

**LITTLEBOURNE PARISH COUNCIL  
MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12 FEBRUARY 2014**

**Present:** Parish Cllr Vivienne Spratt (Chairman)  
Parish Cllr Mick Giles  
Parish Cllr Cate Reid  
Parish Cllr Mike Gallagher  
Parish Cllr Geoffrey Barrett  
Parish Cllr Geof Welch  
Parish Cllr Betty Jeffries  
Parish Cllr Pam Evans  
Parish Cllr Ken Shaw

Mrs Gail Hubbard, Clerk to the Council  
There were two members of the public.

**186. CHAIRMAN'S OPENING REMARKS AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

The Chairman began with the following;

I would like to take this opportunity to record a big thank you to Cllrs Mick Giles and Ken Shaw for the vast amount of work that has been carried out to assist everyone possible who is suffering with flooding. This is an ongoing extremely difficult task. They have worked tirelessly with the services and volunteers to coordinate the best they can for all residents in need, they have been hampered by residents requesting sandbags to protect their gardens, which Canterbury City Council refused to provide. Ken and a team of volunteers filled another load of sandbags yesterday for use in a further emergency need. The list of volunteers is endless and I don't want to name them for fear of leaving someone off. I will say however, that the Drainage Dykes surrounding the village play a large part in keeping back land flooding. These are being cleared in Pine Woods by Alan Legge and by Martine and Stuart Ellison Smith on The Hill. Turners Orchard drain is flowing well as this is now to be regularly maintained. At a later date some other Dykes are to be researched as historically there are others that could be helpful in times like this. The War Memorial Hall is on constant standby for evacuation of residents if necessary. As Cllr Giles is to go into Hospital this week to which we give him all our best wishes for a speedy recovery, we will need to give more support to Cllr Ken Shaw whose wife Maggie has been doing a Stirling job with refreshments for the tanker drivers and taking messages. There is so much more that could be said on this subject, but some more will come up on the Agenda item 13.

The Cllrs gave their total agreement and support on the above remarks.

Apologies were received from County Cllr Michael Northey (another meeting), City Cllr Brian Staley (Nepal) and resident Mrs Ayres.

**187. DECLARATIONS OF CLLRS INTERESTS AND REQUESTS FOR DISPENSATION**

There were no declarations of interest or requests for dispensations.

**188. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 15 JANUARY 2014**

Cllr Reid proposed and Cllr Evans seconded to accept the Minutes as a true record of the meeting.

**189. KCC COMMUNITY WARDEN REPORT**

It was noted that Gary has been extremely busy on flood duty across his areas, on the Nailbourne and Little Stour.

## **190. ADJOURNMENT OF THE MEETING**

This section of the meeting is for public speakers, they can only speak on Agenda items and the time is limited to 3 minutes per person and a maximum of 15 minutes in each Council meeting. Speakers should register with the clerk in advance if they wish to speak and speaking is at the Chairman's discretion. On this occasion the chairman used discretion and allowed Mr Wells a question and answer session, which is attached to the minutes. This does not however set precedence as most of these types of questions can be answered outside of a meeting by the Councils clerk.

## **191. PLANNING**

The application for CA/114/00127/FUL for 20 Jubilee Road was discussed, the neighbours' concerns were read out by the Chairman. They have also been told to respond directly to CCC. The main concerns being;

- Loss of parking space once the extension is built. This will leave all vehicles from this property parking on the road.
- Lack of measurement on the front of the existing house line (not porch) to new extension line (they could float the building line when they actually build) However plans are scaled.
- Roof coming closer to next doors chimney stack could cause turbulence (gusty air currents) they have had problems with this on the existing roof and had to get a H chimney stack fitted.

Clerk to respond with these comments to CCC.

The application for CA//14/00004/FUL for Little Beck, 24 Nargate Street was circulated amongst the Cllrs for comment. We will return to this under item 193. The other Planning applications and tree works are recorded on Appendix 2 attached to these minutes.

