

# LPC NEWS SEPTEMBER 2013

**Littlebourne Parish News**  
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**Littlebourne Parish Council Newsletter**  
<http://www.littlebournepc.kentparishes.gov.uk/>

Issue 10, September 2013

Welcome to the Littlebourne Parish Council's quarterly newsletter. The aim is to let you know what your council is doing on your behalf and make you aware of various initiatives that might be of interest.

Please note the New Benefice Website for the four villages churches of Littlebourne, Ickham, Wickhambreaux and Stodmarsh is now in position, the address [www.littlebournebenefice.org.uk](http://www.littlebournebenefice.org.uk) where you can find out more about what is going on in your church.

## The Police Contact Point Unit in Littlebourne

A new initiative introduced by the New Police Commissioner, was launched here in Littlebourne on 3<sup>rd</sup> July. Shown below is Community Warden Gary Moore with the PCSO and The Canterbury Area District Commander.



The mobile Police unit will be in the long carpark at Littlebourne Recreation Ground every other Wednesday at 12noon.

September 11<sup>th</sup> & 25<sup>th</sup>

October 9<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup>

Come and speak to a Police Community Support Officer about your concerns on crime and anti-social behaviour.

**Wimille Twinning Group** are seeking committee members with suggestions and help to promote this wonderful opportunity that we have created with these very friendly people. We are also seeking accommodation on an exchange basis for young people to experience

each other's culture any family interested in their children doing an exchange with one of our twinning groups family please contact [vivienne.spratt@btinternet.com](mailto:vivienne.spratt@btinternet.com) or Tel. 01227 722088.

**Volunteer Poppy Appeal Organiser needed in Littlebourne** to ensure vital funds for our service men and women to continue to be raised. No military connection needed, you just need to be organised, and enjoy interacting with others. The role involves ordering stock, distributing poppy boxes, liaising with local businesses, co-ordinating and recruiting collectors, recording funds etc. It is a big commitment, but there are volunteers in this area that already do lots of the tasks involved. You will be focusing most of your efforts on the appeal between October and November with some occasional admin work from July onwards. Training is provided and expenses are reimbursable.

The role is fund, worthwhile and rewarding... money raised for the Legions Poppy Appeal is used for safeguarding the welfare, interest and memory of all those who have served in the Armed Forces and their families.

For further details please contact Julie Roper (Kent Community Fundraiser) on 01622 722292 or [jroper@britishlegion.org.uk](mailto:jroper@britishlegion.org.uk) or Anne Hill on 01227 770217



**Community Funds For Littlebourne Projects** The Parish council has set up a Community Fund and would invite applications for funding to facilitate the distribution of the rent received from the Parish Council funded extension to the 4 Villages Store. By providing finance for events and projects in the Parish, where funding from any other source is not available. These will be considered by a sub-committee of parish councillors. Email Cllr Mick Giles. [mickandwendy1@btinternet.com](mailto:mickandwendy1@btinternet.com) for further information.

## Solar Farm in Littlebourne

Vogt Solar Ltd is proposing to build a 14.2 MW solar farm on 22.4 hectares (55 acres) of land sited off Swanton Lane Littlebourne. The site will provide enough clean, safe renewable energy for up to approximately 4,400 homes via the National Grid over a temporary period of 25 years.

### Timescale

A typical solar farm takes just 8 - 12 weeks to build:

- Fencing - the site is secured with 2m high, mesh fencing
  - Foundations are laid, earthworks undertaken, and cabling begun
  - Mounting systems are erected, and the modules are installed
  - Inverters, transformers and switch gear are brought in
  - The site is commissioned and connected to the grid
- All this takes 8 - 12 weeks, after which the solar farm sits there as a nice quiet neighbour, causing no noise or disturbance. Visits to the site will be undertaken 3 or 4 times a year to conduct regular maintenance. Landscaping will occur within the appropriate planting season after construction.

A public exhibition was held on 25<sup>th</sup> July in the village hall, we now await the planning application.

## SEWER FAT BUSTING

Most of us use fat and oil in the preparation of food, but residual cooking oil, margarine, butter or lard often ends up being washed down the kitchen sink. These fats and oils can clog up sewers and lead to blockages. Blockages can cause toilets and sinks to back up and overflow, which can be extremely unpleasant and distressing. These types of blockages are not only expensive for us to clear, but also for customers when they block their drains.



