

Minutes of the Environment Committee on Monday 11 January 2021 held by Teams due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, commencing at 7.30 pm.

Present: Cllr B Hinder – Chair, Mr I Davies (from item 5), D Hollands, V Davies, L Clarke, P Huntingford, C Sheppard, J Wilmott together with Mrs D Baylis, Clerk

1. **Apologies and absences**
W Salter, A Brindle
2. **Declaration of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying**
Cllr Wilmott declared that his property backed onto the garden of the property Woodlands, application number 20/505773/FULL.
3. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 14 December 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 were in attendance.

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

20/505893/TPOA 43 Bargrove Road Maidstone ME14 5RT

TPO application to remove one Acer; Reduce all crowns of group of trees (consisting of mixed Acer, Crataegus, and Quercus) from property (lateral branches only, from 6.5m to 4m) , crown lift all to 2.8m and thin crowns by 15% and sever all Ivy.

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

20/505718/FULL Cringles Boxley Road Walderslade Chatham Kent

Conversion of the existing garage to a habitable space. Erection of a single storey side extension and a detached garage.

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

20/505773/FULL Woodmans The Street Boxley Maidstone Kent

Demolition of conservatory and erection of single storey rear extension.

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

20/505985/TPOA 17 Pyrus Close Boxley ME5 9QF

TPO application reduce height of one Hornbeam from 15m to 10m, reduce radial spread to 3m, raise canopy to achieve 5m ground clearance, and thin canopy by 10% focusing on dead wood and inferior conflicting branches.

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

20/505999/SUB Newnham Court Shopping Village Bearsted Road Wearing ME14 5LH

Submission of Details to Discharge Condition 2 (Sustainable Surface Water Drainage Scheme) Subject to 18/500330/FULL

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

20/506091/SUB Newnham Court Shopping Village Bearsted Road Weaving Kent ME14 5LH

Submission of Details to Discharge Condition 3 (Contamination) Subject to 18/500330/FULL

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

20/506022/TPOA 4 Ash Tree Gardens Weaving Maidstone Kent ME14 5LB

TPO Application for the Ash trees - cut back the over hang into 7 Exton garden back to the boundary fence.

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

20/506087/FULL 4 Grove Green Road Weaving Maidstone Kent ME14 5JT

Demolition of single storey rear extension. Erection of a front porch and single storey side/rear extension.

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

19/505816/SUB Lordswood Urban Extension Gleaming Wood Drive Lordswood Kent

Submission of details pursuant to condition 5 (Materials), condition 7 (Woodland Management Plan), condition 8 (Proposed Boundary Treatment), condition 10 (Ecology) condition 11 (Construction Environmental Management Plan : Biodiversity) and condition 17 (Bird boxes) in relation to planning application 15/503359/OUT and Appeal Reference APP/U2235/W/15/3132364 (for residential development (approx 89 dwellings) plus open space, biomass plant and access road (plus emergency access) We have received revised details concerning this application.

Amended and additional Information received 22.12.20

You may view the application online at <http://pa.midkent.gov.uk/online-applications> or by visiting:

Boxley Parish Council still have grave concerns for the welfare of the wildlife on this site. The loss of habit connectivity for dormice is not mitigated by the provision of one rope bridge across the road. They will also be subjected to disturbance of nesting sites by the construction and use of the woodland by residents and their pets.

There has still not been any ecological survey for insect species on the site.

There has been a long period of activity with nuisance motorcycles on the site with the permission of the landowner. This has caused a lot of upset with residents in the area and must have done a lot of damage to the wildlife population (intentional?). Boxley's PCSO has reported that the permission has now been revoked by the landowner.

This is a site with numerous protected species on it and any development is going to cause devastation to their population.

6. **Ratifications**

None on this Agenda.

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

Noted

8. **Highways and Byways**

8.1 **Highways Improvement Plan**

Cllr Hinder reported that at a meeting of the Joint Transport Board of MBC the flooding at Harp Farm Road had been put onto the forward work plan for 2021/22. The speed reduction on Walderslade Woods was due to be started by the contractor on the 26th February.

8.2 **Boarley Lane**

A full and comprehensive report had been received from Sue King regarding the LAWPRO application and the hedgerow that had been removed. Any further developments would be reported to the committee in due course.

8.3 **Junction 3 of the M2**

The planning application for the Lower Thames Crossing has been withdrawn. The improvements have been put onto the work programme of MBC's Joint Transport

Board. An update would be produced after the collation of the public enquiry results.

8.6 **To consider any issues raised at the meeting**
None

9. **Electric Charging Points for Beechen Hall**

Whilst it was agreed that this was an environmental matter, members felt that it would be better to put this on the Estates Agenda. The Clerk would produce a report for the next Estates Meeting.

10. **Policy and Procedures – Review**

None on this agenda.

11. **Members and Officers Reports**

None

12. **Residents’ Concerns**

Covered under 9.1

13. **Consultations**

Cllr Hinder had done a Police consultation as a Borough Councillor regarding the siting of ANPR cameras in the borough. He had responded in favour. Members agreed with this response.

14. **Volunteer Groups**

15. **Items for Next Agenda**

Requests for items to be included on the next Agenda.

16. **Next Meeting**

Next Environment Committee meeting 11 January 2021 starting at 7.30pm.

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

Cllr Wilmott reported that there would be no CIL received from the new build 'The Haven' in Boxley as it would be a self-build.

Meeting closed 8.15 pm.

Signed as a correct record of the proceedings.

Chairman Date