## **192. FINANCE**

- (a) RECEIVED the bank statements for January 2014, and RESOLVED the signature of the Chairman thereon;
- (b) NOTED £11.99 will be taken from our account by DD on 15<sup>th</sup> Feb for our 1x1 website
- (c) NOTED the Clerk has sent out recharge invoices of £127.36 to 4VPO, WHM and Rec Club for the annual support fee for the CCTV
- (d) NOTED 1x1 internet will take a DD of £17.96 from our account on 20/02/14 for our domain name – 3 months charge

## **AUTHORISATION OF ACCOUNTS**

Receipts totalling £1789.62 were NOTED. The expenditure list previously circulated to Cllrs as Appendix 3 totalling £1453.94 together with a supplementary sheet Appendix 3a of expenditure presented to the meeting totalling £1380.66. These were proposed by Cllr Gallagher and seconded by Cllr Welch so it was RESOLVED that the financial matters and accounts, as set out be authorised for payment.

Cllr Jeffries read out a short report on some recent expenditure at the Cherry Orchard;

In the summer the PC expressed concerns about the conker tree and work needed on the old cherry tree. As the contractor used has the qualifications for both (not all tree surgeons have them.) He is on the CCC list of tree surgeons they have used themselves and know to be competent and reliable. He advised that the conker tree was OK at that time and suggested how the cherry tree should be trimmed and re-shaped properly in the autumn/winter. At the last PC meeting we were asked to take the problem to the LNR Committee which we did. The plum tree blew down in the storm and was sawn up and dealt with by Anne and Andrew so the PC did not have to pay for that so that £180 is not unreasonable for the specialist advice and work. The LNR Committee agreed that the work should be paid for

Incidentally Anne has spent more than 1000 hrs on the Reserve this season plus the same by Isabel, Angela and Helen and others'. I agree that Anne should have contacted the PC about the lean to but education of the children is part of the maintenance and the finance committee do not seem to have a problem with it. I have paid her the £130 as she has herself bought much of the material for the scouts, brownies etc to use and Isabel paid for all the compost and wild flower seeds which she grew.

The Finance Committee had discussed the payment of these two items and although agreed it should be paid, wanted to highlight the fact that two or more quotations must always be sought for LPC works. LNR is part of LPC and financial payments must be agreed in advance. The lean to is a capital item and could not be paid for from concurrent funding (which is for maintenance), but the tree works is maintenance and could come from Concurrent. The £130 has been refunded to Cllr Jeffries as part of her expenses claim.

### **193. PLANNING CONTINUED**

After viewing the plans for CA/00004/FUL Little Beck, the Cllrs remarked that the parking situation would not be effected as the driveway is wide enough. Should this application not be down as being in a conservation area? Should the gutters from the porch run into a soak away rather than the drains? Clerk to respond to CCC with these two comments.

### **194. CLERK REPORT CORRESPONDENCE**

A. KCC are inviting comments on their Draft Road Casualty Reduction Strategy. The consultation deadline is Monday 24 February. Cllr Gallagher has formulated a response from LPC.

B. KCC has begun its roll-out of its Safe and Sensible Street Lighting Plan. Details of the trial switch off and part-night lighting timetables are contained on KCC's website at the following address [http://kent.gov.uk/roads\\_and\\_transport/highway\\_maintenance/street\\_lights/sensible\\_street\\_lighting.aspx](http://kent.gov.uk/roads_and_transport/highway_maintenance/street_lights/sensible_street_lighting.aspx) . KCC are publishing interactive maps, which will enable people to input their post code to see what lights are being affected in their area. As you will see from the website, **so far interactive maps on trial switch off of lights have been published for Dover, Ashford, Dartford & Gravesham. On part-night lighting, interactive maps have been published for Tunbridge Wells and Sevenoaks.**

Accident and crime rates at these sites will be monitored over coming months by KCC and the police. The Parish Councils in the affected areas might want to also monitor accidents/incidents over the coming months, so that if the lack of lighting is having an adverse effect then they can feed this back to KCC Highways.

C. Southern Water will soon be installing water meters in our area as part of a five year work programme across the South East. They are introducing metering as households on a water meter tend to use 10 per cent less. Together with the majority of our customers, they also believe that households paying for the water they use is the fairest way to charge. In addition, it puts customers in control of their bills. The new meters are 'intelligent' and are equipped with leak alarms which will help detect leaks on supply pipes and inside properties, as well as on the mains network.

They are beginning in Thanet in February, for the Littlebourne postcode it says sometime in 2014.

#### **How the programme works**

Southern Water will contact customers before their meters are fitted.

Installation is free and in most cases the meter will be fitted in the public footpath outside a property so there is no need to enter customers' homes.

Customers will be provided with lots of written information about their meter and metered bill, as well as easy ways in which they can save water, energy and money.

