

**Minutes of the Environment Committee Meeting held on Monday 9 August 2021
held at Beechen Hall, commencing at 7.30 pm.**

Present: Cllr C Sheppard – Chair, I Davies, V Davies, B Hinder, W Salter and L Clarke together with Mrs D Baylis, Clerk

In the absence of the Chairman and Vice-chairman Cllr Chris Sheppard was nominated to be acting Chairman by Cllr V Davies, seconded by I Davies and all agreed.

1 Apologies and absences

Cllr H Monk
Cllr J Willmott
Cllr P Huntingford

2. Declaration of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying

None.

3. Election of Vice-Chairman

Cllr B Hinder was nominated by Cllr I Davies, seconded by Cllr W Salter and unanimously elected as Vice-Chairman.

4. Minutes of the Meeting held on 12 July 2021

The minutes were agreed and would be signed when possible. After discussion it was agreed to keep the planning responses on the minutes.

5. Matters Arising from the Minutes

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

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

No members of the public attended.

6. Planning Applications for Consideration – Decision

21/503800/FULL The former KCC Highways Depo, Boxley Road, Walderslade, ME5 9AX

Retrospective application for a change of use of the former KCC Highways Depot for the external storage and building materials at 3m high at the former KCC Highways Depot, Boxley, Maidstone.

Boxley Parish Council have no material planning reasons to object to this application but question the length of time it has taken to submit the application.

21/504007/TPOA 16 Iris Close, Boxley, ME5 9QD

Tree Preservation Order application: Field Maple (T1) – reduce by 2m in height and balance the crown accordingly (leaving the tree at a height of 8m, with a crown spread of 7m). The tree is overhanging the garden causing excessive shading. Hornbeam (T6) – reduce by 2m in height and balance the crown accordingly (leaving the tree at a height of 7m with a crown spread of 6m). The tree is overhanging the garden causing excessive shading.

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

21/504042/TPOA Burwood, Cossington Road, Boxley, ME5 9JB

TPO application to 1x Oak Tree – removal of 2 to 3 lower limbs.

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

KCC/MA/0168/2021 Newnham Court Farm, Bearsted Road, Weaving, ME14 5LH

Construction of a service road route for HGV and other associated vehicle deliveries with concrete apron, associated lighting, fencing, and landscaping, re-siting of part of the existing barn, and the relocation of 2no. storage containers.

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

21/503885/ADV Vinters Business Park, New Cut Road, ME14 5NZ

Advertisement consent for 1no. non illuminated signs to the entrance of Vinters Business Park (retrospective).

Boxley Parish Council object to this application. The signs are too large for the location and out of keeping with the street scene.

21/504083/TPOA 12 Goldstone Walk, Boxley, ME5 9QB

TPO Application – 3x Sweet Chestnut trees. 5 metre crown lift for each of the trees also removing dead and damaged branches. Reason: The trees are causing excessive shading in our garden.

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

21/504024/FULL 6 Sandbourne Drive, Boxley, ME14 2JA

First floor side extension over existing garage and external fenestration changes.

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

21/503623/TPOA The Malta Inn, Sandling, ME14 3AS

TPO Application – Pollard 3 no Willow trees to previous pollard points due to overhang. On completion the trees will have a lateral spread of approximately 4m.

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

21/504143/FULL 3 Baron Close, ME14 4PZ

Conversion of the existing garage to a habitable room.

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

21/504244/TPOA 26 Whatman Drive, ME14 5FZ

TPO application for 1x (T1) Field Maple – fell and 1 x (T2) Yew – fell.

Boxley Parish Council object to this application and do not support the loss of healthy trees which were already established when the property was constructed..

21/503803/FULL Edelweiss, Boxley Road, ME5 9JG

Erection of two storey side and rear extension, with insertion of light lanterns.

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

21/503961/FULL Lower Grange Farm House Grange Lane Sandling, ME14 3D

Erection of a part two storey, part single storey side extension and front porch including creation of 2no. bay windows to front, internal alterations and demolition of 2no. existing detached outbuildings.

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

21/503867/TPOA 10 Woodlands, Boxley, ME5 9JX

TPO Application – Two ash trees at the rear of 10 Woodlands. Trees are to be reduced by 30% from approximate height of 19m and width 11m. Reason: Work required to reduce height of both trees and to remove any overhanging branches to ensure trees are safe and do not encroach into property.

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

21/504047/FULL 101 Badger Road, Boxley, ME5 8XS

Demolition of rear conservatory and erection of single storey rear extension with internal alterations and associated works.

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

7. **Ratifications**
The Planning responses were ratified.
8. **Planning Decisions, Appeals, and Appeals Decisions – Information**
Noted
9. **Highways and Byways - DECISION**
 - 9.1 **Highways Improvement Plan**
Issues with parking in Brownlow Copse, particularly during Brownie sessions was added to the HIP.
The items on the HIP were put into an order of priority.
 - 9.2 **Boarley Lane**
No Update
 - 9.3 **Junction 3 of the M2**
BPC would put in a response to the new consultation. BPC to request that Bluebell hill is labelled as a major road so that it becomes the responsibility of Highways England rather than of KCC.
 - 9.4 **To consider any issues raised at the meeting**
None raised
 - 9.5 **To request safety audits to be carried out by KCC on the following areas: Grovewood Drive South/Chiltern Hundreds public house to Notcutts roundabout**
These will be discussed at the meeting with KCC in September.
 - 9.6 **MBC Park and Ride Scheme**
No further information.
 - 9.7 **Speeding Boxley Village including Sandy Lane Junction**
The speed survey results were noted.
 - 9.8 **A249 Bearsted Road Major Infrastructure Project**
The report was noted.
 - 9.9 **Harp Farm Road – flooding**
This was put back on the HIP
10. **Policy and Procedure - Review**
None on this agenda.
11. **Walderslade Woods**
The report was noted.
12. **Lower Thames Crossing Consultation**
A response to this from BPC would be drafted.
13. **Task List**
Noted
14. **Members and Officer's Reports**
None
15. **Residents' Concerns**
Speeding on Bearsted Road was added to the HIP.
16. **Boxley Village Speed Survey Results**
Discussed under 9.7.
17. **Consultations**
Discussed under item 12.

18. **Volunteer Groups – INFORMATION**

The Walderslade Woods Group has not had a meeting.
The Friends of Weaving Heath picnic has been rearranged for the 12th September.

19. **Items for Next Agenda – DECISION**

Requests for items to be included on the next agenda to be received by 27 August.

20. **Next Meeting**

Next Environment Committee meeting 6 September 2021.

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

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

The report was noted.

Meeting closed 9.10 pm.

Signed as a correct record of the proceedings.

Chairman Date

