



**Boxley**  
PARISH COUNCIL

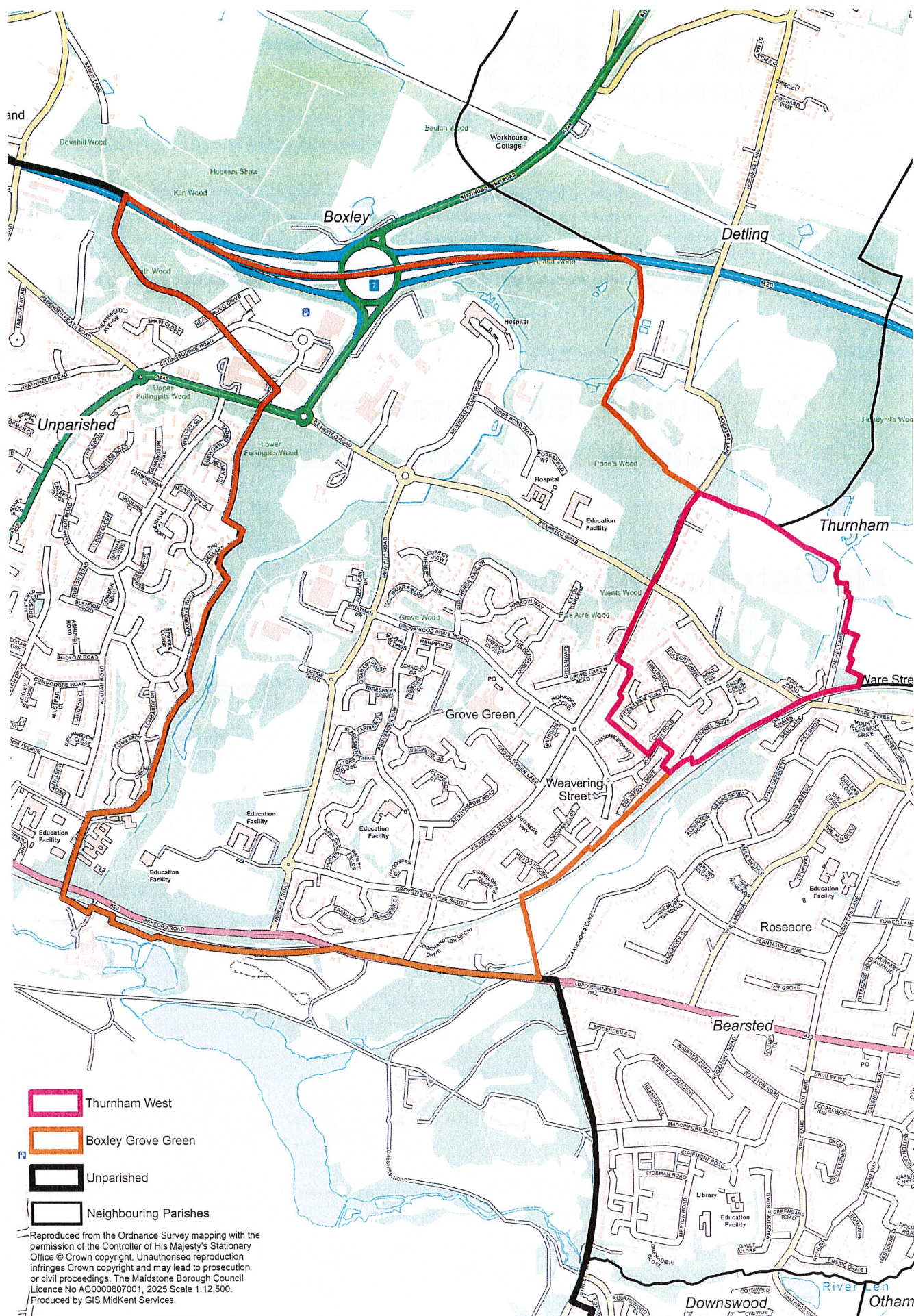
**Residents of Grove Green and Weaving**

**Community Governance Review by  
Maidstone Borough Council**

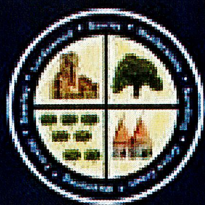
**Maidstone Borough Council is considering  
changing how your area is run.**

**Make sure your voice is heard**









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PARISH COUNCIL

# Grove Green and Weaving

## Maidstone Borough Council is considering changing how your area is run.

## Make sure your voice is heard



Scan the QR code  
for the consultation

**Your Boxley Parish Councillors will be  
holding a Public Meeting at Grove Green  
Community Hall on the 26th August at  
7.30pm for Grove Green and Weaving  
residents**



# AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE TO ALL RESIDENTS OF GROVE GREEN AND WEAVERING FROM BOXLEY PARISH COUNCIL

Maidstone Borough Council (MBC) has commenced a Community Governance Review that could change how your area is run. In this first stage they are asking for your views through two consultations.

Grove Green and Weaving are currently a much valued part of Boxley Parish. Residents can fill in the surveys online at [‘Let’s Talk Maidstone’](#) or ask your Parish Council for a paper copy and we will deliver it to you together with a return envelope.

**MBC describe the following possible options:**

- Remain part of Boxley Parish
- Have its own Parish
- Join up with Thurnham West to create a new Parish
- Join a new Maidstone Town Council

**Parish Councils offer services and facilities to help improve their areas and to provide a voice for local residents.**

Parish Councils are funded in part by an element in your council tax called the ‘precept’. In 2024/25 Boxley Parish Council (BPC) received £125,729 from Grove Green and Weaving residents which was £70.15 for the year for a Band D property. This leaflet shows how BPC used your Precept in 2024/25 and the services it provides for residents.

