

LPC News

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

Issue 8, March 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 to make the village a great place to live, work and relax.

New parish council Clerk

We welcome a new Clerk to the council, Gail Hubbard, who will be starting on 1 March and undertaking a month's handover with the old Clerk Amanda Sparkes, whose last day will be 28 March 2013. Gail is an experienced parish clerk for neighbouring Bekesbourne parish council. Contact details for Gail: Gail Hubbard, 7 Bifrons Road, Bekesbourne, Canterbury. CT4 5DE. Email: clerk@littlebournepc.org Parish Office. Tel. 01227 721500
(an answer machine is in operation when the office is unmanned)

Make a date in your diaries now:

St Georges Day event on Saturday 20th April 2013, Littlebourne Recreation Ground from 10.30 – 4.30

The parish council is busy arranging this community event again after last year's was such a success. Organising is well underway – All are welcome.

There will be:

- Refreshments available on sale, and a BBQ
- Recreation Club open day
- Music by Bourne Identity and others
- A Dog Show with rosettes for the winning dogs in each class
- Stalls. The Chairman has contacted previous stall holders with varied wares for sale and they have booked places for a stall on the Recreation Ground (or the Barn if it is wet). There is no charge for a stall but there will be a charity collection later in the day. If you are interested in having your own stall please contact Chairman Cllr Viv Spratt 01227 722088 . vivienne.spratt@btinternet.com
- Art Exhibition The Parish Meeting room is going to be used for an Art Exhibition

where the artists can sell their exhibits. Cllr.Spratt has also offered all the village organisations a stall for fund raising or promotion.

- Wimille Majorettes - We are pleased to welcome our Twinning guests again to the village for this event. The Hall is going to be used by around 30 Wimille Majorettes for one performance in the afternoon, with most of the audience on stage (because of the batons during performance). A second performance will be on recreation ground. They will do both of their performances in the hall if it is wet.
- Face painting for children will be offered free of charge
- Treasure Hunt (Organised by Ladybirds pre-school)
- Coconut shy
- Hoop-La
- Other ideas to be confirmed as this newsletter goes to print include a craft tent, fancy dress, and ice cream van.

If anyone would like to offer any form of help for the event either before or on the day please contact Cllr Spratt or the Clerk.

New seat for The List – Cllrs are very pleased that a 4VPO shop grant has enabled us to provide a seat for The List alongside the allotment fencing. A resident has asked that the parish council sweep leaves off the tarmac path on The List as the leaves make it slippery. Cllrs are unable to do this due to budget constraints but it would be nice to get volunteers to do this – please contact any Cllr or the Clerk if you feel able to take a turn.

FLY-TIPPING - In Canterbury district fly-tipping should be reported to Serco on 0800 031 9091. Serco is the Canterbury City Council contractor. If it is on public land Serco will arrange for its collection. If it is on private land Serco is not able to remove it but can provide a removal quote. In all cases the fly-tipping is investigated so that the perpetrator can be identified. If you see fly-tipping in process call 999.

New planning application post cards

Littlebourne Parish Council is consulted on all planning applications in the village, although the decision on whether to grant permission is made by Canterbury City Council as the planning authority. Councillors have reviewed the way they handle new applications and produced a 'post card' to put through

the doors of those who they deem immediately affected by any new application. The post card draws attention to a new application and invites the resident to talk to a parish councillor about any concerns or questions they have and view the application.

Cllrs would be happy to explain what representations would be valid, but also encourage any affected residents to also write separately to Development Management at Canterbury City Council.

Health Hopper Bus Timetables

East Kent Hospitals have health hopper buses for key hospital sites as follows:

WHH – Whitstable Health Centre – the pick up/drop off is at the public bus stop.

K&C – Kent and Canterbury Hospital – the pick up/drop off point is located at the 1937 building.

BHD – Twice daily to Buckland Hospital, Dover

RVH – Twice daily to Royal Victoria Hospital, Dover

QEQM – Queen Elizabeth Hospital, Margate – the St Peters Road entrance.

