

LPC News

Littlebourne Parish Council Newsletter
<http://www.littlebournepc.kentparishes.gov.uk/>
Issue 7, December 2012

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 email address and phone number for the parish council Clerk

Please note the new telephone number to contact the Clerk is 01227 721500. This is the office telephone and not manned all the time. If something is urgent call a parish councillor.

And with immediate effect the new email address is clerk@littlebournepc.org

Future development in the Canterbury district

At Rydon Homes public exhibition in May, 75% of respondents to the Parish Council survey opposed development in the village, citing the twin concerns of an increase of 15% in the size of the village, and the resulting increase in traffic leading to even more congestion at peak times.

Road infrastructure is going to be a huge problem generally in the District under the new Local Plan, with developer required funding only covering about 20% of the total needed and no extra government money forthcoming.

The Parish Council decided to take up the planning issue with Adrian Verrall, who attended a Parish Council meeting, and also to talk about resident's concerns over the proposed development on The Hill/The List with Kent Highways. Councillors met KHS on site in September.

The major Traffic issues are:

1) Congestion The village is rural, and dependence on cars is greater, so the average number of cars per household is higher than in the City. Nearly 100 properties will generate a large number of cars and these will primarily use the roads at peak times. The A257 is one of the busiest routes into Canterbury and the estate traffic will only have one exit to it. There is queuing of traffic on the road at peak times as it is and this extra traffic will make the problem significantly worse.

2) Speeding Speeding is a major problem - Speedwatch checks are recording 23% of all vehicles speeding through the village (36mph or above). This is often going up The Hill where drivers

may be frustrated by heavy traffic in the centre of the village, and also down The Hill where some vehicles coming from Canterbury do not slow down at all. There is a bus stop opposite The Evenhill and often school children and older people are at risk as they try to cross to and from this bus stop.

The only way to avoid worsening congestion would be to remove the current kerb extensions, but the Parish Council feel that this would be a backward step and lead to a total free-for-all on the A257.

3) Future Traffic Studies The Parish Council is concerned that up to date and realistic data needs to be used in any studies of the effect of this development on the Village. Particularly since a new Surgery has been designed into the proposal and there has been no estimate at all made of the conflicting movements that this may cause in both vehicular and pedestrian movements.

New Local Plan: Parish Council Guest speakers

Under the Localism Act and the new National Planning Policy Framework, every District Council has to create a new Local Plan, ensuring that it is based on firm evidence and will 'support sustainable economic development'.

The previous plan looked for 10,000 additional houses in the District over the next 20 years.

Thank you to all the residents who supported the guest speakers at the recent parish council meetings.

Adrian Verrall, Canterbury City Council Planning Policy Manager, attended on 20 September 2012 and Cllr John Gilbey attended the October meeting to explain what the Plan involved and future progress. Canterbury City Council (CCC) is now responsible for determining its own new housing numbers taking account of KCC's projections. Consultants have produced reports, and CCC also commissioned rural settlement studies for all the villages in the Canterbury District.

The total housing requirement over the next 20 years in the Canterbury District is being planned at 15,000, a 50% increase over the original plan figure. The existing CCC list of potential sites (about 200) is being considered and the site at Littlebourne is on that list. Some have already been ruled out and CCC does have more sites than it needs. Council officers will present information and evidence to Members shortly for them to make decisions on

which sites to use to meet housing numbers. The Draft Local Plan will be issued for two rounds of consultation in early 2013, then a final draft will go to the Inspectorate. The process is expected to take up to two years. If the Inspector approves sites in the final draft then the site will last for 20 years. If a site is not included there is no guarantee that it won't come forward again in the future.

Guest speaker for the March electors' meeting

Make a diary date now - 7 March 2013 will be the elector's meeting / Annual Parish Meeting in The War Memorial Hall at 7.00pm We have booked guest speakers "Community First Responders" to talk about their volunteering work and demonstrate a heart-start defibrillator.

Download-able crime prevention guides for residents from Kent Police

A series of advice guides are available as easy-to-read downloads from the Kent Police website at www.kent.police.uk/yourguide . Current titles: Home and garden security, Property marking, Anti-social behaviour, Contacting Kent Police, Safe cycling, Bike security, Motorbike safety, Vehicle security, Restorative practice, Bogus callers, Rural crime, Metal theft, Plant theft, Internet safety, Personal safety, Drug dealing and use (spotting/reporting). Any questions call Kent Police on 01622 652162.

