

**Minutes of the Environment Committee held on Monday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2012 at Beechen Hall, Wildfell Close, Walderslade commencing at 7.30 p.m.**

Councillors present; Mrs P Brooks, Mr P Dengate, Mr K Perry (Chairman), Mrs A Spain, Mr A Springate, together with the Assistant Clerk.

1. **Apologies and absences**
2. **Declaration of Interest or Lobbying.**  
None declared.
3. **Minutes of the Meetings of the 18<sup>th</sup> June, 2012.**  
The minutes of the meetings were **agreed** and **signed** as a true and correct record.
4. **Matters Arising From Minutes.**
  - 4.1 Minute 2415/4.1 Marker at Cossington Lane. **Noted** The Parish Office is investigating the type and location of the marker. Cllr Springate asked for the wording appearing on the marker to be confirmed **Action** – office.
  - 4.2 Minute 2415/4.2 PRoW Round Wood valley. **Noted** After consulting with KCC it was agreed that a more cost effective procedure for the Parish Council to take would be for a deed of dedication. **Action** – office.
  - 4.3 Minute 2415/4.3 Lidsing Road. **Noted** a request for additional signage etc. has been chased for a reply.
  - 4.4 Minute 2415/4.4 Noise pollution, Walderslade. **Noted** remedial work on the unit causing the problem was completed on 23<sup>rd</sup> June and since this date MBC and the parish office have received no further complaints.
  - 4.5 Minute 2416/8.1 Boxley Road/Grange Lane speed restriction. **Noted** Cllr Bob Hinder will attend The Maidstone Joint Transport Board meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> July to highlight the issue.

As no members of the public were present the meeting the meeting was not adjourned.

5. **Planning Applications and Appeals for Consideration.**
  - 5.1 MA/12/0923 erection of two storey extension to replace existing garages at 10 Lombardy Drive, Vinters Park. *Do not wish to object.*
  - 5.2 MA/12/0997 ground floor side and rear extensions with raised roof terrace at Frantom, Grove Green Road, Weaving. *Do not wish to object.*
  - 5.3 MA/12/1002 erection of a two storey rear extension at 8 Barncroft Close, Weaving. *Do not wish to object.*
  - 5.4 MA/12/0526 amended details for the construction of new sport hall at Valley Community School, Huntsman Lane – a letter confirming the situation with regards to Sports England and details on the condition of the current areas. *Noted.*
  - 5.5 MA/12/1092 erection of a single storey rear extension and side porch at Grove End, Vintners Way, Weaving. *Do not wish to object.*
  - 5.6 MA/12/1078 erection of a single storey side extension at 12 Olivine Close, Walderslade.  
*Members requested to delay decision until a site visit had been made and to allow any objections from neighbours to be received. The decision will be made out of meeting by the committee and ratified at the next meeting.*

5.6 MA/12/1077 - Erection of fencing at 13 Shepherds Gate Drive, Weavinging.  
*Wish to see the application refused for the planning reasons set out below but do not request the application reported to the planning committee.*

- *The open plan nature of the design of the estate would mean that the 1.8 metre wooden fence around the front garden adjacent to the footpath and on a corner plot would have an adverse impact on the street scene.*

**SEE FOOTNOTE.**

5.7 A/12/1102 – Erections of replacement conservatory at 11 Shepherds Gate Drive, Weavinging.  
*Do not wish to object.*

5.8 MA/12/1150 – Erection of Two-storey and single-storey rear extension at 3 Malus Close, Walderslade.

*Do not wish to object but members have concerns on the impact this extension will have on the immediate neighbours, particularly due to its size.*

5.9 MA/12/1170 – Erection of single-storey rear extension at 3 Abbey Court Cottages, Boarley Lane, Sandling.  
*Do not wish to object.*

## 6. **Planning applications and appeals decisions.**

Planning rota – Cllrs requested another copy of the rota for next 12 months to include, where known, any changes due to holidays. Cllr Perry requested that if the Parish Council is to make a representation at a meeting when a less experienced Councillor is due to attend, they must be accompanied by an experienced Councillor.

## 7. **Walderslade Woods and Volunteer Group**

Cllr Springate reported that despite the weather forecast, 14 members turned out to carry out further work in Round Wood clearing the Glades, as well as the metalled zig zag pathway.

## 8. **Highways and Byways.**

8.1 Boxley Road/Grange Lane junction. Cllr Spain indicated that the vision splays at this junction were so overgrown it is dangerous for drivers exiting the junction. The Assistant Clerk confirmed that all highways issues should, in the first instance be reported by the Councillor (as they will have the local knowledge) direct with KCC or MBC and only given to the office to follow up if the issue has not been resolved.

## 9. **Policy and procedures review.**

9.1 Annual Competency report. Members **received** and **agreed** this report with a couple of minor amends. Bearing in mind the workload of the office, Cllr Dengate asked how realistic the 2012 deadline for commencing training was?

9.2 Planning Application response. Members **noted and agreed** the new laminated forms.

## 10. **Neighbourhood Development Plans**

Members **received** two neighbourhood plans for Boxley Village and Sandling & Forstal. issues were discussed for example Cllr Perry suggested that the flood plain in the Sandling NDP is given more prominence. Members agreed they were happy with the format and congratulated the Clerk on the content and layout. It was also agreed that the committee would wait until a draft of the Core Strategy is released by MBC in August before submitting.

## 11. **Saracen Fields open area**

Members **received** and **noted** the Clerk's report after much discussion Members **agreed** for the office to respond to the resident who reported this issue to see if they had considered purchasing the land for themselves. Members asked to review this again once a response had been received.

12. **Matters for information.**

12.1 KCC Consultation Kent Lane Rental Scheme. **Noted** no action required.

13. **Next Meeting.**

Members **agreed**, that unless there was an urgent need there would not be a meeting on 13 August 2012. Next environment meetings 3<sup>rd</sup> (after Parish Council meeting) and 10<sup>th</sup> September 2012 (full) at Beechen Hall commencing at 7.30 p.m.

14. **Enforcement and Section 106 updates from MBC.**

There were no updates available.

Meeting closed 9.50pm.

Signed as a correct record of the proceedings.

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

**Footnote.**

***On the advice of the Assistant Clerk, due to a possible misunderstanding, following the meeting members were asked to review their decision taking into account further information supplied and it was decided***

**Members agreed:**

*Do not wish to object, however, Members have major concerns, as the open plan nature of the design of the estate would mean that the 1.8 metre wooden fence (along the Henley Fields side) is adjacent to the footpath and as it is on a corner plot would have an adverse impact on the street scene.*