

Minutes of the Environment Committee on Monday 9 November 2015 at Beechen Hall, Wildfell Close, Walderslade commencing at 7.30 pm.

Councillors present: Mrs Wendy Hinder (Chairman), Mr P Dengate, Mrs P Brooks, Mr Ivor Davies, Mr B Hinder, Mr M Hinchliffe, Mr D Hollands, Mrs M Waller together with the Assistant Clerk.

1 Apologies and absences

None required as all members were present.

2 Declaration of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying

Cllr Dengate declared he was predetermined on MC/14/2395. All other councillors declared that they had been lobbied on application MC/14/2395.

3 Minutes of the Meetings of 5 & 12 October 2015

The minutes were **agreed** and **signed** as a correct record.

4 Matters Arising from the Minutes

4.1 Minute 2799/4.1 Bike barrier at Fitzwilliam Rd/Camomile Drive. A report from KCC H.W&T is awaited; the report will indicate the cost of purchasing and erecting a barrier. County Councillor Carter has been approached about contributing towards the cost. **Noted.**

4.2 Minute 2799/4.2 Advertising boards at Roundwood roundabout. These had been reported to enforcement and the Assistant Clerk confirmed that an email had been sent to chase progress and a response was still awaited. **Noted.**

4.3 Minute 2799/4.3 HGV parking on roads. The issue will be a motion for debate at the KALC AGM on 21 November 2015. **Noted.**

4.4 Redundant utility boxes on verges. **Received** and **noted** the Clerk's report confirming the PC was unsuccessful in persuading BT to remove the structure.

4.5 Minute 2800/7.4 Experimental Traffic Order, Sandling Road, Chatham Members **received** and **noted** the Clerk's report and were pleased that the order had been approved by Maidstone's Joint Transportation Board.

4.6 Minute 2800/7.5 Installation of hard standing/apron at Boxley Road noticeboard. Work to be undertaken. **Noted.**

4.7 Any other matters arising from the minutes not on the agenda. **None.**

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

5 Planning Applications for Consideration

15/508528/TPO TPO application to 1no. Sweet Chestnut - Crown lift to give a maximum ground clearance of 4m , Crown reduction by approx 25% by reducing crown height to 9m and crown spread to 4m at 18 Goldstone Walk Boxley Kent ME5 9QB. Defer to the views of the Landscape Officer.

15/508600/TPO TPO application to 1no. Sweet Chestnut - crown lift to 3m, reduce lateral limbs by 2.5 to 3m at 33 Alexandra Glen Walderslade Kent ME5 9EB. Defer to the views of the Landscape Officer.

15/508176/FULL Creation of first floor extension over existing garage at 20 Fitzwilliam Road Bearsted Kent ME14 4PY. To ratify Clerk's decision, taken after consultation with members. Do not wish to object.

MC/14/2395 Gibraltar Farm, Ham Lane. Outline application for up to 450 market and affordable houses. An amended illustrative master plan showing revised access arrangements and a transport assessment is now available on-line at Medway Council. **Noted.**

15/508130/FULL Erection of rear conservatory at 17 Celestine Close Walderslade Kent ME5 9NG. Do not wish to object.

15/508305/OUT Outline application for demolition of existing cattery and outbuildings and the erection of a two storey detached dwelling with associated double garage, parking and turning. Shared access with Lavender Cottage. with access to be considered at this stage and all other matters reserved for future consideration at Lavender Cottage Bearsted Road Weaving Kent ME14 5LD. Reserve judgement until full plans are submitted.

15/507199/FULL Single storey rear extension at 13 Crownfields Maidstone Kent ME14 5TH. Do not wish to object.

15/506330/FULL - Land adj. 35 Timber Tops (new dwelling). **Ratified** Clerk's decision, after consulting with members, to amend the response so that the parish council objected but no longer required the application to be reported to the planning committee.

15/507128/FULL – Single storey extension to side and rear with roof lights. Insertion of an additional window to east elevation at Ginton, Grove Green Lane, Weaving ME14 5JW. Do not wish to object.

15/509076/TPO – TPO application to 1no Silver Birch – Fell at Old Barn, Grove Green, Weaving, Kent, ME14 5PX. Defer to the views of the Landscape Officer.

MC/15/3781 – Construction of a proposed 4 bedroom dwelling with detached garage and associated parking at Land Adjacent to 803 Lordswood Lane, Lordswood, Chatham, Kent, ME5 8JP. Noted.

15/508987/FULL - Creation of first floor side extension and erection of front porch at 29 Timber Tops Boxley Kent ME5 8XF. Do not wish to object.

15/503178/FULL - Revised drawings JCA -01 Rev A, JCA – 02 Rev A, JCA – 03 Rev A for L Shaped stable block for personal use and creation of hard standing area at Willow Farm, Tyland Lane, Sandling ME14 3BL. Do not wish to object.

6 **Planning Decisions, Appeals and Appeals Decisions**

There were none.

7 **Highways and Byways**

7.1 Weaving Street Speed Reduction. Members **received** the Clerk's report. They were presented with several options to consider and after some discussion **agreed** to the following:

- Continue with the request to the Estates Committee who, in principal, have agreed to installing a new barrier design at the Weaving Street entrance to Weaving Diamond Jubilee Orchard. A design has been created and is currently being costed and will go back to the Estates committee for approval.
- To look at displaying caution busy road signs. **Action Clerk**
- Cut back vegetation to increase the vision splay. **Action Clerk.**

8 **Volunteer Groups**

8.1 Walderslade Woodlands Group. **Received** and **noted** Rob Burrow's November report. Cllr Ivor Davies added that the group had had a good turnout for the task day.

8.2 Friends of Boxley Warren. Cllr Bob Hinder was delighted to inform members that the task days for the group had resumed and the next one is due on 1 December. He explained the Clerk has put in a lot of work for Awards for All

grant which will be submitted shortly. He also said a request had also been made to F & GP for a grant towards running costs.

9 Policy and Procedures Review

Section 106 wish list. Members **received** and **noted** the Clerk's report. Members agreed to continue with the list as they felt it was helpful and useful document. They made a few grammatical changes and one deletion. Members asked for further clarification on section 106 and when it is paid to the December meeting. **Action Clerk.**

10 Maidstone Local Plan

No updates were received.

11 Matters for Information

None received.

12 Draft Budget 2016/2017

The draft budget was **received**. Cllr Dengate's suggestion to include some budget to clear vegetation and clean road signs was considered and after a lengthy discussion members **agreed** to increase the Street Maintenance budget to £5,000 to incorporate this type of maintenance. A revised street maintenance policy will be drafted and brought back to the December meeting for consideration and adoption. Members also **agreed** to remove the maintenance budget for Roundwood roundabout if the appeal to place advertisements on the roundabout is successful. **Action: Clerk.**

13 Next Meeting

Next full environment meeting 14th December at Beechen Hall commencing at 7:30pm.

14 Enforcement and Section 106 updates from MBC

Received and **noted** four updates on issues regarding roof tiles, trees, unauthorised use and fly tipping.

Meeting closed at 9.15 pm.

Signed as a correct record of the proceedings.

Chairman Date