

# LPC News

Littlebourne Parish Council Newsletter  
<http://www.littlebournepc.kentparishes.gov.uk/>  
Issue 2, October 2011

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.

## Housing needs survey for Littlebourne

Rydon Homes have an option for development on land at the rear of The Hill/Jubilee Road, subject to planning permission being granted. Canterbury City Council is taking this site forward as one of their Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment sites. Rydon Homes are keen to work in partnership with the parish council to work up a development of best benefit for the village. Each household received a housing needs survey at the end of October. To ensure impartiality, Action with Communities in Rural Kent posted the surveys and are collating the results and analysing the data. The results are due in the New Year and will assist the parish council at this early stage to make decisions on development that will be of best benefit for the village, should it take place.

## Parish Council precept budget requirement 2012-2013

Cllrs have finalised their precept budget requirement for 2012-2013. This is the portion of your council tax that is paid to the parish council. The councillors have been juggling the figures in order to keep making improvements to the village such as the recent village hall car park planting scheme. Whilst the parish council could reduce the budget slightly they felt this would be to the detriment of the village. At their budget setting Cllrs have decided to increase the council tax precept in order to deliver new projects, as they are anxious to keep the facilities in the village going. The income is of course hopefully supplemented with grants if applications that the Clerk has written prove to be successful. One item that raised the precept requirement this year is the legal obligation that the Clerk is employed on a PAYE basis and not self employed and is provided with a pension. This has cost the village in the region of £2,000. However, the overall precept set for next year is actually less than the actual expenditure for 2011-2012. If anyone wants more information please contact either the Chairman or the Clerk.

## Speedwatch checks

PCSO Gavin Dodwell has been undertaking speedwatch checks in the village, and the traffic committee have also. Example statistics include a check undertaken on 6 November 2011 on the corner of Ewing Close monitoring traffic on The Hill between 11:05 to 11:35. Of 67 vehicles surveyed

- 49 vehicles travelled up to and including 30 mph
- 10 vehicles were doing 31 to 36 mph
- The remainder were doing 37 mph and above and were sent letters by Kent Police.

## KCC WARDEN

The Kent County Council (KCC) Community Warden Service has confirmed that our current warden, Ken Campbell retires on 27 January 2012, and whilst they are not in a position to recruit permanent staff at this time the Littlebourne area will be covered by the Canterbury team. The phone number will remain the same (07969 583916) and the Warden Supervisor Michelle Weston may be contacted on 07813 711 942.

Littlebourne Parish Council would like to thank Ken for all his hard work for the villagers and wish him a very long and happy retirement.

**June 4<sup>th</sup> 2012** – The parish council will be organising a celebration to mark **the Queen's Diamond Jubilee**. We will also be celebrating our **twinning with Wimille**, France. The Mayor of Wimille, Antoine Logie will be attending with other representatives of Wimille to sign the Charter. There will be many events taking place on the Recreation Ground, The Recreation Club will be holding a open day for all. Littlebourne Parish Council request all villagers join these celebrations, there will be 'The Big Picnic' and many other things for both CHILDREN AND ADULTS; the programme is being compiled at present. Would any Villagers who could entertain, sing, playing instruments etc. offer their services? Would any villager like to have a stall or gazebo (at no fee) for your charity or raise funds for your groups?

We are open to all suggestions. Contact Viv 722088 [vivienne.spratt@btinternet.com](mailto:vivienne.spratt@btinternet.com)

### **MICROSOFT SCAM**

We have been asked to broadcast the latest telephone Scam purporting to come from Microsoft. The victim is rung, usually by a foreign sounding person, and told that they have a fault with the Microsoft Windows programme on their computer. The victim is asked to log on and for a fee of £130 they are advised they will be able to get it sorted. **DO NOT DO THIS.**

Under no circumstances would Microsoft ever ring you at home to correct anything on your computer. The best way to deal with this type of call is to tell them you don't own a computer!

### **Church Road - A resident's plea**

A resident has asked if people in Church Road could be reminded to sweep gravel off pavements back onto their drives as it makes it more difficult to walk safely for some of the village's more elderly and frail residents.

### **Advertising in this publication**

A resident contacted the parish council as the Church and Village have no advertising space available, with a view to advertising in this publication instead. The parish council is considering making advertising space available and if anyone is interested in this please contact the Clerk. This newsletter is sent to over 700 households on a quarterly basis. 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.

