

**LITTLEBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9 SEPTEMBER 2015**

Present: Parish Cllr Mike Gallagher (Chairman)
Parish Cllr Mick Giles
Parish Cllr Cate Reid
Parish Cllr Pamela Evans
Parish Cllr Brian Hurlow
Parish Cllr Melanie Moore
Parish Cllr Sylvia Wilson
Parish Cllr Paul Coakley
City Cllr Stuart Walker

Mrs Gail Hubbard, Clerk to the Council
There were four residents for part of the meeting.

71. THE CHAIRMANS OPENING REMARKS AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Gallagher welcomed everyone to the meeting. Apologies were received from Cllr Ken Shaw (abroad), County Cllr Michael Northey (attending another meeting) and PCSO Karl Shonhard. Cllr Moore is to arrive late.

72. DECLARATIONS OF CLLRS INTERESTS AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION

There were no declarations of interest or requests for dispensations relevant to this meeting.

73. MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS HELD ON 8 JULY 2015 & 15 JULY 2015

It was proposed by Cllr Evans and seconded by Cllr Giles to accept the Minutes from 8 July. Then proposed by Cllr Giles and seconded by Cllr Hurlow to accept those from 15 July. The minutes were then duly signed.

74. POLICING AND NEIGHBOURHOOD WATCH

Police Report from PCSO Karl Shonhard (read out by the Clerk)

Good evening, Apologies I am unable to make the meeting but I hope you've all had a good summer! During the last meeting I mentioned that I may be leaving as your local PCSO at the beginning of September. As some of you are already aware however, I am now going to be remaining as your local PCSO (alongside Lisa Williams) until at least November time, but most probably until the end of February. I shall keep you informed of any changes as and when I find out myself.

I am aware of issues regarding the youth shelter, both the possible drug dealing in the area and the vandalism, which I have been out to see, and I have accessed the CCTV for the vandalism. I shall also be resuming my visits to the school this month with the start of the new term. I hope to see you all at the next meeting.

This following report is from 15th July to 5th September. There have been seven crime report incidents for Littlebourne, four of which I can mention in this report.

CRIME REPORT INCIDENTS

- 1x Burglary Not Recent – Upstairs and office of property in disarray, point of entry appears to be a window forced open in downstairs living room, jemmied open, jewellery, cameras and watches among the missing items. Residents advised to have an alarm fitted. Filed due to no further lines of enquiry unless new information received or items found.

- 1x Burglary other than Dwelling – theft from garden shed, assortment of electrical tools stolen and WW2 era items. Believe offender climbed over garden fence using bins outside, filed due to no further lines of enquiry unless new information received or items found.
- 1x Burglary in a Dwelling – back doors left open and insecure during the day when someone went to the shops, mobile phone and laptop stolen. House to house enquiries were made among others, the report has been filed due to no further lines of enquiry unless new information received or items found.
- 1x Criminal damage – tyres on a van let down.

POLICE RELATED INCIDENTS

26 Calls in total, including seven relating to the above crime reports. Calls of particular note for Littlebourne are as follows:

- Collision involving 3 cars on Bekesbourne Lane (23rd July), there was no more information on the call.
- 2 calls for collision involving 3 cars on A257, just outside the entrance to Littlebourne (26th July) in the evening, lots of debris, all vehicles recovered, one driver has minor injury to head.
- Fly-tipping – Nargate Street, two wheelchairs dumped and left, passed on to KCC.
- Drugs – call made regarding possible drug dealing at the Youth Shelter.
- Suspicious Event – light seen in the field full of solar panels, possible trespasser. Patrol arrived and searched the area but could not find anyone.

The Chairman asked the Clerk to contact Karl to thank him for this report. Cllr Walker mentioned he was going to ask the PCSO's to give details of incidents slightly further afield with the Little Stour Ward, which may impact upon Littlebourne. It was also suggested we give some detail in the next edition of the LPC News of the types of burglaries occurring.

75. ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING

There was none

76. COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORT

The Clerk read out the following report from Cllr Northey;

1. Operation Stack. I have discussed this in person with the Cabinet Member Matthew Balfour. The Manston lorry park and route option has not had to be used yet, and I hope it will not impact at all on the A257. David Cameron himself at a meeting of COBRA ordered this to be explored and used if necessary. Highways England has been instructed to work out a system of two way flow of traffic in both directions but has so far failed to do so. They have also been instructed to look into a large long-term lorry park. KCC is looking into this also and as well, a number of smaller parks, and work is ongoing. I plan to be at the meeting on Saturday morning of the A257 Group.

2. I have spoken with the Cabinet Member, Peter Oakford, on the next topic, the unaccompanied children asylum seekers, which affect us all. These are KCC's legal responsibility. Normal numbers 240 at any one time, rising month by month from May till we now have 740, quite beyond KCC resources, running deficit of £7mil, not enough hostels, 90 of those children are costing £1,000 per week as they have to be placed in private fostering agencies: these minors are mostly boys aged 15-17, but some as young as 13, placed in some Kent hostels but we have had to send 120 so far outside Kent at our expense, only 20

others have been accepted by other counties at their expense; our staff working horrendous hours, we have recruited 17 new social workers to cope, girls always placed in foster care, numbers show no sign of dropping, some children have harrowing, truly awful stories, government have promised full reimbursement of the costs. Some people have sent the Cabinet Member some dreadful emails but in general public attitudes softening since the tragic picture of the little dead boy on beach, now getting offers of accommodation, football coaching, English tuition, clothes.

3. LED lighting survey, this system, which saves a lot of energy and is more environmentally friendly, will be introduced from Jan 2105 in urban area and will take 14 months, an rural areas will also be commenced not long after, but will finish later, public consultation from 21 September for ten weeks asking public if they want some hours at 70% power, 30% power or not on at all, crime rate (if anything) falls where light saving have occurred. These lights can be controlled centrally by a switch so no need for manual setting. After eight years from introduction costs will be paid and then will be a saving of £5mil a year.

Cllr Moore arrived at 7.25pm

77. CITY COUNCILLORS REPORT

Cllr Walker's reported that August had been relatively quiet at CCC apart from the second Rydons application being submitted. Cllr Walker remarked on the fantastic turnout at the Guildhall in June and that we needed to maintain the level of interest for the next time.

Two residents arrived at 7.30pm and a further resident at 7.40pm

78. PLANNING/TREES

All planning items on Appendix 2 were discussed and noted – attached at end of minutes

LPC are still watching the Court Hill Doctor's surgery application, which has yet to be decided by CCC. LPC have already publically shown their full support for this much smaller scale development.

CA/15/01711/OUT – Rydons Application

The response deadline has been extended to 18th September – our formal response will be submitted then, it will be circulated to Cllr's later this week and finalised next week by Emily Shirley and the Clerk.

To date there are 105 comments logged on the CCC website plus the letters that have been loaded.

There is no sign of any details of the S106 agreement which is mentioned in the application.

Cllr Giles said that all that can be done, has been done, and thanked The Chairman for all his extra work on this.

LPC has written to the other PC's along the Nailbourne Valley asking for their support. Wickhambreaux have already shown their support.

One resident departed at 8.50pm

Resident Mr Ron Lindsay spoke to the Cllrs and thanked everyone, on behalf of the general public for the work that has been done to try and stop this application. He has been working to rustle up support within the village and encourage residents to comment online.

Three residents and Cllr Walker departed at 9.10pm

79. FINANCE

- (a) RECEIVED the bank statements for July 2015 and August 2015, and RESOLVED the signature of the Chairman thereon;
- (b) NOTED £11.99 will be taken from our account by DD on 15th September for our 1x1 website

AUTHORISATION OF ACCOUNTS

There were receipts totalling £1341.71 NOTED this month. The expenditure list previously circulated to Cllrs as Appendix 3 totalling £5951.92, together with Appendix 3a presented at the meeting totalling £1926.33. These were proposed by Cllr Evans and seconded by Cllr Reid so it was RESOLVED that the financial matters and accounts, as set out be authorised for payment.

