



# Boxley

## PARISH COUNCIL

### **Minutes of the Environment Committee Meeting held on Monday 11 April 2022 held at Beechen Hall, Wildfell Close, ME5 9RU commencing at 7.30 pm.**

Present: C Sheppard– Chair, I Davies, V Davies, K Hill, P Huntingford and M Beckwith together with Mrs D Baylis, Clerk.

- 1 **Apologies and absences**  
Cllrs J Willmott and B Hinder.
2. **Declaration of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying**  
None.
3. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 4 April 2022**  
The minutes were agreed.
4. **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.

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

##### **22/501331/FULL 24 Crownfields, ME14 5TH**

Erection of a single storey rear extension.

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

##### **22/501464/TPOA 22 Micawber Close, ME5 9JZ**

Tree Preservation Order application – T1 Hornbeam for 2-3m Crown reduction, remaining crown spread will be 11m, remaining height will be 19m after works are completed. T2 and T3 Western Cedars for height reduction from 6m to 4m. All trees in rear garden of property, Hornbeam to centre of lawn area, cedars to boundary fence. Crown reduction in line with general maintenance, mature tree in centre of small lawn becoming oversized and requires reduction. Height reduction of Western Red Cedars x 2 in line with regular maintenance, reducing height for safety of property and tree health management within a small space.

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

6. **Ratifications**  
None on this agenda.
7. **Planning Decisions, Appeals, and Appeals Decisions – Information**  
The Decisions on the Agenda were reviewed. It was noted that 2 applications that BPC had objected to had been approved and 3 that BPC had not objected to had been refused.
8. **Highways and Byways - DECISION**
  - 8.1 **Highways Improvement Plan**  
The plan was discussed. The Clerk was asked to contact the Bearsted Clerk to see if a new working party could be established and arrange a meeting.  
The road improvements around the Kims site and the Chiltern Hundreds roundabout (items 9 and 10) would take 13 months to complete. The pedestrian

crossing had been moved from the location in the original design due to ancient trees.

8.2 **Junction 3 of the M2**

No update.

8.3 **A249 Bearsted Road Major Infrastructure Project**

Covered in 8.1.

8.4 **Harp Farm Road – flooding**

The following report had been received from Susan Laporte at KCC.

Permanent flood warning signs had been installed.

The improvements will involve a redesign of the whole drainage system to include a new soakaway and drainage gullies and lines to connect to the new soakaway. It was hoped that this will be completed in this financial year, but of course this would be dependent on weather and other drainage priorities for the area. BPC will be updated once more detail is available.

8.5 **To consider any issues raised at the meeting**

A resident had requested that bollards be placed on verges in Beechmore drive that were being damaged by turning vehicles. The Clerk has asked him for photographs to ascertain the exact location.

9. **Policy and Procedure - Review**

None on this agenda.

10. **Task List**

Noted.

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

Cllrs Sheppard reported that he would be attending a Vinters Trust meeting on the 25<sup>th</sup> April.

12. **Residents' Concerns**

Request received from a resident to review the Running Horse Roundabout for the installation of traffic lights due to the high number of accidents.

This was being looked as part of the Junction 3 of the M2 improvements. The Clerk was asked to refer to KCC.

Request for 2 trees to be planted around the play park in Grovewood Drive North adjacent to Weaving Village Hall as part of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Green Canopy project. These would replace 2 trees lost during the February storms.

This park was managed by MBC and the Clerk was asked to contact the Parks Dept to see if the request could be accommodated.

13. **Lidsing Garden Settlement**

Defamatory comments regarding BPC Councillors and Boxley Ward Councillors had been minuted following a recent Bredhurst Parish Council meeting. One comment regarding only 3 BPC Councillors signing a Facebook petition were deemed discriminatory as it assumes that all Councillors have a Facebook account and are members of ALGD. In fact all BPC Councillors had objected to the Lidsing Garden Development directly to MBC and both Ward Councillors had actually voted against the Conservatives on this issue at MBC meetings.

It was decided not to respond to these comments as it would be a waste of time.

14. **Consultations**

None on this Agenda.

15. **Volunteer Groups – INFORMATION**

No updates

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

17. **Next Meeting**

Next Environment Committee meeting 2 May 2022.

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.

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

No additional CIL money had been received.

Meeting closed 8.45 pm.

Signed as a correct record of the proceedings.

Chairman ..... Date .....