

**Letter sent to the Leader of KCC January 2009:**

Paul Carter  
Leader  
Kent County Council  
County Hall  
MAIDSTONE Kent  
ME14 1XQ

Dear Mr Carter,

***Borough Green & Platt By-Pass***

We thank you for your letter dated 19<sup>th</sup> December 2008, on the above subject which was discussed at the Parish Council Meeting on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2009.

Whilst the Council notes and understands your explanation that the original prediction was based on a straight-forward development, but that it is rarely achievable; we are pleased to see that your stated immediate priority is to try and restore a situation of a by-pass with a planning consent.

Historically, those involved “understood”, that the ‘planning permission’ for the By-Pass was approved and accepted, and considered to be a “started project”. A judicial decision found that was insufficient to permit further work on the implementation and construction of the proposed by-pass. It was at that point that KCC had to admit that the permission had been allowed to lapse. The import of your second (short) paragraph is now to raise the matter of a new application and its consent thus being dependent upon the statutory planning process for “consent”.

Our concern is that, although the process is still on-going we are anxious to establish if the land designated as the proposed route for the by-pass is, or has been, in any way “safeguarded”. Similarly, various earlier site tours have included visits to the northern boundary of the Celcon holding – to view an environmentally approved habitat designed and built specifically for the ultimate transfer of the great crested newts from their present locations on the line of the proposed by-pass. These were previously mentioned as having been constructed by the landowners in conjunction with the Environment Agency (an organisation licensed and permitted to advise on protected species.)

Any information which you are able to provide on these two subjects (land and existing environmental habitats) will be gratefully received.

Yours sincerely,

Charles Willsher  
Chairman