CONCURRENT APPLICATION 2016-17

It was proposed by Cllr Reid and seconded by Cllr Giles to AGREE the concurrent function application as per the figures set out in the spreadsheet prepared by the Finance subcommittee. The request would be for £19,450 for the year 2016-17. We should hear early December as to the level of funding we would be given from CCC, prior to our Precept setting.

80. CLERK REPORT

CORRESPONDENCE

A. KCC Consultation on Environmental Strategy

Kent County Council have issued a consultation to seek views on its revised Kent Environment Strategy, and the themes and priorities outlined in it. The draft strategy and supporting documents can be accessed via the following link <http://consultations.kent.gov.uk/consult.ti/KEsconsultation/consultationHome>. The deadline for comments is 25 September 2015. The final strategy will be presented to KCC's Environment & Transport Cabinet Committee on 4 December 2015. This consultation is being studied by Betty Jeffries on behalf of LPC.

B. Financial services Policy change

In a Policy Statement (PS9/15) issued in May 2015, the Prudential Regulation Authority (PRA) of the Bank of England announced a change in policy to extend the protection afforded under the Scheme to "Small Local Authorities" (SLAs). Such Authorities are defined as Local Authorities with "an annual budget of up to 500,000 Euros". The regulations do not specify whether the term "Budget" refers to Income or Expenditure, but the only prudent course is to assume that BOTH Income and Expenditure need to be under the 500,000 **Euros** threshold in order to qualify for protection.

Under the scheme changes, SLAs are protected in the same way as other protected investors i.e. for deposits/investments up to £85,000 (reduced to £75,000 from 1st January 2016) with any UK bank, building society and credit union as well as with overseas firms PRA deposit-taking permission and UK branches of European Economic Area (EEA) credit institutions. LPC would be classed as an 'SLA' so this will mean our investment balances will be covered up to £85,000

C. Local Plan outcome

The independent planning inspector examining the city council's draft Local Plan has found that the council has complied with its duty to cooperate, other important legal matters and the tests of 'soundness'.

In a letter to the council, available to read on its website, the inspector, Mike Moore, says "the examination can therefore continue".

He has also concluded that the number of houses the district needs over the duration of the Local Plan period in order to meet its housing need, which is the basis of the plan, should rise from the council's original proposal of 780 to 800 each year, up to 2031.

Mr Moore has noted that the council currently does not have a proven five year housing supply, which, if not remedied, would mean the plan would be unsound. He therefore wants the council to provide more information on the viability and infrastructure linked to the main housing allocations and has also suggested the council looks again at sites that were not allocated to see if they can be brought forward for early delivery.

In his letter he points to three sites to look at – land south of John Wilson Business Park in Chestfield, land south of the A28 in Hersden and land south of Thanington, for which a planning application described as 'Thanington Park' has already been submitted to the council.

As a result of this, Mr Moore is postponing stage two of the examination, which was due to start on 29 September, until work to address this lack of supply can be completed. He has asked the council for a timetable to carry out this work and will then take a view on resuming the examination. The council is now considering the inspector's letter and will be responding at the beginning of September.

D. Kent Minerals and Waste Local Plan 2013-30

The Kent MWLP 2013-30 – Proposed Modifications consultation document incorporates all the County Council's proposed main and additional (minor) modifications. Kent County Council is now proposing main and additional (minor) modifications to the Plan following discussions with the Planning Inspector and representatives at the Kent MWLP 2013-30 Examination hearings, which ended in May 2015. The proposed main modifications seek to address potential unsoundness and legal compliance issues. Having listened to the various representations at the Independent Examination, the County Council is also proposing a number of minor changes. Whilst these additional (minor) modifications do not affect the overall soundness and legal compliance of the Plan, the County Council is keen to improve the clarity of the Plan. If anyone is interested in viewing the modified Plan is available online at: http://consult.kent.gov.uk/portal/mwcs/mwlp-submission/proposed_mods

E. Wickhambreaux PC

A letter of support was received from Wickhambreaux PC, congratulating LPC on the fight we gave at the Guildhall for Rydons Application no1, they share concerns over the sewerage system's capacity to cope and flooding worries. This letter was written prior to Rydons Application no 2 being submitted. Wickhambreaux are willing to assist us if needed in a further fight. The Chairman is in contact with their Chairman and a support letter is being written.

