

Minutes of the Environment Committee on Monday 10 August 2020 held by Teams due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, commencing at 7.30 pm.

Present: Cllr B Hinder – Chair, Mr I Davies, J Willmott, D Hollands and L Clarke together with Cllr V Davies and Mrs D Baylis, Clerk.

1. **Apologies and absences**
Cllr A Brindle and Cllr P Huntingford
2. **Declaration of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying**
None
3. **Minutes of the Meetings held on 13 July 2020**
The minutes were agreed and would be signed when possible.
4. **Matters Arising from the Minutes**
None

To adjourn to allow members of the public to address the meeting.

No members of the public had joined the meeting.

5. **Planning Applications for Consideration – Decision**

20/503257/TPOA 4 Roundwood Close, Walderslade ME5 9UL

TPO application to reduce the overall height of on Beech to 15m and cut overhanging branches back to garden boundary.

Boxley Parish Council Response: Boxley Parish Council defer to the views of the Tree Officer.

20/503130/TPOA 12 Olivine Close, Walderslade, ME5 9NQ

Tree Preservation Order no. 1 of 1969: An application for consent to remove epicormic growth from trunks, to thin crowns by 15-20%, to remove branches closest to roof of property, and to remove dead crossings or rubbing branches from 2 (no) Oak trees.

Boxley Parish Council Response: Boxley Parish Council defer to the views of the Tree Officer.

20/503335/SUB Popesfield, Bearsted Road Weaving

Submission of detail pursuant to condition 12 (Verification Report pertaining to the surface water drainage system) in relation to planning permission 18/506656/FULL

Boxley Parish Council Response: Boxley Parish Council have no material planning reasons to object to this application.

20/503334/NMAMD Popesfield Bearsted Road Weaving Kent

Non-material amendment: Amendments as detailed in Landscape Illustrative Masterplan - FS0745-ALA-ZZ-ZZ-DR-L-9001 , and cover letter dated 16/07/20 (relates to original application 18/506656/FULL).

Boxley Parish Council Response: Boxley Parish Council have no material planning reasons to object to this application.

20/503256/NMAMD 2 Harvesters Way Weaving ME14 5SJ

Non-material amendment: Only the two storey rear extension is to be built with a pitched roof (relates to original application ref: 18/505439/FULL).

Noted.

20/503104/FULL Sandy Hope, Grove Green Lane, Weaving, ME14 5JW

Demolition of conservatory and erection of single storey rear extension.

Boxley Parish Council Response: Boxley Parish Council have no material planning reasons to object to this application.

20/503387/TPOA Trefilan, 6 Greenways, Weaving, ME14 5JU

TPO application for 2 x trees, 1 and 2 as shown on plan to be reduced in height to 9 metres.

Boxley Parish Council Response: Boxley Parish Council defer to the views of the Tree Officer.

20/503192/FULL Alexandra Hospital, Impton Lane, Walderslade

Retrospective application for the installation of a temporary Portakabin to be used as a Covid-19 testing unit.

Boxley Parish Council Response: Boxley Parish Council have no material planning reasons to object to this application.

20/503388/TPOA 28 The Hedgerows, Weaving, ME14 6TG

TPO application – Oak (T1) to remove branches that are overhanging the boundary of number 28 The Hedgerow. Reduction in height to 9.5 metres and crown lift to 6 metres. Sycamore (T2-5) Reduce back lateral regrowth to previous cuts. To boundary line as per diagram. Reduce tree by 3 metres leaving a standing height of 7 metres. Reason: to maintain and carry out duty of care to boundary tree, so that it can grow and remain a beautiful screen.

Boxley Parish Council Response: Boxley Parish Council defer to the views of the Tree Officer.

20/503435/LBC Watercress Cottage, The Street, Boxley, ME14 3DX

Listed building consent for insertion of new oak post into existing mortise to replace one previously removed.

Boxley Parish Council Response: Boxley Parish Council defer to the views of the Conservation Officer.

6. **Decisions**

The planning decisions on the Agenda were noted.

