

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

Present: Cllrs J Willmott – Chair, I Davies, K Hill, P Huntingford, C Sheppard, B Hinder and M Beckwith together with Mrs D Baylis, Clerk.

- 1 **Apologies and absences** None.
- 2. **Declaration of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying** None.
- 3. **Minutes of the Meeting held on 3 May 2022** The minutes were agreed.
- 4. Matters Arising from the Minutes None
 - 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

22/501621/FULL 12 Maxton Close, Bearsted, ME14 4DQ

Conversion of garage into habitable space. Alterations to fenestration. **Boxley Parish Council** have no material planning reasons to object to this application.

6. Ratifications

None on this agenda.

7. Planning Decisions, Appeals, and Appeals Decisions – Information

The Decisions on the Agenda were reviewed. The Clerk was asked to produce a more detailed report on decisions where there was a conflict between the BPC comment and MBC's decision. These reports would be separate to the current table. The Clerk was asked to produce a report giving more information on Lawful Development Certificates.

8. Highways and Byways - DECISION

8.1 **Highways Improvement Plan**

The Harp Farm Road improvements to prevent flooding were going though and a work schedule had been given.

8.2 Junction 3 of the M2

Cllr Sheppard had received a leaflet regarding the Lower Thames Crossing. There was a new consultation event on the 9th June at the Bridgewood Manor Hotel. Lower Thames Crossing would be added to future Agendas as an Agenda item. It was decided to try and get Bluebell Hill added to the Strategic Road Network. The Clerk would generate a letter to lobby MP's for the 20th May.

A249 Bearsted Road Major Infrastructure Project 8.3

Trees had been cut down. This would now be 4 lanes instead of 3 with no central reservation.

8.4 Harp Farm Road – flooding

Covered under 8.1.

8.5 To consider any issues raised at the meeting

Brownlowe Copse.

Cllr Hinder had sent the Clerk some more photographs of the problem parking on the bend which she will pass onto Jennie Watson at KCC.

Stem School

The drop off zone had been closed which was causing more problems on the surrounding roads. The Clerk was asked to look at the planning permission for the school to look at the provision for drop off and pick up of pupils.

Invicta Grammar School was expanding which would also cause further issues with parking on local roads.

9. **Policy and Procedure - Review**

None on this agenda.

10. Task List

The Clerk was asked to send Cllr Hinder the contact details for the resident in Sandling who had requested the installation of planters.

The Task List would be published on the website with a button entitled 'Environment Committee Tasks completed' and updated quarterly.

11. Members and Officer's Reports

Cllr Hinder reported that a visit from Elmer the Elephant had been booked for the autumn half term week for Beechen Hall with a day of craft activities planned. Cllr Hill reported that an excellent job had been done by volunteer litter pickers on the bridle path between Bell Lane and Warren Lane.

12. **Residents' Concerns** None.

13. **Lidsing Garden Settlement**

BPC's plans for action were discussed. A meeting of the working group (Cllrs Sheppard, Hill, Beckwith, Huntingford and Hinder) would be arranged to finalise the details.

14. Consultations

None on this Agenda.

15. **Volunteer Groups – INFORMATION**

Vinters Valley Nature Reserve Cllr Sheppard reported that there was a 30th Anniversary event planned for the 2nd July and all were invited. There would be a teddy bears picnic, guided walks and other activities. Gallaghers were donating a commemorative stone.

16. **Items for Next Agenda – DECISION** None put forward.

17. Next Meeting

Next Environment Committee meeting 6 June 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 8.50 pm.

Signed as a correct record of the proceedings.

Chairman Date