

**Minutes of the Boxley Parish Council Meeting held at Beechen Hall, Wildfell Close,
Walderslade on 3 April 2023, commencing at 19:30**

Councillors Present: C Sheppard - Chairman, I Davies, V Davies, A Assester, P Mclean, B Hinder, K Macklin, P Sullivan, D Hollands, M Beckwith, A Brindle (from item 3) and D Hubbard together with Mrs D Baylis – Parish Clerk and 1 member of the public.

1. **Apologies and absences**
Cllrs P Huntingford and P Dengate - Apologies accepted.
2. **Declaration of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying**
Cllrs C Sheppard, A Brindle and B Hinder item 24.
3. **Motions to exclude the press and public from the meeting for items 21 and 22 the Confidential Section.**
It was proposed by Cllr C Sheppard and all agreed that in view of the confidential nature of items 21, 22, 23 and 24 that the press and public will be excluded from the meeting for these items.
4. **Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 6 March 2023**
All agreed.
5. **Matters Arising From the Minutes**
The Clerk would make another report to MBC's Environmental Health Team. Action Clerk. Cllr Brindle would talk to the Manager at Tesco. If she did not get a satisfactory response the Clerk would write a formal letter of complaint to the manager, CC'd to Tesco Head Office from the Parish Council. Action Clerk.
6. **Co-option of New Councillor**
It was proposed by Cllr Sheppard, seconded by Cllr Macklin and all agreed that Heidi Bryant be co-opted as a Councillor of Boxley Parish Council.
7. **Crime Report and Police Issues**
Report noted. The Parish Caretaker had reported to the Clerk that at 7.50 am on Friday 31 March he had found a policewoman in the carpark. When asked if he could help, she replied that she was just photographing the Parish Council noticeboard. The Clerk had written to Kent Police to find out why and to check that it had been a proper policewoman.

Adjournment to enable members of the public to address the meeting.

8. **Draft Minutes of Recent Committee Meetings**
The following have been previously circulated:
 - 8.1 **Environment Committee Meeting 6 and 13 March 2023.**
Noted.
 - 8.2 **Finance and General Purposes Committee Meeting 20 March 2023**
Noted.
9. **Finance**
 - 9.1 **Financial Statement to 28 February 2023**
Noted.
 - 9.2 **Receipts and payments 1-28 February 2023**
Noted.

9.3 **Any other finance issues raised at the meeting.**

The Clerk reported that the accounts end of year would be on the 14 April with the Final Internal Audit on the 26 April. The AGAR and financial reports should be ready for the 2 May meeting.

10. **Policies and Procedures**

10.1 **Communications, Press and Media Policy**

It was proposed by Cllr Shepard, seconded by Cllr Bridle and all agreed that the policy be adopted.

10.2 **Complaints Policy**

It was proposed by Cllr Sheppard, seconded by Cllr Brindle and all agreed that the policy be adopted.

11. **Reports from Councillors/Office**

Cllr I Davies and A Brindle had attended a KALC meeting on the 27 March at Yalding. The main item discussed was the Gipsy and Traveller consultation.

Police Inspector, Steve Kent from Maidstone CSU had given a report on the planned neighbourhood policing structure which is intended to go live on the 7th June. The 26 Maidstone wards would be split into 4 and covered by 16 PC's. They were realigning PCSO's into PC's. They intended to work closely with the rural task force.

More weight would be given to Parish views on Planning applications.

Cllr Sheppard reported that a walk through Walderslade Woods with Paul Carter had been planned for 18 April 2023 at 2pm.

12. **Reports from Borough and County Councillors**

Cllr Hinder reported that the Insight magazine was not being received in the North of the Borough. MBC had been in touch with the deliverers and had been assured that the problem was being sorted. No Councillor in the North of the parish had received one. Those in the South or Boxley Village had. MBC's Communications Manager had been assured by the Post Office that they were being delivered. Cllr Hinder would pursue the matter.

13. **Grant Applications**

13.1 It was proposed by Cllr Sheppard, seconded by Cllr Brindle and all agreed that the Grant for £1,200 to the Kenward Trust be approved.

The Clerk was asked to provide a spreadsheet of grants approved and when to make the decision-making process on grants easier for Councillors. Action Clerk.

14. **Cluster Meetings**

The next meeting was planned for June.

15. **Matters for Decision**

It was proposed by Cllr Sheppard, seconded by Cllr Macklin and all agreed that the Clerk generate a petition against the closure of Medway Household Waste sites to Maidstone residents. The link to the petition would be sent out on Community Alert and added to the Facebook pages and Website. Cllrs Hinder and Brindle were writing to the Leader of MBC.

16. **Kings Coronation 6-8 May 2023**

The bunting has proved very popular. The Clerk was still awaiting prices on the Plaques and roundabout sign.

17. **Correspondence**

Boxley Church Defibrillator

The Parish Council has been asked to take on the Defibrillator and locate it in an outside box to make it accessible at all hours and not just when the church was open. It was agreed to continue investigating locating it in the phone box or see if the power supply to the phone box could be utilised. The Clerk was also asked to look at the cost of running a power supply from the Lych Gate to near to the Parish Noticeboard. Action Clerk.

18. **Matters for Information**

None raised.

19. **Items for Next Agenda**

20. **Meetings**

Next Meeting Monday 2 May 2023 at Beechen Hall.
Noted.

21. **Personnel matters**

Minuted separately under confidential minutes.

22. **Lidsing Report**

Minuted separately under confidential minutes.

Meeting closed at 9.16pm.

Signed as a correct record of the proceedings.

Chairman Date