### **DIGITAL SWITCHOVER**

**The digital Television switchover is starting in Kent from May 30<sup>th</sup> 2012.** Analogue TV signals will be turned off and Freeview services boosted. After switchover, virtually all homes will be able to receive digital TV free via an aerial, including those served by local relay transmitters. The exact date of when you switch depends which transmitter your TV gets its signal from. To find out when you switch and what your digital options are, visit [www.digitaluk.co.uk](http://www.digitaluk.co.uk) or call Digital UK on 08456 50 50 50.

### **What do you need to do?**

- If you have Freeview, Top Up TV or BT Vision, you will need to retune your digital TV or box at switchover or you will lose channels. Switchover is a two-stage process and you need to retune at both stages.
- If you have a satellite or cable service on all your sets, you will not need to retune as these are not affected by switchover.
- If you have 5 channels or fewer (i.e. analogue TV) on any of your sets, you will need to convert them to digital.
- If you're 75 and over, or eligible disabled, call the Switchover Help Scheme - they can provide everything you need to keep watching your TV.

### **The Switchover Help Scheme is run by the BBC under an agreement with the Government.**

If you are eligible for the Help Scheme, they will write to you to offer you practical help to convert one of your TV sets to digital. For more information ring 0800 40 85 900 for free or e-mail [info@helpscheme.co.uk](mailto:info@helpscheme.co.uk) You can also get more information at [www.helpscheme.co.uk](http://www.helpscheme.co.uk)

### **New Police non-emergency phone number**

From 15 November 2011, the Police introduced a new telephone number for non-emergency calls. To report non-urgent crime, speak to your local officer, or to make an enquiry, members of the public should ring **101** from anywhere in the country, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Each call will never cost more than 15p, even from mobiles. Unless the caller specifies otherwise, this will route to the nearest police call centre. For Kent this new number, **101**, replaces 01622 690 690. For emergency situations if life is in danger or crime is in progress please continue to call 999. For more information on **101** visit [www.kent.police.uk/101](http://www.kent.police.uk/101)

### **Ensuring your dog's happiness and security after your lifetime – the free canine care card from The Dogs Trust**

Do you ever wonder, "What would happen to my dog if I were to die suddenly?" You aren't alone. Many responsible dog owners know that they need to make sure their canine friend will be properly looked after, but how?

The **Canine Care Card** is a special **free** service that will guarantee you peace of mind, knowing that your dog's future will be a safe and happy one after your lifetime.

- Dogs Trust are ready to take up the responsibility of caring for your faithful friend
- Ever year they care for around 16,000 dogs at rehoming centres and they **never destroy a healthy dog**.
- Once your dog is brought to them they receive a full medical and behavioural assessment in order to get the best possible home for him or her.
- They endeavour to find a responsible, caring owner to provide him or her with a new home
- If, in the unlikely event they can't find your dog a home, they will look after him or her for the rest of their life.

For an application form for a Canine Care Card contact either Cllr Pam Evans or the Clerk.

### **Littlebourne Hall Trust**

If you want to hire the hall for any occasion or wish to view the facilities contact the Chairman Mrs Cate Reid Tel/Text. 07508297349 or email [hallbookings@littlebournevillage.com](mailto:hallbookings@littlebournevillage.com)

### **Village Emergency Plan and Flood Plan**

Did you know that Littlebourne has an Emergency Plan Team? We all know that we have Emergency Services who deal with most types of emergency, BUT a major incident could occur in our village when they could not reach us quickly (such as deep snow, extensive flooding or a major incident elsewhere). This obviously means that we need a Plan to help ourselves if the Emergency Services cannot reach us.

### **Please help us to improve this Plan ! We need to know certain things FROM YOU:**

- Could you provide sleeping accommodation, either in your business premises or your own home? If so, how many (and can you take their pets)?
- Are you a First-aider or ex health professional?
- Do you have a Tractor/trailer or 4x4 vehicle?
- Are you an electrician/plumber/builder?

- Are you a caterer?
- Do you have any other skills that would be valuable in an emergency?

*If you can answer YES to any of the above, please make this known to the Parish Clerk*

Please also remember your vulnerable neighbours. A lot of them are very independent and don't like to ask for help.