£3,920	- Grass cutting
£7,500	- Grant to Vinters Valley Nature Reserve
£1,880	- Additional Grant for Vinters Valley Nature Reserve for new gazebos for their educational programme and other events
£783	- Two new benches
£974	- Maintenance and upkeep of play areas at Franklin Drive and Weaving Diamond Jubilee Orchard
£1,600	- Grant to Grove Green Village Hall in 2024 for CCTV upgrade
£250	- To a summer play scheme used by Grove Green and Weaving residents
£405	- (pro rata) in other grants that support the community
£150	- To the Friends of Weaving Heath to help with the the maintenance of this outdoor space
£55,810	- A pro rata percentage of the Parish administration/Councillor allowances/ maintenance of allotments and the burial ground
Total spend of £73,272	

The Council should have a general reserve of 3-12 months of the Precept value for unforeseen circumstances. BPC currently has a reserve of just under 6 months of the precept value. Remaining funds from unspent maintenance budgets are put into specific reserves to fund replacement equipment, large repairs, etc. for areas maintained by the Parish Council. Further information on finance and the Parish Council accounts are available for all residents to view at the Parish Office.

**Boxley Parish Council always welcomes suggestions for improvements to your local area.**



# **Boxley Parish Council currently provides the following to residents of Grove Green and Weaving and is committed to maintaining the current level of service in the following key areas**

## **ALLOTMENTS**

Dove Hill allotments are currently available to Grove Green and Weaving residents. Current Allotment Rules state that allotment holders must live within one mile of the parish boundary and priority is given to Boxley Parish residents.



## **VINTERS VALLEY NATURE RESERVE**

Boxley Parish Council is Custodian Trustee for the reserve. Last year, Boxley Parish Council provided £7,500 to the reserve, which helps fund its full-time warden. Boxley Parish Council also provided an additional grant of £1,880 for new gazebos for their educational programme and other events.



## **BURIAL GROUND**

The burial ground at St Mary and All Saints Church in Boxley is currently available for interments for Grove Green and Weaving residents. This would cease should Grove Green and Weaving leave Boxley Parish. This will not affect those with existing plots that wish to be buried with their loved ones. BPC is also responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of the closed churchyard.



## **FRANKLIN DRIVE PLAY AREA**

This play area was proposed for closure by MBC in 2018 but saved by BPC in 2019. BPC continues to maintain the trees, play equipment and grounds.

## **WEAVING DIAMOND JUBILEE ORCHARD**

This open space is leased from MBC. It was developed by BPC from bare ground in 2012. It is managed by BPC which has provided new play equipment, and fruit trees for residents' benefit.



## **VILLAGE HALLS**

Boxley Parish Council provides practical help and financial help to both Weaving Village Hall and Grove Green Community Hall. The Parish Council is Custodian Trustee for Grove Green Community Hall.

## **VILLAGE GREEN AREAS**

Boxley Parish Council supports Weaving Heath, Five-Acre Wood and Wents Wood with a regular grant to the Friends of Weaving Heath.





# How we help you

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT REPRESENTATION ON HIGHWAY ISSUES

Boxley Parish Council petitions Maidstone Borough Council and Kent County Council on highways issues such as the need for double yellow lines, traffic surveys, speeding, nuisance parking, street cleaning, and any other concerns raised by residents. BPC is liaising with the STEM school over parking issues in Grove Green and funding safety audits in Grovewood Drive North/New Cut Road and Weaving Street.

## PLANNING SUPPORT

MBC consults Boxley Parish Council on all local planning applications within the Parish. We respond to and monitor planning applications, including those that are controversial. It also supports residents when making planning applications and assists with their objections or comments.

## GRANT APPLICATIONS

Boxley Parish Council gives grants to community groups and organisations in Grove Green and Weaving, including:

- 2020/21 - £5,845 New roof for Weaving Village Hall
- 2023 - £1,500 New water heater for Grove Green Community Hall
- 2024 - £1,600 CCTV upgrade for Grove Green Community Hall
- Annually - £250 Bearsted Summer play school used by Grove Green and Weaving residents.

## STAFF

Boxley Parish Council has four experienced members of staff available to deal with queries and provide advice, including a Parish Caretaker who is available during weekdays to deal with emergencies such as broken/damaged play equipment and carries out regular inspections and repairs to the play areas. Office staff are happy to report issues to Maidstone Borough Council and Kent County Council on residents' behalf.

Boxley Parish Council holds 44 meetings a year, including some held in Weaving Village Hall. We work with Maidstone Borough Council and Kent County Council to ensure the effective delivery of their services.

There are currently 13 Parish Councillors. They can be approached by residents from across the Parish with queries or concerns. 6 of these Councillors live in or represent Grove Green and Weaving. The Parish Council currently has 2 vacancies for Councillors. If you would like to apply please contact the Clerk for more information.

Boxley Parish Council provides up to date information on local issues via its community alert emails. To join, email [clerk@boxleyparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@boxleyparishcouncil.org.uk)

Follow us on Facebook @ [Boxley Parish Council](#) or

check the website <https://www.boxleyparishcouncil.gov.uk>

**The next Full Parish Council meeting is at Weaving Village Hall on the 8<sup>th</sup> September at 7.30pm Councillors will be there from 6.30pm to answer your questions about this consultation.**

## Boxley Parish Council working for you



For further information please contact  
Boxley Parish Council on 01634 861237 or  
email: [clerk@boxleyparishcouncil.org.uk](mailto:clerk@boxleyparishcouncil.org.uk)

