

Minutes of the Boxley Parish Council Environment Committee Meeting held at Beechen Hall, Wildfell Close, Walderslade on 14 July 2025, commencing at 7.30pm.

Present: Cllrs A Brindle, I Davies, S Thompson, A Adams and N Zand along with Mrs D Baylis (Parish Clerk) and Cllr P Mclean

- 1 **Apologies and absences**
Cllrs Dines, J Akehurst, V Kellaway and V Jones.
- 2 **Declaration of Interests, Dispensations, Predetermination or Lobbying**
Cllr Thompson advised that he is a member of MBC's Planning Committee, so he would not comment on applications other than to ask questions that members might find relevant.
- 3 **Motion to exclude the press and public from the meeting for all items in the Confidential Section.**
It was proposed by Cllr I Davies, seconded by Cllr S Thompson and all agreed to exclude members of the public from all items in the Confidential Section.

Public Session at the discretion of the Chairman. Parishioners may address the meeting with regard to any item on the Agenda (time limited to 3 minutes per person). Items not on the Agenda must be submitted to the Clerk in advance of the meeting. Non-parishioners are only able to address the meeting at the invitation of the Chairman.

No members of the public were present.

- 4 **Minutes of the Meeting held on 23 June 2025**
Agreed.
- 5 **Matters Arising from the Minutes**
None raised.
- 6 **Planning Applications for Consideration – DECISION**

25/502569/FULL 20 Clarence Court, Weavering, ME14 5UP (18 July)

Loft conversion including 3no. rooflights and front and rear dormers, and alterations to fenestration.

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

25/502695/TPOA 7 Trotwood Close, Boxley, ME5 9JU (24 July)

Tree Preservation Order application: Oak – cut back 3m up from the ground to 14m and 2.5m of the canopy back the canopy over hanging boundary.

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

25/502521/SUB 6 Henley Fields Weavering Kent ME14 5UY (20 July)

Submission of details pursuant to condition 3- (Biodiversity) subject to 25/500860/FULL

Boxley Parish Council have no material planning reasons to object to this application provided the level of biodiversity requirements has been met.

The Clerk was asked to contact the Case Officer establish how biodiversity requirements are monitored.

7. **Ratifications**

It was proposed by Cllr I Davies, seconded by Cllr A Brindle and agreed to ratify the planning responses made out of meeting.

8. **Planning Decisions, Appeals and Appeals Decisions**

Report noted.

9. **Highways and Byways – DECISION**

9.1 **Highways Improvement Plan.**

Nothing put forward.

9.2 **Junction 3 of the M2/Bluebell Hill**

The Clerk was asked to thank Helen Whately for her letter. Concern was expressed over National Highways lack of concern over the impact of Lower Thames Crossing on the A229 and Junction 6 of the M20. Cllr Brindle would contact her aide to see if she would be happy with BPC forwarding a copy of her letter to Tristan Osborne.

9.3 **A249 Bearsted Road Major Infrastructure Project.**

No update for this agenda.

9.4 **Boxley Village**

It was agreed that the Clerk could send the traffic data to the resident who had requested it.

9.5 **Lower Thames Crossing update**

Report noted.

9.6 **A229 Bluebell Hill Road Improvements**

It was agreed that this item should include M20 Junction 6 in future Agendas.

9.7 **Any Highways issues raised at the meeting**

Cllr Brindle had attended two recent police surgeries and found out that Boxley has several approved Speedwatch sites. The police also have Speedwatch equipment that can be used by trained people for Speed monitoring. An email will be sent to Councillors to see who would be interested in the training. An email would be sent to Councillors to gauge interest in training.

10 **Lidsing**

Cllrs S Thompson and V Jones had taken Kent County Council representative, Spencer Dixon on a tour of the site and surrounding area pointing out areas of concern that they would like raised at the KCC meeting scheduled for 22 July 2025. They also provided a list of questions for the cabinet member for highways at KCC.

11 **Sandling**

The Clerk would chase for the quotation for the improvements to the shared use path.

12 **Policy and Procedures Review**

None on this Agenda.

13 **Task List**

Noted.

14 **Members and Officer's Reports**

There would be a meeting of the Community Governance Working Group on the 18th July at 3pm at Beechen Hall. Cllr Thompson had been in communication with members of Thurnham Parish Council on Boxley's behalf with a view to a joint

approach. Thurnham PC felt that it was important that their residents were consulted independently of Grove Green residents.

15 Residents' Concerns

Cllr Adams had been contacted by a resident regarding the safety of Grovewood Drive South. The Clerk would chase for a date for the Safety Audits.

16 Volunteer Groups

The Friends of Weavering Heath were installing a new bench.

17 Items for Next Agenda

None put forward at this meeting.

18 Next Meeting

Next Environment Committee meeting 11 August 2025.

In view of the confidential nature of the item about to be transacted, it is advised that the public and press were excluded from the meeting for Agenda item 18.

19 Enforcement and CIL/Section 106 updates from MBC

Noted. It was agreed at Cllr English's recommendation that Cllr Thompson would contact Carole Williams at MBC and get a breakdown of the CIL available to BPC.

20 To Appoint Representative(s) to represent Boxley Parish Council at a meeting with the STEM school regarding their travel plan on Thursday 24 July 2025

Cllr S Thompson said that the meeting was actually on the 17th July at 2pm. Cllrs S Thompson, P Mclean and A Adams would attend on BPC's behalf.

21 Medway Local Plan

Cllr Brindle said that under the Duty to Co-operate statement Medway were looking for funding for the new secondary school from the Lidsing Development Section 106 fund. Cllr Brindle thanked Cllr R Dines for the report he had produced on the Medway Regulation 19 consultation.

The Clerk was asked to draft the Regulation 19 response. She would co-ordinate with Cllrs R Dines and A Brindle on this. The Clerk was requested to find out when the consultation ended.

Meeting closed at 9.15 pm

Signed as a correct record of the proceedings.

Chairman Date