CHANGES AT WASTE RECYCLING CENTRES

Some changes were introduced from 1 October:

- A limit on trailer size to 2.05m (6'8") long, and not exceeding 1 cubic metre capacity, and no wider than the domestic vehicle towing the trailer.
- A limit on soil, rubble and hardcore to 90 kg (190 lbs) per visit by a single vehicle or combined with a trailer. For info, 33 bricks is equivalent to 90kg.
- A small charge for tyres – only car tyres and to a maximum two per visit - £5 per visit.
- A small charge for asbestos – limited to one sack or equivalent per visit - £5 per visit.
- Payment to be made by debit/credit cards, no cash or cheques will be accepted.
- If the sole vehicle in your household is a domestic vehicle over 2m in height and less than 3.5 tonnes in weight, your vehicle may qualify for vouchers to access a site, with household waste only.

More at www.kent.gov.uk/hwrc or 0845 345 0210

Accident Reports The Parish Council would like you to report any accident that you see has happened in and around the Littlebourne area especially on the A257 between Canterbury and Wingham. We need to

keep records of all accidents, minor and major. We would rather hear about them more than once than leave them unrecorded. Contact Cllr Reid at cateatnickthevoice@btinternet.com or telephone 01227 721831, or any parish Councillor. We would want to know the Date, Location, Time, Vehicles involved and injuries if known.

New seat for The List

The Parish council is very pleased to advise that a 4VPO shop grant has been awarded for part funding a seat for The List alongside the allotment fencing. The parish council will pay the balance required and arrange the order and installation.

Hanging baskets and tubs competition

Once again the village has run this annual competition. Hanging baskets and tubs through the village were judged by a previous winner and our congratulations to the winners: joint first was 34B Jubilee Road, 12 Orchard Close and 6 Evenhill Road, and runners up were 2 and 11 Court Meadows, 3 Pineside, 11 The Hill, 58, 60 A and 60B Jubilee Road. Thank you to all those who took part.

Kent "Rural Village of the Year"

The Clerk entered Littlebourne in to Action with Communities in Rural Kent "Rural Village of the Year". Six judges spent time in the village with some councillors and the Clerk, to be shown around the village and its facilities and answer questions. Cllrs Spratt and Reid went to the presentation evening in September and Littlebourne won a prize in all four categories. Littlebourne was "Highly Commended" in "Sustainability", and "Commended" in Community, Business and Communication categories.

Twinning with Wimille, in France

On 13 October the Walkers of Littlebourne hosted a visit for the Walkers of Wimille, taking in not only Littlebourne, but Ickham, Seaton & Wickhambreaux.



Lunch was taken at the Duke William Ickham, and afternoon tea was provided for all in The Lounge served by the Councillors.

Wimille will be bringing a coach of their residents for tea at Littlebourne on 15 December after a day's shopping in Canterbury, they will be here between 4 – 5.30pm. Any residents here, wishing to join in would be most welcome. Please contact Cllr Viv Spratt. We are also looking for villagers who would like to be part of the twinning committee or who may like to put forward or join in any activities.



Wimille Christmas Fair – Sunday 2 December

Cllr Spratt is pleased to advise that this trip for residents to visit the Christmas Fair at Wimille was a sell out with all available seats on the coach sold.

Nominate now for the Millennium Award 2013

Since 2000 the parish council has sought to select 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, for the benefit of the residents of the village. It doesn't have to be a person it could be a club or project which could receive the prize of £100. Please write to the Clerk by 31 January 2013, with reasons for your nomination.

Volunteers sought for Driver Scheme

We are considering starting a volunteer driver scheme for residents. Operated by volunteer drivers, using their own cars to transport people to and from hospital, doctor, dentist appointments, shopping trips, day centres, social visits - anywhere you need to go. In order to use the scheme you must register and pay an annual donation of £15.00, renewable each January. Drivers are not paid for their time but the passenger pays 45p per mile plus 5p per passenger per mile, measured from and back to the drivers' home.

We would like to know:-

1. Who may need or use this service?
2. Who will volunteer their car and themselves as driver on some occasions?
3. A co-ordinator will also be required.

Residents will have to tell their insurance company that they are volunteer drivers as petrol costs will be met by the users. Please contact Cllr Viv Spratt vivienne.spratt@btinternet.com or 01227 722088.