Our installation teams will work on a road-by-road basis and when they are in an area, customers will have the opportunity to talk to Southern Water's advisors directly.

### **Keeping bills affordable**

Using a phased approach, we are switching customers with new meters onto metered charges around 3 months after their meter is installed.

**Changeover tariff** – any increase in a customer's bills will be phased in gradually over three years to give people time to adjust to their metered charges and understand how to manage their water use and bills.

**Support tariff** – we have introduced this tariff to help customers whose bills go up on a water meter and who have genuine difficulty in paying.

We have identified around 108,000 customers across our service area to whom we are offering additional assistance with their water meter and bills, including the offer of free water and energy use checks (Home Saver Check) and more information on the tariffs and support available. We look to contact these customers directly when installing their water meters.

D. South East Coast Ambulance Service are holding 3 information events in March, to tell us how the Ambulance Service is changing. The event in Kent is being held on 13 March in Rochester. If you are interested in attending please register online [www.surveymonkey.com/s/thinkyounow2014](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/thinkyounow2014).

E. LPC received details of the KCC Parish Council Legal Scheme. They have designed a cost effective legal scheme for parish councils who may seek legal support in all different areas of law. This scheme was discussed but as we are already members of KALC who provide us with excellent advice, and can refer us onto NALC if necessary, it was decided we did not need to join this scheme.

F. We are invited to the next Meet the Commissioner and Chief Constable' event on the evening of Wednesday 26th February 2014, taking place at Royal British Legion Industries, Royal British Legion Village, Hall Road, Aylesford, Kent, ME20 7NL from 6.30pm-8pm. Registration is from 6:00pm. Kent Police's new Chief Constable, Alan Pughsley, will also be in attendance to address any operational policing concerns, and to outline his plans for the force.

G. The County Council will be commencing a consultation on the final draft of the Kent Minerals and Waste Local Plan 2013-30. The consultation period will run for six weeks from 31 January 2014 and will close on 16 March 2014. If you are interested in viewing the document in advance of the live consultation you can view an electronic version online at the following link: <http://kent.limehouse.co.uk/portal/mwcs/pre-submission>. Clerk has a copy of this document on CDROM if any Cllrs want to view.

H. Reply received from Kent Police A/Ch. Inspector Sharon Adley at Canterbury Police Station. Acknowledging our letter regarding the Criminal damage to the youth shelter. It has been passed onto Inspector Etheridge who will ensure an appropriate member of staff makes contact with us in due course.

I. Reply received from Ann Barnes on the above matter. She has noted our concerns and will ensure she receives an update from Kent Police so she is aware of the outcome of the issue.

- J. A Letter was received from resident Mrs Timlett following our request for Mr Todd to not park his pickup truck in Nargate Street where it is blocking the highway. She felt that our response was unfounded, that people had not been complaining about the vehicle, and other wide vehicles parking along here. She believed Mr Todd had been a valued member of the community for 13 years, moving elsewhere before Christmas (but no suitable parking at his new address). Mr Todd did telephone the clerk and agreed that he would find alternative parking within the next 14 days. It was noted that the vehicle has now been moved.
- K. The Kent Men of the Trees is preparing to hold its Annual competition, the "Trees in the Village Competition 2014" if we wish to enter we need to contact Mrs Patricia Wilkinson. Clerk has further details if Cllrs are interested.
- L. Adisham PC had been in contact to ask if they could use some of the information from our Emergency Plan. The Chairman had responded to say yes certainly.

## **CLERK REPORT**

### **TREE WORKS**

The fallen lime tree has been cleared from the recreation ground.

### **PLAYGROUND MAINTENANCE**

Clerk has obtained a quotation from SSP who are based in Lower Hardres and provide maintenance to sports surfaces, to clear the algae off the safety surfacing under the igloo climbing frame (as flagged up in the ROSPA report) and is awaiting a further quote from Redlynch leisure.

### **SPEAKING AT MEETINGS**

After two requests from residents to speak at our February meeting, the clerk wrote to two residents explaining the format for speaking at meetings and asking them to advise the clerk by 12noon on 5<sup>th</sup> February as to the matter about which they wish to speak, so it can be included in the agenda.

A sheet of basic rules for speaking has also been devised following advice from KALC; these are taken from our standing orders. Laminated copies can be put on the public seats at meetings. These rules were also sent to both of the above.