Fat, oil and grease (FOG) sticks to the inside of drains and sewers. Over time, this hardens to form a concrete-like material that can block the entire pipe and cause flooding as sewage is

forced to escape through manholes and into streets and rivers or, even worse, into homes.

### What you should be doing:

- Pour or scrape greasy or oily food waste into a container or jar
- Allow grease to cool in the container before throwing it in the bin

- Wipe and scrape utensils and plates before washing and dispose of any waste with your household rubbish
- Consider using a Fat Trap to collect excess fat and oil
- Use strainers in the sink to collect food particles

### What you shouldn't be doing:

- Using hot water to rinse grease off pots and pans or surfaces
- Never pour grease down sinks or into toilets.

### Get your FREE funnel

Southern Water would like to give every family in Littlebourne a special free funnel which can be fitted to a plastic water bottle and then used to collect excess household fat instead of putting it down the drain. The full bottles can then be re-capped and put in the landfill collection. This will benefit us all as it will help to reduce sewer blockages and there have been some significant problems in the past in Littlebourne.

You can collect your free funnel from the Parish Office, next to the Village Hall, open Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings between 9.15-1.15pm.



## DOG FOULING

With the exception of agricultural and forestry land, you must clear up after your dog. This includes footpaths, highways, parks, public gardens and council land. A lack of signs or dog waste bins is not an excuse for not doing so. Poop scoops can be purchased from vets' surgeries or pet shops. If a red dog waste bin is unavailable, litter bins may be used if the mess is bagged and sealed. Plastic supermarket carrier bags will also do the job.

Dogs' mess is a breeding ground for bacteria and germs. A single dog mess can contain over a million worms. The eggs from these worms can cause incurable blindness. Children are particularly at risk when careless owners allow their dogs to foul play areas.

Fixed penalty notices of £80 can be issued by council inspectors for anyone who does not comply with the regulations. You can report incidents of dog fouling online at [www.canterbury.gov.uk](http://www.canterbury.gov.uk), especially if you are aware of a regular offender at the same time and place.

**Volunteers urgently wanted** to cut back some vegetation on Public Footpaths that are no longer being maintained by PROW KCC due to severe cutbacks in funds.

#### **Hanging Baskets and Tubs Competition**

Presentation of prizes and social evening for the short listed exhibits will be on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> September in the village hall lounge room.

#### **CHILDRENS CENTRE PROPOSED CLOSURE!**

##### [Save our Sure Start Children's Centre, Little Bee's Littlebourne](#)

The Sure Start Little Bee's Children Centre in Littlebourne is a very important part of the village. It reaches out to new families and provides both new and existing families with advice, support and a place to make new friends for both parents and children. They offer numerous courses for parents and fun and interactive groups to take our children to.

These groups also help the local businesses in our village as they attract people from other villages. Little Bee's Children Centre timetable also works along Littlebourne pre-school, the primary school and the Church, this helps to build a strong community within the village and surrounding areas. Please Sign the petition on Change.Org see Facebook for details. The centre is open Mon-Fri 9am-3pm and plays host to a range of groups and courses such as Baby Massage, The Solihull Approach Parenting Course and Bumps to 18 Months with activities and support from messy play to weaning and employment advice for parents.

We also have a fantastic parent and toddler group called 'Fun & Play' running on Fridays 10am-11.30am at the Littlebourne War Memorial Hall. Activities include art and craft, role play, messy play, singing and story time.

Parent's comments from Fun and Play - "*Fabulous group*", "*The activities are excellent, my daughter loves coming*" "*This group must continue, it brightens up our Friday morning*".

The Children's centre can offer you advice and support on the following:

- Childcare options in the area
- Childminders in the area
- Benefit and Careers Advice
- Jobs opportunities
- Healthy Options
- Handling Children's Behaviour
- Information on Child development
- Families living with disabilities
- Information on the Early Years Foundation Stage
- And much more.....



#### **FREE LOFT AND CAVITY WALL INSULATION**

Action with Communities in Rural Kent has teamed up with British Gas to offer free cavity wall and/or loft insulation to anyone in receipt of eligible benefits including child tax credit and state pension credit; other benefits are included. It is also free to **anyone** living in certain geographical areas as defined by the Government.