Canterbury and Herne Bay volunteer centres also run a transport scheme and are looking for volunteers. In most cases their driver waits with you meaning that only one return journey is involved. For appointments over 2 hours the driver may go home and come back later, and this will involve additional mileage which you would pay for. Payments are made to the driver in cash at the time of the journey. Book transport by phoning their transport desk on 01227 452278 (Canterbury office) or 01227 743701 (Herne Bay office) only between 10.00am and 12.30pm Monday to Friday. They like at least 3 working days notice to help them to find an available driver. Our scheme if we can get one set up would work on similar terms.

Volunteers are also sought for numerous other functions/committees in the village. If any villagers can spare anytime at all to help contact Cllr Spratt.

Social housing in the village

Whilst property rarely becomes available, the parish council is updating its records of people interested and eligible for property in Littlebourne. The housing developments are **List Meadows and Court Meadows**. There are extra requirements to be met to be eligible to bid for a property here. Strict criteria is set out in agreements between Littlebourne Parish Council and either Southern Housing Group or Sanctuary Housing Group. An applicant must meet *one* or more of the criteria. ***If you wish to join the parish council list for Littlebourne housing and have not yet contacted the Clerk, please do so, for an application.***

This also applies to anyone already in List Meadows or Court Meadows who would like to be considered for a transfer within or between the estates.

Transfers between the two housing associations properties - The parish council has learnt that neither Southern or Sanctuary housing officers hold a list of tenants interested in exchanging. This process is managed through the city council's mutual exchange scheme and on the Kent Home Choice mutual exchange website pages also.

Therefore any residents wanting to exchange:
 - must register on the Kent Home Choice mutual exchange website pages
 - may contact the Clerk so that their details may be advertised locally on the parish council noticeboard and that they want an exchange (subject to the new tenant meeting the local connection criteria)

Advertisement feature:

<p>Bob Oulton Plumbing & Heating Boiler Installation, Repairs and Servicing Tel: 01233 665058 Mob; 07941 769184 E-Mail: bobplumb64@aol.com CIPHE Registered. Gas Safe Reg 207729</p>	
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'Lady Decorators'
Internal & External Work
Painting & Decorating
Small Restoration Projects
 Professional and Qualified with over 20 years experience - Nichola Rogers
 Tel :- 01227 831058 Mob:- 07816344951

Hazelnut Tree Care 
www.hazelnuttreecare.co.uk
 Matt Gerrard
 01227 700538 07879601642

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. At the present time there is only one advert size and pricing structure: **A 1/8 page advert in a text box this size costs £20 for 4 editions or single edition one off for £15.**

Parish Council meeting dates for 2013
 17 January, 7 February, (7 March 2013: the elector's Annual Parish Meeting), 14 March, 18 April, 16 May, 13 June, 18 July, (No August meeting), 12 September, 17 October, 14 November, & 12 December 2013.

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, Amanda Sparkes. If there is something you would like covered in the next edition please contact her on 01227 721500 or clerk@littlebournepc.org

Contact her if you need it in **Large Print.**

Your nine Cllrs are as follows:

<p>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.</p>
<p>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.</p>
<p>Cllr Geoffrey Barrett, Elmstead House, 3 Cherry Orchard 01227 720779, g-barrett@btconnect.com Responsibilities: Finance, Planning, Twinning</p>
<p>Cllr Pamela Evans, Willowbank, 30A Nargate Street 01227 722132 pamelaevans4@btinternet.com Responsibilities: The Barn & heritage, foot-paths, Environment, Littlebourne nature reserves,</p>
<p>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</p>
<p>Cllr Betty Jeffries, 29 Rose Acre Road, 01227 721436 Elizabethjeffries2@hotmail.com Responsibilities: The Barn & heritage, Planning, Environment, footpaths, nature reserves,</p>
<p>Cllr Ken Shaw, 36 Nargate Street 01227 721560, Ken.shaw@virgin.net Responsibilities: Littlebourne Charities, Environment, footpaths, Flooding, Highways, Street Monitor, Police</p>
<p>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.</p>
<p>Cllr Cate Reid, 70 The Hill, Littlebourne 01227 721831 hallbookings@littlebournevillage.com Responsibilities: Emergency Plan, Highways, Twinning, Hall bookings, War memorial hall trust</p>