### **NEW PRINTER**

The clerk has after discussion with the Chairman purchased a new printer for the office. The clerk has researched various printers and the one purchased can do all the current one does plus print on A3 paper, enabling us to print our own LPC News and hence to add some colour in. The clerk was thanked for carrying out thorough research into the printers.

## **195. ALLOTMENTS**

LHS had reminded LPC that we are responsible for the boundary hedges and fences of the allotments; the Chairman has thus asked them to get a quotation for the works that needs to be done to cut these hedges. The clerk had received a quotation from LHS for the hedge topping and trimming along the Church Rd boundary and the boundary clearance along the List side this would be £900, a figure had also been given for ongoing annual maintenance of £300 for the two boundaries. As is policy LPC would ask LHS to obtain another quotation for comparison. Cllr Reid also mentioned that LHS had applied for monies to the 4VPO and she would check this was for different works.

## **196. TO DISCUSS THE BARTON COURT GRAMMAR CONSULTATION**

The Chairman discussed the letter received from Barton Court asking for PC's to take part in their consultation on their relocation, which is open until 20<sup>th</sup> March. KCC are not allowed to create new Grammar Schools, so we could not have both. It was felt it will put the entire load

back onto the remaining grammar schools The Langton's. Cllrs to make comment to the clerk who will create our response.

Cllr Shaw also mentioned that Christchurch University are to take over the prison building.

#### **197. EMERGENCY PLAN**

Cllr Welch mentioned that elements of LPC's Emergency Plan were in operation. Littlebourne Nursing Home have been given the keys to the WMH in case evacuation is necessary. Cllr Reid has also been updating the plan.

#### **198. LADYBIRDS PRE-SCHOOL**

Cllr Spratt reported that KCC had come back with a proposal for the rent for Ladybirds to use the Sure Start Centre building. This was some way off the figure they were hoping for. Hopefully an arrangement will be made next week. Ladybirds also hope to include some of the scrub land around to use for outside space for the children.

#### **199. TWINNING WITH WIMILLE**

Ladybirds now have a program for their visit to Wimille on 11<sup>th</sup> March, they are taking 20 adults and 20 children;

11-12noon – they will be welcomed with songs and dancing

12-1.30pm – lunch prepared by families

1.30-2pm – ball games

2-2.30pm – puppet show

Cllr Gallagher had been working on the coach trip plan (which would involve a visit to an attraction, lunch and afternoon tea in Wimille); he had obtained prices from several coach companies for 50 seater coaches. The price we would have to charge would be around £25/£28 for the coach and crossing plus £11 entrance fee to Nausicaa. Cllr Gallagher to write a small piece for the LPC News to try and gauge interest levels from residents.

Wimille are also keen to hold a return Boules event, perhaps on August Bank Holiday.

#### **200. MILLENIUM AWARD**

The clerk read out the list of people who had been nominated by residents and parish Cllrs to receive the Millennium Award for 2014 along with the reasons for nomination.

**Mrs Evelyn Clayson** – she is always cheerful in all weathers and works with pride to keep Littlebourne tidy.

**David and Jean Smith** – for a shared award for their commitment to the village and support for elderly neighbours & friends

**Michael Lonergan** – for his support to village organisations, especially the Littlebourne Giant, The Barn & Turners Orchard.

**Duncan Milne** – for all his help & advice trying to secure Village Green status for The List.

**Geraldine Wyant & Benedict Preece** –for a shared award for their commitment and passion for the Eastbridge Chorale, which they founded in 2009.

**Anne Perkins** – for all her efforts at The Cherry Orchard, including the children's activities and uniformed organisations events held there.

**Paul Spratt** – for what he does for the cricket club, both seniors & juniors. Membership has increased greatly.

The prize will be awarded to the winner at the APM on 5<sup>th</sup> March.

#### **201. WEBSITE**

The new website is working well and the old KCC one had been cleared off, with just a redirection link to the new website.

## **202. FLOOD ACTION PLAN**

Cllr Giles started by saying that in 2000 the flood plan was developed. His report is as follows;

- The flood Action Plan has worked well.
- Cllr Shaw, myself and our resident volunteers have worked hard
- Everything that could have been done has been done, contingency plans have also been made.
- At Saturday's meeting KCC indicated they were prepared to consider financial assistance to the EA for flood defences providing this was spent on the actual works needed, not on assessment projects.
- Andrew Pearce Area Manager for AE said that would not happen now.
- I believe that common sense will now prevail and the EA will now make flood defence a priority.
- Surely it must now be apparent to everyone that the river must be cleared, its width restored and be regularly maintained.