There is no catch and you do not need to be a British Gas customer.

Insulating your home can save you hundreds of pounds on your energy bills and makes your home warmer; it's good for the environment too by lowering your carbon emissions.

For more information on this free offer and to check your eligibility contact British Gas free on **0800 980 9037** or speak to Tessa O'Sullivan at Action with Communities in Rural Kent on 01303 813790

#### **Keep up to date with Parish business**

Visit the website; Minutes are published every month there and on the Council's notice board. An Agenda on the noticeboard details meetings and discussions items. A recess allows any member of the public to speak. All meetings are open to the public and all are welcomed. Contact the Clerk or the Chairman, or any members of the council at any reasonable time, during office hours except for emergencies contact [clerk@littlebournepc.org](mailto:clerk@littlebournepc.org) or 01227 721500 (answer machine).

### **Karate Classes for Kids (4+)**

**Wednesdays at the Littlebourne War Memorial Hall**

**FUN ★ CONFIDENCE ★ SELF DEFENCE ★ FITNESS**

**Classes starting September 4th**

**More info: call Bo 0782 4884 602**

**WWW.CANTERBURYKARATE.CO.UK**

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### Advertising in this publication

This newsletter goes to over 700 households quarterly. The advertiser would be expected to supply their own artwork or text electronically in Microsoft Word format, and to sign up in advance for up to 4 editions, with the option to renew on an annual basis, space permitting. **A 1/8 page advert in a text box this size costs £20 for 4 editions or single edition one off for £15.**

### Your nine Cllrs are as follows:

#### Chairman, Cllr Viv Spratt

Alexandra House, 17 Jubilee Road 01227 722088

[Vivienne.spratt@btinternet.com](mailto:Vivienne.spratt@btinternet.com)

**Responsibilities:** Chairman, Allotments, Children & Youth, Seniors, Community & well-being, Finance, Media and website, Planning, Recreation Club, Ground and gardens, Twinning, 4VPO Assoc.

#### Vice-Chairman, Cllr Mick Giles, 40 High Street, 01227

728228 [Mickandwendy1@btinternet.com](mailto:Mickandwendy1@btinternet.com)

**Responsibilities:** Vice-Chair, Littlebourne Charities, Community Fund, Emergency Plan, Neighbourhood Watch, Flooding, Highways, Recreation Club, Ground and Gardens.

#### Cllr Geoffrey Barrett, Elmstead House, 3 Cherry

Orchard 01227 720779, [g-barrett@btconnect.com](mailto:g-barrett@btconnect.com)

**Responsibilities:** Finance, Planning, Twinning

#### Cllr Pamela Evans, Willowbank, 30A Nargate Street

01227 722132 [pamelaevans4@btinternet.com](mailto:pamelaevans4@btinternet.com)

**Responsibilities:** The Barn & heritage, foot-paths, Environment, Littlebourne nature reserves, Planning

#### Cllr Mike Gallagher, 50 The Hill CT3 1TA 01227

722476 [mike.gallagher79@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:mike.gallagher79@yahoo.co.uk)

**Responsibilities:** Finance, Highways, KALC rep, website, Twinning, War Memorial hall trust

#### Cllr Betty Jeffries, 19 Jubilee Road, 01227 721436

[Elizabethjeffries2@hotmail.com](mailto:Elizabethjeffries2@hotmail.com)

**Responsibilities:** The Barn & heritage, Planning, Environment, nature reserves,

#### Cllr Ken Shaw, 36 Nargate Street 01227 721560,

[Ken.shaw@virgin.net](mailto:Ken.shaw@virgin.net) **Responsibilities:** Littlebourne Charities, Environment, footpaths, Flooding, Highways, Street Monitor, Police

#### Cllr Geof Welch, Riverbank, 32 Nargate Street, 01227

728507, [Ducks.riverbank@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:Ducks.riverbank@tiscali.co.uk)

**Responsibilities:** Seniors, Community & well-being, Emergency Plan, Neighbourhood Watch, Flooding, KALC rep, Street Monitor, Police.

#### Cllr Cate Reid, 70 The Hill, Littlebourne 01227 721831

[hallbookings@littlebournevillage.com](mailto:hallbookings@littlebournevillage.com)

**Responsibilities:** Emergency Plan, Highways, Twinning, Planning, Recreation Club and Ground