Appeals

19/504442/FULL Land East of Gleaming Wood Drive, Lordswood, Kent ME5 8XT

Erection of 115 dwellings together with associated infrastructure, open space, landscaping and access works

Section 78 Appeal

The Developer is putting through reserved matters applications for the 89 houses that he gained planning permission for on Appeal. This is a new Appeal for the twice refused 115 house application. Below is the latest reserved matters application, the report from KCC Ecology and our response. I would like to submit comments by the 2 September.

Boxley Parish Council response: The Clerk would draft an objection and circulate it to Councillors for comment. Objection to focus on changes to Ancient Woodland protection since original planning application was approved on Appeal.

7. **Highways and Byways**

7.1

It was proposed by Cllr D Hollands, seconded by Cllr J Willmott and all agreed that the Clerk contact KCC and ask for direction markings be put on the approach lanes to the roundabout in both directions. The nearside lane to be marked as straight on and to the left, with the offside lane being marked to the right. This to be the same in both directions.

7.2 Junction 3 of the M2

This was now a standing item on the Agenda of the JTB. Cllr Hinder would let members know in advance when the next meeting was so that they could submit comments.

7.3 To consider any issues raised at the meeting

None raised.

7.4 Walderslade Wood Speed Reduction Notice

Noted

8. Litter Bins Weaving

Cllr V Davies reported that the green litter picking sacks were not being collected regularly. They were usually put into the Grove Green Village Hall bin but all lifts had been cancelled due to the hall's closure.

It was proposed by Cllr J Willmott, seconded by Cllr I Davies and all agreed that BPC pay for the fortnightly bin lift at Grove Green Hall at a cost of £25 to enable the litter picking sacks to be disposed of. This would be reviewed next month. The Office would contact the other litter pickers to inform them that they could put rubbish sacks into this bin.

Action: Office.

9. TPO 1969

The TPO had last been done in 1969. The impact of any housing built since then had not been included as the TPO has not been updated. The Clerk was asked to contact Dianne Cunningham to see when this TPO would be reviewed. **Action: Clerk**

10. Policy and Procedures – Review

None on this Agenda

11. Members and Officers Reports

Cllr Hinder reported that he had received a call from a resident asking for more 'No Dogs' signs at the entrance to the Franklin Drive Play Area.

The resident also asked if a memorial to Cllr Wendy Hinder could be installed in this play area that she had campaigned so hard for. It was proposed by Cllr D Holland, seconded by Cllr I Davies and all agreed that a memorial bench should be installed. The Clerk would check the budget and obtain some quotations for benches. **Action: Clerk**

The Clerk reported that she had received a complaint of a vehicle and caravan parking up around Grove Green overnight and leaving a mess. The resident had reported this to the PCSO who said that they had no concerns and that it was nothing for them to get involved with. This was not felt to be a satisfactory response. Councillors living in the area would monitor the situation.

Sale of Wildfell Close Lane

The Clerk reported that BPC's solicitor had received a response from KCC stating that the issue of costs had been settled. The Clerk has informed our solicitor that no breakdown of costs had been received. The Solicitor was going to chase again.

12. Consultations

These had been circulated to members as they were received.

13. Volunteer Groups

No reports received

14. Items for Next Agenda

Requests for items to be included on the next Agenda.

15. Next Meeting

Next Environment Committee meeting 13 July 2020, venue to be confirmed, to start at 7.30pm

16. Enforcement and CIL/Section 106 updates from MBC

No update had been received regarding the Enforcement action for the Tree House at Bethany.

A resident had expressed concern about unauthorised building work at 1 Abbey Gate Cottages, Boarley Lane, Sandling. This was already being investigated by Enforcement.

Members were encouraged to look at the new planning proposals as they would mean that CIL payments would disappear.

17. **Bell Lane**

More complaints had been received from residents about toxic smoke. The Court case had been delayed and it was not known when the new date was. The Fire Brigade had attended the site twice in the previous week but had not put out the fires, merely observed. The Clerk was asked to contact them to find out why the fires could not be put out. **Action: Clerk**

Meeting closed 9.00 pm.

Signed as a correct record of the proceedings.

Chairman Date