Cllr Giles Report and statement from the River Management Group Meeting on 8<sup>th</sup> February 2014 is attached to these minutes.

Cllr Giles believes the wildlife will come back if it is cleared, as it was 30 years ago when there was more wildlife than ever. Cllr Evans said that these are views that are not shared by all. Cllr Spratt mentioned that the water voles multiply quickly and will no doubt come back.

Cllr Gallagher said that the legislation for setting up the EA in the first place was for environmental purposes, then the flooding concern has been bolted on since, and of course there are now conflicting purposes within their remit.

Cllr Shaw said the river has problems, the mills are pinch points which cause their own concerns, something needs to be sorted going forward, with the mill owners.

Cllr Giles has been in contact with KCC over the drainage works needed in Church Road, this is now in hand.

Cllr Gallagher said the lesser Stour is a groundwater, chalk base river, there is a difference between dredging (which would not work on this type of river) and widening the channel.

The EA has brought down from Northumberland some inflatable reservoirs, which they may test out and use if needed.

Cllr Spratt asked everyone to please help Cllr Shaw while Cllr Giles is away in the coming weeks.

Thanks were given to SW for their tankering work. Overall there had been great support shown from the agencies involved.

## **203. HIGHWAYS**

Cllr Gallagher said there is to be a Traffic Management subcommittee meeting on 20<sup>th</sup> February. He also attended a meeting of the A257 Group on 11<sup>th</sup> February; attendance at the meeting was low due to flooding issues in many areas. There is pressure to get Salvatori to move their operations from Preston to Aylesham, However Salvatori would want to sell their site for housing. A representative from Wingham Wildlife Park attended the meeting to discuss the speed limit along the stretch of road outside their park, they would like this stretch to be 40mph and would also fund a roundabout at their entrance to make a safer junction. The A257 group would support their plans for a roundabout or any others ways to get the speed limit lowered.

Pressure is being put on Dover DC to carry out a traffic survey for the Aylesham planned development, to date nothing has been done yet it will be a huge development.

Cllr Gallagher reported he is composing a response to the two traffic consultations that are out now.

**204. WAR MEMORIAL HALL TRUST**

The next WMH trust meeting is on 26<sup>th</sup> February.

**205. 4VPO AND SHOP**

Cllr Barrett reported that finally HMRC had been in contact with him regarding his enquiry on sponsorship, enclosing a cheque for £4359.69 as a tax refund on all the monies the 4VPO have given away, going back to 2009. Cllr Barrett said a president has now been set and they will seek to claim the tax back going forward. Cllr Barrett thanked Paul Spratt for bringing this to their attention and assisting with the matter.

**206. AOB FOR DISCUSSION ONLY**

It was mentioned that it would be useful to be able to connect to the internet via the parish router whilst in the parish meeting room. Clerk to look into.

The meeting closed at 9.35pm.

*Dates of future meetings: 5 March APM, 12 March, 9 April, 14 May Statutory Annual, 11 June, 16 July, 10 September, 15 October, 12 November, 10 December*

Signed..... (Chairman)

Date.....

**New Applications**

CA//14/00073/LB	Swanton Farm, Swanton Lane, Littlebourne, CT3 4AX  Replacement door to side of dwelling	No objections from the parish council
CA//14/00127/FUL	20 Jubilee Road, Littlebourne, CT3 1TP  Two-storey side extension.	In circulation to Cllrs Response required by 3 <sup>rd</sup> March
CA//14/00004/FUL	Little Beck, 24 Nargate Street, Littlebourne, CT3 1UH  Proposed front entrance porch incorporating cloakroom.	Response by 03/02/14

**Notifications**

CA//13/01722/FUL	Littlebourne Court, Church Road, Littlebourne, CT3 1TU  Installation of a tennis court with associated fencing and landscaping	REFUSED 17.01.14
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**Trees**

72A The Hill, Littlebourne, Canterbury, CT3 1TD	Make safe a Scots Pine with a lean and lose root plate due to recent storms, located in the garden	Expires 03/02/2014 No objections from LPC
Church Cottage, Church Road, Littlebourne, Canterbury, CT3 1UA	Crown reduce a group of Beech trees, located on right hand side of rear garden by 30%	Expires 02/03/2014 No objections from LPC
11 High Street, Littlebourne, Canterbury, CT3 1ST	Fell a storm damaged Laburnum, located on the left hand boundary.	Expires 24/03/2014