A copy of the village Flood Plan may be viewed at <http://www.littlebournepc.kentparishes.gov.uk/default.cfm?pid=6997>

### **Neighbourhood Watch**

Littlebourne's Neighbourhood Watch needs contact 'Link Persons' in every street. Contact Cllr Mick Giles on 01227 728228 or email [Mickandwendy1@btinternet.com](mailto:Mickandwendy1@btinternet.com) or Cllr Geof Welch on 01227 728507, email [Ducks.riverbank@tiscali.co.uk](mailto:Ducks.riverbank@tiscali.co.uk)

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

Visit the website; Minutes are published every month, or the Littlebourne column in the Kentish Gazette each week. An Agenda posted in the council's notice board details the council's meetings and areas for discussions and general business. A recess early in the meetings allows any member of the public to speak. All meetings are open to the public and anyone is always welcomed. Contact the Clerk or the Chairman, or any members of the council at any reasonable time, normally during office hours except for emergencies.

### **A generous donation to the village**

The parish council is very grateful to a kind donation given to the parish council. The Bailey family have donated the necessary funds to purchase and install a green metal seat for Court Hill, **in memory of**  
**L.A. BAILEY 1920-2011**  
**E.BAILEY 1929-2011**  
**(daughter of A.Fox)**

The Clerk is placing the order for the seat and arranging installation. The Cllrs are sure that residents will be very appreciative of this kind gift.

## The Disabled Persons Railcard (DPRC)

Over 3 million journeys a year are made by DPRC holders and the number of cardholders has almost doubled since 2005. Despite this, the main reason why eligible disabled people do not have a DPRC is because they simply don't know about it. The card is run on an entirely commercial basis and receives no public subsidy. It generates in excess of £20m per annum for train operators through Railcard sales and tickets purchased with a DPRC discount. Unique amongst the Railcard family, it is the only card which offers a nationwide discount to the cardholder and an adult companion travelling with them.

The Disabled Persons Railcard gives holders 1/3 off most National Rail fares for the cardholder and a friend, and also offers a range of great value discount offers. Cardholders can take advantage of 10% off hotel bookings with Octopus Travel, a free Rough Guide to Accessible Britain, up to 35% off weekend breaks with InterContinental Hotels, 1/3 off Mobilise membership, £2 off OpenBritain and OpenLondon Guides plus many more offers. See [www.disabledpersons-railcard.co.uk](http://www.disabledpersons-railcard.co.uk) for more details on the special offers available to cardholders. The Disabled Persons Railcard website – [www.disabledpersons-railcard.co.uk](http://www.disabledpersons-railcard.co.uk) – shows new and existing Railcard holders the information they need, and provides disabled passengers with information about travelling by train and keeps cardholders up-to-date on the latest news and special offers..

## Diary dates

**8 March 2012 – the elector's meeting / Annual Parish Meeting** – 7pm in Littlebourne War Memorial Hall Lounge. Come and hear what the parish council has done on your behalf in the preceding 12 months and to receive reports from the village organisations and Children's Centre.

**Monday 4 June 2012** – The Queen's Diamond Jubilee celebrations and signing of the Twinning Charter with Wimille.

This newsletter is compiled by the Clerk to the Parish Council, Amanda Sparkes. If there is something you would like covered in the next edition please contact her on 01227 700939 or email [amanda.sparkes@sky.com](mailto:amanda.sparkes@sky.com). Also contact her if you need it copied in **Large Print**.

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-Chairman, Littlebourne Charities, Emergency Plan and Neighbourhood Watch, Flooding, Highways, Recreation Club, Ground and Gardens, 4VPO Assoc.

### Cllr Geoffrey Barrett

Elmstead House, 3 Cherry Orchard 01227 720779  
[g-barrett@btconnect.com](mailto:g-barrett@btconnect.com)

**Responsibilities:** Finance, Planning, Twinning

### Cllr Marianne Du Sautoy

7 Nargate Street, 01227 721 798  
[m.dusautoy@kent.ac.uk](mailto:m.dusautoy@kent.ac.uk)

**Responsibilities:** tbc

### Cllr Pamela Evans

Willowbank, 30A Nargate Street  
01227 722132 [pamelaevans4@btinternet.com](mailto:pamelaevans4@btinternet.com)

**Responsibilities:** The Barn & heritage, footpaths, Environment, Littlebourne nature reserves,

### 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

29 Rose Acre Road, 01227 721436  
[Elizabethjeffries2@hotmail.com](mailto:Elizabethjeffries2@hotmail.com)

**Responsibilities:** The Barn & heritage, Planning, Environment, footpaths, Littlebourne 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:** Children & Youth, Seniors, Community & well-being, Emergency Plan and Neighbourhood Watch, Flooding, Highways, KALC rep, Street Monitor, Police.