(W) WHH to K&C to WHH

Depart WHH	Arrive K&C	Depart K&C	Arrive BHD	Depart BHD	Arrive RVH	Depart RVH	Arrive WHH
08.00	08.24	08.45	09.06	09.16	09.31	09.41	10.03
10.30	10.54	11.15					11.40
12.30	12.54	13.15					13.40
13.55	14.59	15.10	14.33	14.38	14.11	14.16	15.35

(Q) QEQM to K&C to QEQM

Depart QEQM	Arrive K&C	Depart K&C	Arrive QEQM
08.00	08.37	09.00	09.38
10.00	10.37	11.00	11.38
12.00	12.37	13.00	13.38
14.00	14.37	15.00	15.38
16.15	17.07	17.30	18.08

(K) K&C to WHH to K&C

Depart K&C	Arrive WHH	Depart WHH	Arrive K&C
08.00	08.22	08.45	09.07
09.30	09.52	10.15	10.37
11.00	11.22	11.45	12.07
13.00	13.22	13.45	14.07
14.30	14.52	15.15	15.37

Littlebourne Youth Group meets on 1st and third Mondays of each month excluding bank and school holidays. There are vacancies for young people aged 9 to 18 years old. There is Music, Dance, Games, Tables, Sports and visiting experts in various fields. March 4th 'Drumming Expert'; April 15th 'Cup Cakes Expert', plus normal club facilities. Tuck Shop break. Parental consent form to be completed on first visit. £1.50 to register and 50p per session. Volunteers always welcome CRB check will be paid for by club.

Enquiries to KCC Trained Youth Leader Viv. vivienne.spratt@btinternet.com Tel. 722088

Overhanging vegetation - Overhanging trees, hedges and other vegetation on to public footways can pose problems for people trying to use the footways, especially with buggies, wheel chairs and scooters. Please maintain vegetation on your private property, bordering the highway – or KCC Highways & Transportation will write to you to ask that you do. So, what are your requirements?

i) If the boundary of your property borders the footway, then please be aware that:

- The full width of the footway/pavement must be available for use by pedestrians.
- As well, there must be a minimum height clearance over the footway/pavement of 2.1 metres / 7 feet for any vegetation.

ii) If the boundary of your property borders the carriageway, then please be aware that:

- If you have vegetation that overhangs into the road, there must be a minimum height clearance of 5 metres (16 feet) to accommodate buses and HGV's using the road.
- If your property is rural, then vegetation should be 0.45 metres / 1'6" feet behind the edge of the road and all signs need to be kept clear of foliage for at least 20 metres.

Also, please pay special attention to your trees, hedges and vegetation if your property is on or near a junction, and/or inside bend of the road, to maintain maximum visibility for road users.

Ash Dieback Disease

Up to 90% of Ash trees across Europe may have been infected by the fungus causing this disease. In the UK the disease was found early in 2012 in tree nurseries and sites recently planted with young Ash trees. Then found in established trees, in East Anglia. Kent now has affected trees. It is not fully understood how the disease is transmitted. Initially the disease was carried on young trees imported from Europe and these infected new planting sites. It is now thought that spores of the fungus have also been carried by winds from Europe. The presence of the disease does not make an infected tree any more hazardous or likely to fail. It can take years to kill a mature tree and there is evidence of a natural resistance amongst the Ash population. It is therefore premature to consider felling trees. If concerned about your trees please email your name, address and a contact number to trees@canterbury.gov.uk The city council's arboriculturalist may visit and offer advice on current best practice for managing affected trees. Guidance on how to identify the disease and report outbreaks is on the Forestry Commission

website: <http://www.forestry.gov.uk/chalara>
Details of new restrictions on the importation and movement of Ash trees including seeds here:
<http://www.forestry.gov.uk/newsrele.nsf/web-allbysubject/96686AAF4151BAC180257AA6006C8D4C> Also Canterbury council's web page:
<http://www.canterbury.gov.uk/main.cfm?objectid=7893>

Concessionary travel bus passes

Since April 2011, KCC now administers the scheme for the older persons and eligible disabled bus passes. Many passes are due for renewal in 2013. Pass holders don't need to do anything – the new passes will come out automatically. Only the newly eligible need apply.