## **QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION WITH RESIDENT MR WELLS**

### **1. For what ends do you hope to achieve with your housing discrimination policy?**

You have been informed as to when this policy was implemented and all the details and History of it. It is because of this, that members of your Family have been housed already. We have no intention of discussing individual cases as this is the same for all Families in Littlebourne. This is common practice to all villages that have Housing association properties, as it is in Bridge and Bekesbourne. We have to remind you once again that all LPC do is to check the criteria we are not in a position to deal with any allocations of any sort. The change in wording agreed at our previous meeting by Larissa Reed is part of the CCC's Choice Based Lettings Application form, the changes were to make it clearer to applicants.

The land at Court and List Meadows was owned by the village, the land was developed for Littlebourne people, this was originally agreed at an APM and voted for by residents to fill a need for affordable housing in the village.

Canterbury City Council can put whoever they like into their Council properties in St Vincents, The Elders and The Maltings.

### **2. Lack of parking in St Vincent's Close.**

This is Canterbury City Council issue. So they should be contacted with regard to this. Of course when the properties were built parking would have been adequate; however there are many more cars now. If you could provide any constructive suggestion to CCC together with details of how they could be funded I am sure they would be more than happy to consider any suggestions. LPC to pass on comments regarding the section of land that was fenced off supposedly for parking but never went any further. Possible uncertainty as to whether land went with flats or house.

### **3. Why has there never been a provision for a play area in St Vincents Close for the children that live there?**

This is again a CCC issue. Littlebourne Parish Council have provided a excellent Play facility on The Recreation Ground which was funded in the main with grants applied for from various bodies so none of the money had to come from Littlebourne Residents. We will make Canterbury City Council aware.

### **4. Bird scarer - Loud bangs throughout the day.**

Mounts have been informed and they have agreed to reposition the scarer.

### **5. Crossing to supposed surgery is an accident waiting to happen.**

The design of this crossing was part of the planning application and approved by KCC it is of this type to slow the traffic. The traffic subcommittee would look into this but not until the plans are in place for the surgery. KCC Highways would not be interested until this point.

### **6. Bmx track. How much did it cost, who opens/shuts it and how many people use it?**

The BMX Track, if you care to look at the rails around it were funded by other bodies it cost nothing to Littlebourne residents. As with other facilities it has its times when its busy and times when its slack. It is never locked so always open.

**7. Vogt Solar-"Community Benefit Fund". Why are the Cllrs being asked for their thoughts on this? As its a "Community Benefit Fund" - Why not ask the community on their thoughts?**

There may be some community benefit available after completion of the Solar Farm. This would have to be of 'The Green Nature' for community benefit, such as solar panels on War Memorial Hall or similar. We are in the habit of consulting when similar things have come along. It will probably be found in the LPC News or at the APM.

**8. Last LPC meeting minutes 174.Clerk Report Correspondence. B - Lower Thames Crossing. What has this to do with Littlebourne village?**

Littlebourne Parish Council always keeps abreast of all issues that could have a knock on effect. We are, along with all Parish Councils consulted by KCC for many things, this is why we keep abreast of this type of thing as when Highways etc around Kent and Canterbury the knock on effect can reach Littlebourne. You may not be aware but we have a very pro-active Traffic Team that has worked very hard to keep Littlebourne as it is today.

I would like to point out that we are all volunteers carrying out a very hard job, putting in many, many hours for the community. We follow the rules as laid down, do the training and keep you all informed, we invite you all to meetings plus the Annual Parish Meeting and have asked on many, many occasions for villagers input. We have won awards for our governance in Littlebourne. We are pleased that you have taken an interest in how your village is run and very happy to answer any questions you wish to put forward. We were all elected to do this job by the village for a 5 year period which ends in May 2015. There will be vacancies on the Council then as everyone steps down, some will not be seeking re-election in any event. So we are happy to elicit interest for new councillors.

Mr Wells asked the Chairman whether these replies had come from a Committee or an individual. The Chairman replied a mixture of both, and Cllr Reid said the full council agreed with the responses. Cllr Shaw asked Mr Wells, in the 14 years he has lived here, how many LPC meetings or APM's he has attended. The reply was none.