

**Minutes of the Environment Committee on Monday 13 July 2020 held by
conference call due to the Covid-19 Pandemic at 7.30 pm.**

Present: Cllrs B Hinder - Chair, Mr I Davies, Mrs P Huntingford, J Willmott, together with Mrs D Baylis, Clerk.

1 Apologies and absences

Prior apologies from Cllrs L Clarke and A Brindle. Cllr D Hollands later apology as he could not connect to the call.

2. Declaration of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying

None

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

Mr Jonathan Cornish explained his planning application to the Councillors. No other members of the public had joined the meeting.

3. Minutes of the Meeting on Monday 6 July 2020

The minutes were agreed and would be signed when possible.

4. Matters Arising from the Minutes

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

5. Planning Applications for Consideration or ratification

20/502292/FULL Land adjacent to La Torre, Boxley Road, Walderslade, ME5 9JE

Erection of a detached dwelling.

Cllr Hinder declared that he had been lobbied on this application. A decision was deferred so that Councillors could look at the application in detail. Comments would be submitted to the Clerk by Friday 17th July for collation and submission.

20/502928/FULL 5 Baron Close, Bearsted, ME14 4PZ

Erection of a two storey front extension together with a first floor front extension.

It was proposed by Cllr Hinder, seconded by Cllr Huntingford and agreed with one abstention to make a comment of 'no material planning reasons to object'.

20/502387/TPOA 10 Podkin Wood, Walderslade, ME5 9LY

TPO application for 1x Hornbeam – crown raise, lower limbs from ground level to 8m from the ground.

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

20/502929/FULL 1 Wytherling Close, Bearsted, ME14 4QB

Erection of a single storey front extension and single storey side and rear extension.

Conversion of garage to a habitable space

Boxley Parish Council have no material planning reasons to object.

20/502983/TPOA 15 Wildfell Close, Walderslade, ME5 9RU

TPO application to fell one Hornbeam

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

20/502950/TPOA 5 Round Wood Close, Walderslade, ME5 9UL

Tree Preservation Order application – T1: Hornbeam (Carpinus betuls) – fell the tree and replace with hazel (Corylus avellane)

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

6. Planning Decisions, Appeals and Appeals Decisions

The Planning decisions and Appeal on the Agenda were noted.

7. **Highways and Byways**

7.1 Highways Improvement Plan.

It was agreed that this would be reviewed on a 3 monthly basis and submitted to KCC Highways.

7.2 Direction signs for the two lanes at the roundabout of New Cut Road and the new SEN School. In the absence of Cllr Hollands this was deferred until the next meeting.

7.3 Junction 3 of the M2

Cllr Hinder reported that in spite of being told that this problem would not be on last weeks JTB meeting Agenda it had been added as item 11. It would now be on every Agenda as a standing item. Councillors should let Cllr Hinder have any comments and suggestions so that he can put them forward for the next meeting.

7.4 Request for 'slow down hedgehogs' signs in Vinters Area

It was proposed by Cllr I Davies, seconded by Cllr Hinder and all agreed that this proposal be supported and added to the HIP. The Clerk would get some costs and further information for the next meeting. Information on siting would also be obtained from the resident making the request and Steve Songhurst the Warden at Vinters Valley Nature Reserve. **Action Clerk.**

7.5 Lidsing Road Junction

The Junction signing and lining work to improve the junction would be carried out in August 2020. **Noted**

7.6 Sandling Issues,

The Clerk was asked to thank the resident for his support and report the issues to the Contractor. **Action Clerk.**

7.7 To consider any issues raised at the meeting

The lack of/overgrown reflective posts on Pilgrims Road in Boxley would be added to the HIP.

8. **Retrospective Planning Applications**

Cllr Hinder's briefing paper was noted. Cllr Huntingford would pass on her ideas to MP Helen Whatley as they would need to be dealt with at a national level and were beyond the scope of the Parish Council. KALC could also be lobbied.

9. **Policy and Procedures**

None scheduled for review. **Noted.**

10. **Members and Officer's Reports**

None.

11. **Consultations**

None.

12. **Volunteer Groups .**

No reports had been received. The Clerk suggested and members agreed that the Clerk should contact groups every month to ask for a report for the meeting. **Action Clerk**

13. **Items for Next Agenda**

Requests for items to be included on the agenda to be submitted no later than 4 August 2020.

Noted.

14. **Next Meeting**

Next Environment Committee meeting 10 August 2020 remotely commencing at 7.30pm.

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

Cllr Hinder reported that he had been notified of 3 Enforcement Notices. The Clerk said that the Parish Office had received no notifications. Cllr Hinder would contact the Enforcement Team and request that the Parish Office was notified of Enforcement Notices in future. **Action Cllr Hinder.** Cllr Hinder reported that there had been no further information on the Enforcement Notice for the Tree House at Bethany.

16. **Granite Border around Boxley Green** – requested by Cllr Willmott

BPC owns and maintains the Village Green. The Clerk was asked to ascertain the origins of the granite border and who was responsible for it. The condition of the road would be added to the HIP. **Action Clerk**

Meeting closed 8.55 pm.

Signed as a correct record of the proceedings.

Chairman Date