish council has no planning material reasons to object however, members have raised concerns the proposed extension is an overdevelopment of the site.

4. **Next Meeting**
   Next Environment Committee meeting 12 November 2018 at Beechen Hall, Wildfell Close, ME5 9RU commencing at 7.30pm.

Meeting closed at 9.25pm.

Signed as a correct record of the proceedings.

Chairman ………………………………………..……………... Date ………………………………………