SOLAR FUND APPLICATION

Now we have 3 quotations for the inclusive roundabout the clerk is in the process of completing the application for funding.

POTHoles

The two potholes in Jubilee Road, by the crossing between The List and the Rec that were reported by the clerk have now been filled in.

81. DATES FOR 2016 MEETINGS

The following dates were AGREED as LPC meetings for next year.

Parish council meeting dates for 2016;

13th January 2016

10th February 2016

9th March 2016

16th March 2016 – elector's meeting / Annual Parish Meeting

13th April 2016

11th May 2016

8th June 2016

13th July 2016

(No meeting in August)

14th September 2016

12th October 2016

9th November 2016

14th December 2016

82. THE BARN

Cllr Moore brought to the meeting a complaint she had received regarding the parking situation when there is an event at The Barn. Vehicles have been seen doubled parked down Church road and also upon the pavement causing pedestrians with pushchairs to walk in the middle of the road. Clerk to write to The Barn Committee asking them to advise hirers to park more considerately, not on pavements and blocking the road. This could be added to the booking form.

83. HERITAGE

This work is ongoing and some conferences have been attended by members of the group.

84. EMERGENCY PLAN

Cllr Giles is now the co-ordinator and he and Cllr Reid are updating the plan.

85. SCHOOL

The school trip to Wimille is happening on Thursday 15th October, Cllr Wilson will be going in her LPC and Governor role.

Cllr Wilson also reported that years 5 & 6 are to join 4 villages sing and that she Cllr Evans were to be doing a walk around the village with the new head, Mrs Byrne.

An Ofsted inspection is imminent.

86. TWINNING

Cllr Gallagher had received communication from Wimille that they would be Christmas shopping in Canterbury on 12th December this year and would like to visit us for tea as usual. It was AGREED that we were willing to entertain on Sat 12th from 4pm onwards, Cllr Reid would make contact to arrange further details. It was suggested perhaps the 4 Village Sing could sing carols. This has subsequently been cancelled by Wimille.

87. OLDER PEOPLE

Cllr Moore reported she is trying to organise a monthly surgery at Ellen Court when she could pop in and see the residents.

88. PLAY AREA

The Cllrs had all been forwarded a copy of the ROSPA report carried out in July and the content was discussed. It was AGREED that;

- A further repair to the teacup should be sought
- To ask KALC regarding the use of signs 'use at own risk'

- Cllr Hurlow volunteered to clear off the algae from the football shot board
- Consider the use of self-closers on the gates into the play area (to be priced) or the use of 'please close the gate signs'

89. MEDIA

Cllr Moore is providing the Gazette with information each week and is also doing the Facebook and Twitter accounts. The Clerk is doing the website.

90. NATURE RESERVE

Cllr Evans asked if we could ask for Martin Twyman to come and look at the trees within the riverbank nature reserve. Clerk to contact.

91. FOOTPATHS

The state of Footpath CB143 that runs from Jubilee Road out onto The Hill was discussed; the vegetation is growing out of the path itself rather than from the properties that border it. It was decided to get a contractor to carry out a full clearance of the route, then perhaps in future we could ask the residents that back onto it to trim their section to keep it clear.

The Nettles on the pathway alongside the school have been reported by several residents, clerk to contact the School to ask for them to spray the nettles which are growing out of their fence.