Precept Budget requirement for 2013-2014

The parish council has considered the precept budget for 2013-2014. Despite the parish council items being reduced by £552 the overall increase is 19.4% due to

- i) Central government changing the tax base calculations as a result of abolishing council tax benefit and replacing it with a locally designed Council Tax Reduction Scheme. And
- ii) Canterbury City Council imposing a concurrent functions award shortfall for items such as grass cutting and grounds maintenance of £6494.

Littlebourne parish council, like most of the district's parish councils is following DCLG advice to set a higher precept this year in case a capping regime is implemented next year especially in view of uncertainty also over further concurrent award cuts.

National non-emergency number for police

Call Kent Police for non-urgent issues on **101**. The number is available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to report crime and issues which do not require an emergency response. Each 101 call will never cost more than 15 pence - no matter what time you call, how long your call lasts or even if you call from a mobile. The Police do not receive any of the call cost. Also call 101 to speak to your local neighbourhood officer, to make a general enquiry or to make Police aware of a policing issue where you live. Calling 101 when you do not require an immediate police response keep 999 available for when there is an emergency. *What classes as an emergency?* An emergency is when a crime is happening, someone suspected of a crime is nearby, someone is injured, being threatened or a life is at risk, or there is a traffic incident involving personal injury or danger.

TUBS AND BASKETS

Cllr Spratt has confirmed the judging dates as 13-14 July 2013. The judges will be one of the joint winners from last year. The council is also considering a

judging for the best Christmas lights in the village this year. This will be picked up later this year.

TWELFTH NIGHT WASSAILING IN TURNER'S ORCHARD, 4 JANUARY 2013

Thank you to those who came and made this such a good event. We had a real mix of people and over 100 people attended. We should also like to thank everyone for their generous donations, which are being shared between the Arthritis Society and Turner's Orchard. We hope you will join us again next year to celebrate twelfth night – Deal Hoodeners have been booked again for 5 January 2014.

Millennium Award 2013 – Since 2000 the council has sought to recognise that special someone who goes the extra mile, or who cares for the people and the environment, or who has made a difference to the community through a project or work undertaken. Congratulations to the following who have been nominated by parish Cllrs and/or residents to receive the Millennium Award for 2013. They would all be worthy recipients, and in no particular order are:
Mrs Barbara Hunt – for her role as Secretary and founder member of the Afternoon Club, for all her work with the Royal British Legion, and poppy organiser for many years in Littlebourne.

Mrs Evelyn Clayson - she always 'goes the extra mile' in everything she does for Littlebourne and does work that is over and above what is expected of her in all weathers and with a smile. She is a very popular figure in the village and much appreciated by all.

David and Jean Smith – For their commitment to the village and managing Neighbourhood Watch.

John Pollard - He does a lot for the allotments, especially the vegetable stall on the recreation ground when excess veg is available.

Parish Council meetings 2013 - 14 March, 18 April, 16 May, 13 June, 18 July, (No August meeting), 12 September, 17 October, 14 November, 12 December.

7 March 2013 – The annual electors' meeting

We hope to see lots of residents for this Annual Meeting in The War Memorial Hall at 7.00pm. Our guest speakers are "**Community First Responders**" to talk about their volunteering work and demonstrate a heart-start defibrillator. Plus the announcement of the **Millennium Award 2013** winner.

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Keep up to date with Parish business

Visit the website; Minutes are published every month there and on the Council's noticeboard; or the Littlebourne column in the Kentish Gazette each week. 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. This newsletter is compiled by the Parish Clerk. If there is something you would like covered in the next edition please contact 01227 721500 or clerk@littlebournepc.org

Your nine Cllrs are as follows:

Chairman, Cllr Viv Spratt

Alexandra House, 17 Jubilee Road 01227 722088
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

Responsibilities: Vice-Chair, Littlebourne Charities, 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

Responsibilities: Finance, Planning, Twinning

Cllr Pamela Evans, Willowbank, 30A Nargate Street 01227 722132 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

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

Cllr Betty Jeffries, 29 Rose Acre Road, 01227 721436 Elizabethjeffries2@hotmail.com

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

Cllr Ken Shaw, 36 Nargate Street 01227 721560, 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

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

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

Contact the Clerk for this in **Large Print.**