92. HIGHWAYS

In the last week there have been complaints over the state of the road, the A257, from Howletts activities in Pinewood, where they are collecting elephant feed and delivering it to the zoo. When the tractors are leaving the woods they are depositing large quantities of mud on the road, causing a hazard to motorists.

LPC and Alan Legge have both been in contact with Howletts and KCC Highways to try and resolve this matter.

Howletts have agreed that in the short term all vehicles will be instructed to turn right on exit from the wood and turn in the layby before coming back down the A257. In the longer term they plan to create a more suitable and safer entrance/exit midway between the two current gates. They are also now to collect feed from another area, so this may reduce the number of journeys to Pinewood.

Alan Legge is to monitor the situation for now, but if the road doesn't stay clear of mud LPC will follow this up further.

93. WMH

It was AGREED that the broken railings in the carpark, by the crossing should be replaced. Clerk to obtain quotes for work, rail has been retained onsite.

The lighting replacement works were not carried out over the summer due to problems with the specifications that had only just been discovered. It was mentioned that some hirers were unhappy at classes being cancelled but then no works carried out. Cllr Reid is to contact hirers and explain the reasons why the works had not been done.

94. AOB FOR DISCUSSION ONLY

There were none.

The meeting closed at 10.25PM

Dates of future meetings: 14 October, 11 November, 9 December 2015

Signed..... (Chairman)

Date.....

**LITTLEBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL
PLANNING REPORT, 9 SEPTEMBER 2015**

APPENDIX 2

New Applications

CA/15/01566/FUL Bernard Haasbroek	Erection of front and rear single storey extensions, loft conversion with formation of rear dormer and roof lights to front roof slope and vehicular access with parking to front of dwelling. 43 Nargate Street, Littlebourne CT3 1UH	LPC objection lodged on following grounds; Proposed new vehicular access unsuitable and dangerous Proposed dormer windows will overlook neighbouring properties Oversized extension for plot size
CA/15/01711/OUT Steve Musk	Demolition of 42 and 42A The Hill and provision of 87 residential dwellings including 26 affordable dwellings, provision of new doctors' surgery all accessed from The Hill. Provision of internal access roads, garaging and parking, attenuation pond and open space. Land off The Hill and Jubilee Road	Response extended to 18 SEPT Objection to be lodged
CA/15/01829/FUL Bernard Haasbroek	Proposed front and rear extensions together with loft conversion including the demolition of detached garage and sheds. 44 Nargate Street, Littlebourne, CT3 1UJ	Plans in circulation with planning committee Response by 18 SEPT
CA/15/01809/FUL Karen Evans	Replacement of 1950's corrugated steel garage with oak framed car port/garage 1-3 Nargate Street, Littlebourne CT3 1UH	Plans in circulation with planning committee Response by 2 OCT
CA/15/01897/FUL & CA/15/01898/LB Brendan Boyle	Single-storey rear extension and timber garden studio 6 Nargate Street, Littlebourne, CT3 1UH	New application received. Previous application refused by CCC earlier this year. LPC did not object last time. Plans in circulation with planning committee

Notifications

CA//15/01034/FUL	Replace existing boundary wall with 1.8m x 215mm wall. 2 The Hill, Littlebourne, CT3 1TA	GRANTED 10/08/2015
CA//15/01281/VAR	Variation of condition 02 of planning permission CA/13/01750/FUL relating to the addition of combiner boxes. Land to the east of Swanton Lane, Littlebourne	GRANTED 28/08/15
CA//15/01634/FUL	Proposed replacement double garage with pitched roof. 62 Bekesbourne Lane, Littlebourne, CT3 1UZ	No objections from LPC GRANTED 04/09/15

Trees

TRE/15/09481	Remove tree (Hawthorn?) located by boundary wall close to road. The Old Hall, 37 Nargate Street, Littlebourne, CT3 1UH	No objections
TRE/15/09526	The tree is a conifer (species unsure) - Reduce the height by about 8 feet to where it was 3 years ago. re-balance its shape and clear out a lot of deadwood. 2 Newing Close, Littlebourne, CT3 1UX	No objections